



BRITISH SCHOOL
AT ROME

City of Rome
Postgraduate Course

Monday 3 April– Monday 29 May 2023

Course information

The BSR City of Rome Postgraduate Course is the most in-depth and rigorous of its kind – a unique opportunity for students to develop research skills in the study of ancient Rome. The course forms one quarter of a year's full time postgraduate work at Masters or early-Doctoral level.

Led by the Course Director, Dr Robert Coates-Stephens, over eight weeks of full time study you will examine the city as a whole: topography, infrastructures, development and function of the Imperial capital. You will analyse selected monuments in terms of their structural history, architectural characteristics, place in the development of the urban plan, social, economic or religious function and their subsequent use and influence.

Course coverage and structure

One half of the course is devoted to site visits led by the Course Director and tutors (approximately 100 hours), supplemented by 12 hours of lectures and seminars given by distinguished guest speakers. Site visits will be targeted to meet the research needs of individual students and to complement lectures by guest speakers. Students will be expected to prepare in advance for, and contribute to, the site visits. Students should have some prior knowledge of Roman history and Roman building techniques. The Course Director will supply an appropriate bibliography on request. Some seminars and lectures and texts will be in Italian, a reasonable level of fluency is therefore expected; students with little or no Italian are asked to be aware of this. The other half of the course is for individual study supervised by the Course Director. You will choose a major topic for study (agreed with your home university in consultation with the Course Director) and will be expected to give a seminar on this during the course, and to submit a written paper at the end of

the course.

The BSR

The British School at Rome is Britain's leading humanities research institution overseas and an ideal base for postgraduate study of the City of Rome. You will live and work in a research centre with an internationally renowned library, which is home to a resident community of postgraduates and senior scholars in a wide range of academic areas, as well as architecture and visual art. Visit www.bsr.ac.uk for further information.

Assessment

The written paper and seminar will be assessed according to a standard format by the Course Director who will send a report to your home university including a mark based on your paper, seminar and course participation.

Eligibility

You must be on a Master's /Doctoral programme studying a classical/archaeological subject at a UK university at the time of the course. Your university must agree to pay the course tutorial fee to the BSR (25% of the home fee) and must also be an institutional member of the BSR for 2020/21. This is an intensive, intellectually and physically demanding course and students are responsible for their capacity to meet the course requirements.

Cost and accommodation

There is a course tutorial fee payable by your university and an accommodation fee payable by you. Your accommodation fee is payable by 1st March.

The fee for accommodation is €3000. This covers full board (except Saturday dinners and Sunday lunches) from dinner on arrival on Monday 3 April 2023 to breakfast on departure on Monday 29 May 2023.

In the event of cancellation there will be a full refund if the notification is received one month before the start of the course, thereafter an administration fee of 10% will be deducted.

There will be no refund for cancellation during the course subject to a review of any exceptional circumstances by the Director.

A limited number of bursaries to cover part of the accommodation fee are available in cases of particular financial need. To apply for a bursary you should submit a statement of your financial circumstances with your application (one page maximum: annual income/expenditure, with the reason for application). The referee's letter from your current university should confirm the need and that all appropriate applications have been made with your institution for assistance.

Not included but essential costs: travel insurance, travel to and from the BSR at the start/end of the course, personal incidentals, Saturday dinners, Sunday lunches.

How to apply

The selection of participants will be made by the Course Director in consultation with the BSR on the basis of merit.

Your application must include:

1. a cover letter outlining your current course and explaining how the City of Rome course will fit into this
2. an academic curriculum vitae (including full contact details: telephone, home and university email, address)
3. a one-page summary of the research topic to be pursued in Rome
4. one letter of reference from your home university
5. one letter of reference from your undergraduate institution (MA or first year PhD students at a 'new' institution only)
6. bursary application if appropriate

The deadline for receipt of applications is 2 November 2022.

Please email applications to Permissions Officer Stefania Peterlini:
segretaria@bsrome.it

Applicants will be notified whether they have been accepted for the course by early December 2022.

