

# B \_ S \_ R

BRITISH SCHOOL  
AT ROME

## Postgraduate Course Roman Epigraphy

Monday 11 July to Wednesday 20 July 2022

### Course information

The sixth biennial taught course in Roman Epigraphy will take place on the 11th July 2022. Based at the British School at Rome, this taught course offers a ten-day introduction to the scholarship, editorial practice, and publication of epigraphic materials from a variety of different approaches. The aim of the course, intended for postgraduate scholars of ancient history, archaeology, museum studies and the classics, is to provide training and a practical experience in the use of epigraphy as source. The course will examine the numerous contexts in which epigraphy is presented (*in situ*, museums, archives and in published formats (e.g. reference works and online databases) and explore the process of editing and publishing epigraphic materials. The use of digital resources, catalogues and the process of publishing texts in these formats will be addressed in lectures and interaction with the *CIL* (volume 6) archives at La Sapienza with Prof. Silvia Orlandi. Evening lectures by leading international scholars in the field will allow participants to examine certain epigraphic topics and ongoing research projects in greater detail.



The course, which divides epigraphic materials into themes of a technical and cultural, consists of daily lectures, museum visits, epigraphic *ambulatio* through the city of Rome as well as research sessions at the British School's library and a trip to Ostia. Museum and site visits will include gallery lectures by curators and special permits to collections that are not generally open to the public.



Workshops at a series of different sites will develop skills in creating practical study materials such as drawings, rubbings, squeezes and photographs of inscriptions. A component of this will be on epigraphic journal, which will be used to record one's work at each stage of the research process. Participants will also have an opportunity to further their own research in an independent project (generally a specific area of his/her epigraphic research) which will be developed during the course and presented in a short paper on the final day.

### The BSR

The British School at Rome is Britain's leading humanities research institution overseas and an ideal base for postgraduate study of Roman Epigraphy.

### Cost and accommodation

The *estimated* course cost is €1400\*\*

This includes:

- membership to the British School at Rome
- 24/7 access to the library
- all in-course travel and site fees
- full board accommodation in a shared room at the BSR.
- breakfast & dinner at the BSR (except for Saturday nights & Sunday lunch)
- classroom for the course
- entrance and special permits to sites in and around Rome
- supplies for rubbings
- support from the course director



**\*\* Course costs have risen for the first time in a decade due to increases that we are likely to face as a result of Brexit (e.g. museum admissions & permits will no longer be free). This estimate could decrease if we are able to negotiate with museums but at the moment, we have to plan with the information as it stands.**

**Please note that the cost of the course does not include the student's travel to or from Rome, insurance and Saturday dinner & Sunday lunch, any other costs arising from your personal research project. Students are strongly encouraged to seek funding from their own institutions.**

Bursaries for travel have been offered in the past, further details will be provided to successful applicants.



### How to Apply

Applicants will be accepted on the basis of merit and suitability for the course. The selection of participating students will be made by the course director in consultation with the BSR. Please note that this course is physically demanding with hours of walking in (at times) intemperate heat, students are expected to prepare accordingly. With COVID, students may also be asked to provide proof of vaccination.

A prospective student's application must include:

- A cover letter with details of his/her current course and a consideration of how the BSR Postgraduate Epigraphy Course will contribute to the current/future studies, outlining the reasons for application
- A 350 word summary of his/her proposed topic of inquiry for independent research project during the course.
- One letter of reference from his/her current institution.
- One letter of reference from his/her undergraduate institution (for first year MA students or Ph.D students at a 'new' institution). Referees may email references

directly to [Abigail.graham@sas.ac.uk](mailto:Abigail.graham@sas.ac.uk)

- A curriculum vitae

**Deadline for applications Friday 19th February 2022**

*It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure that references are received by the deadline. Applicants will be notified whether they have been accepted by the end of February.*



Please email any further queries to the course coordinator Dr. Abigail Graham  
[Abigail.graham@sas.ac.uk](mailto:Abigail.graham@