Course Report 2022

The BSR's annual *City of Rome* postgraduate course ran from 4 April - 30 May 2022, and was directed by Cary Fellow Robert Coates-Stephens, with administration in the capable hands of Stefania Peterlini and Christine Martin overseeing hostel arrangements. Eight enthusiastic and energetic young scholars attended, from the universities of Manchester, Oxford, St. Andrews, and Warwick. This year marked a return to normality after three years of covid interruptions (one cancelled course and a year affected by quarantine and site closures), and we were once more able to offer the most complete immersion in the history, topography and archaeology of the city from its origins to the middle ages and beyond. The course comprises an eight-week module intended to form one quarter of one year's full-time postgraduate course at Masters or early Doctoral level, and as well as around 160 hours of site visits it featured seven public lectures by an international range of scholars, more informal seminars from BSR staff, and student-led debate over two days at the participants' research presentations (the complete programme is attached).

Site visits form the key element of the teaching. A topographical approach is adopted, underpinned by a chronological framework which allows a picture of the city in its entirety to be built up step by step, with an emphasis on the continuity of urban activity. Thanks to Stefania's charm and persistence, and the goodwill of the city's archaeological authorities, we were able to offer an especially broad range of itineraries this year. Highlights included gaining access to both temples of the Forum Boarium, the inscribed pavement of the Augustan Meridian of the Campus Martius, the Domus Aurea, and the Columbarium of Pomponius Hylas. Key sites had re-opened after closures during the pandemic and following major restorations: the new-look Forum Antiquarium, the Palatine's House of Augustus and Aula Isiaca, and the Museum of the Roman Ships at Fiumicino. Often we were guided by the individual experts in charge of specific monuments: Monica Ceci at S. Omobono, Letizia Rustico at the S. Prisca mithraeum, and Simona Moretta at that of Palazzo Barberini. Especially welcome assistance was offered by Francesca De Caprariis, Santino Alessandro Cugno and Giulia Giovannetti.

The opportunity to engage so intensely with the topography of the city, and the overall organisation of museum and site visits met with considerable approval on the part of the students, as was made clear in this year's feedback forms: "The course structure of site visits arranged by topographical position was optimal... The museum visits fitted well into the course structure and were best positioned as the day's final visit, allowing us to spend as long as we wished after the taught component had ended". Stefania's careful work did not go unnoticed: "the BSR's access to sites in Rome is immeasurably useful and we are so lucky to have this". The expedient of walking the full course of the Servian Wall, introduced last year when so many sites were closed during the pandemic, was repeated, and proved just as successful in orientating

the visitor within the Republican topography at an early stage of the tours: “I liked having the Servian Wall day quite early on as it gave us a great feel for the city”. The emphasis on the *longue durée* was also appreciated: “Learning about the many papal interventions, the destructive and transformative urban planning which has created modern Rome, and the often continuous reuse of Rome’s buildings helped me to better understand the transition from ancient to modern Rome and how Rome’s extant buildings survive in their current conditions”.

The lecture series combined giants from Rome’s archaeological establishment (Olof Brandt, Filippo Coarelli, Rita Volpe) with senior scholars from Anglophone academia (Costas Panayotakis, Nigel Spivey). Especially important was the contribution from the BSR’s own staff and scholarly community (Steve Kay, Alessandra Tafaro), whose well attended public lectures reminded the wider academic community in Rome that the School continues to make a significant contribution to the study of classics and archaeology. One student observed: “the lectures and seminars covered a variegated array of topics and themes and were carefully coordinated to complement specific site visits, thus fitting in well with the course structure”. In the more relaxed surroundings of the seminar room, BSR staff and academics introduced such topics as construction materials, sources for Roman topography, and epigraphy (in a workshop kindly offered by Rome scholars Dustin McKenzie and Alessandra Tafaro). It was also a pleasure to receive contributions from both BSR Director Professor Abigail Brundin (on Vittoria Colonna and Renaissance society) and Assistant Director Emlyn Dodd (on the Roman *suburbium*). Many of the speakers remained at the BSR for drinks and dinner after the talks, and this gave additional opportunities for dialogue, which was much appreciated: “the possibility to join several speakers for dinner after their lecture was also valuable and offered a relatively informal setting where ideas could be discussed”.

The students produce their own research. In addition to preparing and delivering site presentations (this year including lively discussion of the Column of Marcus Aurelius and the ‘Antinoeion’ at Hadrian’s Villa), each participant pursued a project whose theme was selected on advice from the host institution and in consultation with the course director. In the library, BSR Balsdon Fellow Costas Panayotakis and Janet Delaine, on one of her many research visits to Rome, were kind enough to offer insights and expertise. Research projects were outlined before the class in seminar format halfway through the course. This year’s were amongst the best presentations we have heard, featuring confident delivery, excellent images, and voluble debate amongst the group: the simple act of answering questions on their presentations helped students to clarify their ideas, and in the end some fine essays were produced on such topics as the 18th-century reception of the Vestals, the logistics of Roman construction, and the discovery of a new Republican historical relief in the Forum Boarium. According to one, “the presentations offered a useful forum for discussing ideas and learning about different research fields [and] the written work submitted provided a valuable opportunity where I was able to conduct research and to formulate and present ideas and expand into several chapters of my thesis”.

Regarding the BSR's facilities, there was general acknowledgment of the excellence of the library and librarians, the kindness and efficiency of the kitchen, waiting and cleaning staff, and the general upbeat atmosphere at the School: "All staff and academic members at the BSR were welcoming, friendly, and were always happy to offer advice, answer questions, or simply to chat – and this helped make my experience at the BSR a highly enjoyable and fruitful one". "I appreciate their warmth and helpfulness – they are always ready to go the extra mile for anyone at the School". "Thank you Antonio for getting rid of the bat!" While the intensity of the site visits was accepted as a necessary corollary of such thorough coverage of the urban ensemble, the workload of home institutions during the stay in Rome (course work, essays, online *colloquia* and interviews) was frequently picked out as something that might be modified. Although the dinners at the BSR were highly praised – "As a vegetarian, I appreciated that I never went hungry" – the packed lunches were not always highly regarded, and it was suggested that at least on free study days, attendance at the BSR table might be permitted in future. Overall, "the combination of artists, architects, ancient historians, archaeologists resident at the BSR provided a pleasing academic environment and offered interesting discussions, different points of view and experience".

The course was also an enjoyable experience for its director. The students' ability to engage with the wider BSR community and to interact so well among themselves resulted in a friendly atmosphere which was also academically productive. This could not but bring forth excellent results in terms of energising, inspiring and consolidating scholarly research. In conclusion, it was felt that "this course has helped me to redefine the aims of my thesis... and refine one of my thesis methodologies". "I was able to learn more than I have learned about the city-space over my last three degrees in Ancient History! Experiencing the city first-hand allowed me to contextualise my previous education and find new areas of interest and research avenues. I will be using all I have learned into future conferences and other research projects". In short, "The course was the best academic experience I have had!" As in previous years, we are grateful for the support of the Society for the promotion of Roman Studies which has allowed us to offer this rare opportunity to promising young scholars and future generations of academics.

Robert Coates-Stephens

THE CITY OF ROME POSTGRADUATE COURSE

4 April – 30 May 2022

WEEK 1

MONDAY 4 April

Students arrive – orientation meetings (course outline, administration etc):

15.45 building tour with Christine Martin

16.15 Tea, followed by Library tour with Francesca Deli

18.00 Introductory talk (Robert Coates-Stephens)

18.45 Drinks

19.30 Dinner (as every day except Saturdays [Wednesdays 20.00])

TUESDAY 5 April : FORUM BOARIUM

LEAVE 8.30am

Forum Boarium: introduction

10.00 Temples of Portunus (S. Maria Secundicerii/Egiziaca) & Hercules Invictus

[PERMIT]

11.00 Area Sacra of S. Omobono - guided tour with Monica Ceci (Roma Capitale)

[PERMIT]

Arch of the Argentarii & ‘Arch of Janus’

S. Maria in Cosmedin, crypt (Great Altar of Hercules?)

Bridges of Aemilius, Cestius and Fabricius

Tiber Island

WEDNESDAY 6 April : FORUM ROMANUM (Day 1)

LEAVE 8.30am

Via Sacra

Antiquarium & Temple of Venus and Rome

Atrium Vestae & Regia

Temple of Castor & Lacus Juturnae

Comitium & Rostra

18.00 Lecture by Rita Volpe (Roma Capitale): “Intorno alle Mura Serviane”

THURSDAY 7 April : SERVIAN WALLS

LEAVE 8.30am

Servian Walls at Termini (Porta Viminalis) / Porta Collina / Via Salandra / Porta Fontinalis &

Monument of Bibulus / Forum Boarium / Aventine / S. Sabina / Piazza Albania (Porta

Raudusculana?) / Augustan cippus, via Piramide di Cestio

FRIDAY 8 April : CAPITOLINE

LEAVE 10.00

Piazza del Campidoglio

S. Maria in Araceli

Arx and 'Auguraculum'

12.30 Araceli insula [**PERMIT**]

13.50 Capitoline Museums, including Temple of Veiovis, Tabularium & substructures of Temple of Jupiter Capitolinus

WEEK 2

MONDAY 11 April

16.00 Student tutorials

18.00 Seminar by Robert Coates-Stephens (in the Library): "Sources for Roman topography"

TUESDAY 12 April: CAMPUS MARTIUS (Day 1)

LEAVE 8.30am

10.00 Forum Holitorium: temples beneath S. Nicola in Carcere [**PERMIT**]

Temples of Apollo Sosianus and Bellona & fragments in Palazzo Lovatelli

Theatre of Marcellus & Porticus of Octavia

Theatre of Pompey & remains in *Da Pancrazio* restaurant

Republican temples of Largo Argentina

Baths of Agrippa

Pantheon

Piazza Navona (Stadium of Domitian) & Pamphilj obelisk

Museo Nazionale at Palazzo Altemps

WEDNESDAY 13 April

FREE STUDY

18.00 Lecture by Costas Panayotakis (Glasgow/BSR): "The theatre of the Roman Mime: texts and material culture"

THURSDAY 14 April : OSTIA

LEAVE 8.30am

Ostia Antica, visit to the excavations

FRIDAY 15 April (Good Friday) : PALATINE

LEAVE 8.30am

Precinct of Victory & Magna Mater

House of Augustus [**PERMIT**]

Aula Isiaca [**PERMIT**]

Domus Flavia

Domus Tiberiana & Orti Farnesiani

Via Nova

SATURDAY 16 April : MUSEUM VISIT

LEAVE 9.30am

Villa Giulia (Etruscan and Faliscan antiquities)

WEEK 3

MONDAY 18 April (*Easter Monday*) : FORUM ROMANUM (Day 2)

LEAVE 8.30am

9.30 Mamertine Prison [**PERMIT**]

Curia

Temples of Concord, Vespasian & Saturn

Arch of Septimius Severus

Basilicae Aemilia & Julia

Temple of Divus Julius & Arches of Augustus

Temple of Antoninus and Faustina

Arch of Titus

18.00 Seminar by Robert Coates-Stephens: “Materials in construction and decoration”

TUESDAY 19 April : ESQUILINE (Day 1)

LEAVE 8.30am

Servian Walls at piazza Fanti

10.00 S. Martino ai Monti and horrea [**PERMIT**]

Arch of Gallienus (Porta Esquilina)

12.30 Republican tombs of via Statilia [**PERMIT**]

‘Trophies of Marius’ (Nymphaeum of Alexander Severus)

S. Maria Maggiore

WEDNESDAY 20 April

FREE STUDY

18.00 Lecture by Filippo Coarelli (Perugia): “L’aula del colosso e la cronologia del Foro di Augusto”

THURSDAY 21 April : VIMINAL & MUSEO NAZIONALE ROMANO

LEAVE 8.30am

Baths of Diocletian

Museo delle Terme, Epigraphic Department & Aula X

Palazzo Massimo

FRIDAY 22 April : IMPERIAL FORA

LEAVE 8.30am

Templum Pacis

10.10 Fora of Trajan and Caesar [PERMIT]

Fora of Augustus and Nerva

11.30 House of the Knights of Rhodes [PERMIT]

13.00 Markets of Trajan & Museum of the Fori Imperiali

15.00 Roman houses beneath Palazzo Valentini

SATURDAY 23 April : **CAMPUS MARTIUS (Day 2)**

LEAVE 8.45am

9.30 'Horologium' of Augustus [PERMIT]

Montecitorio obelisk

10.30 Mausoleum of Augustus

11.50 Ara Pacis & Museum

WEEK 4

MONDAY 25 April : **CAELIAN**

LEAVE 8.30am

Arch of Dolabella

Neronian nymphaeum

Villa Mattei-Celimontana

Temple of Claudius

10.30 Roman houses beneath SS Giovanni & Paolo

12.00 S. Clemente

S. Giovanni in Laterano and baptistery

TUESDAY 26 April : **CAMPUS MARTIUS (Day 3)**

LEAVE 8.30am

Column of Marcus Aurelius

Aqua Virgo: arch of Claudius & arches in *Rinascente* department store

Temple of Hadrian & Isaeum

Crypta Balbi Museum

12.30 Insula of S. Paolo alla Regola [PERMIT]

Claudian pomerium cippus, via del Pellegrino

18.00 Seminar by Emlyn Dodd (BSR assistant director), on the archaeology of the Roman suburbium

WEDNESDAY 27 April

FREE STUDY

18.00 Lecture by Stephen Kay (BSR): "Geophysical prospection of the eastern Caelian: large scale urban research by the Rome Transformed project"

THURSDAY 28 April : AVENTINE & TESTACCIO

LEAVE 8.30am

Circus Maximus & excavated zone

11.00 S. Prisca and mithraeum, with Letizia Rustico (Soprintendenza Archeologica di Roma) [**PERMIT**]

12.30 Monte Testaccio [**PERMIT**]

‘Porticus Aemilia’ (Navalia?)

FRIDAY 29 April : VIA APPIA (Day 1)

LEAVE 8.30am

Porta Capena

10.00 Columbarium of Pomponius Hylas [**PERMIT**]

Porta Appia & Museum of the Aurelian Walls

‘Arch of Drusus’

12.30 Tomb of the Scipios [**PERMIT**]

Baths of Caracalla & mithraeum [**PERMIT**]

SUNDAY 1 May : VIA FLAMINIA

LEAVE 10.00am

Milvian Bridge

Villa of the Auditorium

Villa of Livia at Prima Porta

WEEK 5

MONDAY 2 May : COLOSSEUM

LEAVE 8.15am

9.15 Colosseum & arena [**PERMIT**]

Ludus Magnus

Isaeum Metellinam

TUESDAY 3 May : OPPIAN

LEAVE 8.30am

S. Pietro in Vincoli

10.00 Nymphaeum of via Annibaldi [**PERMIT**]

11.00 Domus Aurea [**PERMIT**]

Baths of Titus & Trajan

Caelian Antiquarium - visit to new museum installation of the Severan marble plan, with Francesca De Caprariis & Francesca Bigi (Roma Capitale) [**PERMIT**]

WEDNESDAY 4 May

FREE STUDY

18.00 Lecture by Alessandra Tafaro (Warwick/BSR): “The gladiatorial graffiti of the Roman amphitheatre: long-lived memorials of imperial *munera*”

THURSDAY 5 May : VIA LATINA

LEAVE 8.30am

9.30 Via Latina: Barberini Tomb & Tombs of the Valerii and Pancratii, Basilica di S. Stefano, with Santino Alessandro Cugno (Parco Archeologico dell’Appia Antica) **[PERMIT]**

11.30 Monte del Grano mausoleum **[PERMIT]**
Park of the Aqueducts

FRIDAY 6 May : TRASTEVERE

LEAVE 8.30am

S. Cecilia: Roman houses & Cavallini frescoes

11.00 Excubitorium of the Vigiles, with Simonetta Serra (Roma Capitale) **[PERMIT]**
S. Maria in Trastevere
Castel S. Angelo (Mausoleum of Hadrian)

SATURDAY 7 May : ESQUILINE (Day 2)

LEAVE 8.30am

9.20 Compital altar, via di S. Martino ai Monti **[PERMIT]**
10.00 Museo del Ninfeo, piazza Vittorio (*Horti Lamiani*)
S. Croce in Gerusalemme & Sessorium Palace
Porta Maggiore & Tomb of Eurysaces
‘Temple of Minerva Medica’

WEEK 6

MONDAY 9 May : VATICAN MUSEUMS

LEAVE 9.00am

Room of the Aldobrandini Wedding, Odyssey Frescoes of via Graziosa **[PERMIT]**
Braccio Nuovo, Pio-Cristiano, Gregorio Profano, Chiaramonti & Pio-Clementino

TUESDAY 10 May : VIA APPIA (Day 2)

LEAVE 8.30am

Villa of the Quintilii
Via Appia, 6th - 3rd miles
Tomb of Caecilia Metella
Circus & Mausoleum of Maxentius

WEDNESDAY 11 May

FREE STUDY

10.00 Epigraphy seminar by Alessandra Tafaro and Dustin McKenzie (BSR)

THURSDAY 12 May : PORTUS

LEAVE 9.00 (minibus)

10.00 Museo delle Navi & Claudian basin, Fiumicino

11.00 Isola Sacra [PERMIT]

12.00 Portus [PERMIT]

FRIDAY 13 May

FREE STUDY

WEEK 7

MONDAY 16 May

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS, Day 1

TUESDAY 17 May

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS, Day 2

WEDNESDAY 18 May

FREE STUDY

18.00 Lecture by Olof Brandt (Pontificio Istituto di Archeologia Cristiana): “*Opus listatum* and other monsters. The things Vitruvius never said or even thought of”

THURSDAY 19 May : FORUM ROMANUM & PALATINE (Day 3)

LEAVE 8.30am

Arch of Constantine

Curia Veteres & Meta Sudans

Tetrarchic Forum: Basilica of Maxentius, Temple of Romulus, Forum piazza, Porticus Di Consentes

S. Maria Antiqua, Oratory of the XL Martyrs & Domitianic ramp to Palatine

Vigna Barberini

Domus Severiana

FRIDAY 20 May : QUIRINAL

LEAVE 8.30am

9.30 Mithraeum of Palazzo Barberini [PERMIT]

Praetorian Camp

12.00 *Città dell'acqua* (Neronian insula, Trevi Fountain)

Piazza del Quirinale, Dioscuri colossi

WEEK 8

MONDAY 23 May

FREE STUDY

18.00 seminar by Abigail Brundin (Director, BSR), on Vittoria Colonna and 16th-century Rome

TUESDAY 24 May : TIVOLI

LEAVE (coach/minibus) 8.45am

Hadrian's Villa

Tivoli

WEDNESDAY 25 May

FREE STUDY

18.00 Lecture by Nigel Spivey (Cambridge): “‘It depends upon your point of view’: narrative and empathy in the reliefs of Trajan’s Column”

THURSDAY 26 May : VIA OSTIENSIS

LEAVE 8.30am

9.30 Pyramid of Cestius: funerary chamber [**PERMIT**]

Montemartini Museum

S. Paolo fuori le Mura

FRIDAY 27 May : VIA NONENTANA - SALARIA

LEAVE 13.45

14.45 Catacombs of Priscilla

Mausoleum of Constantina (S. Costanza) & S. Agnese fuori le Mura

MONDAY 30 May : Course ends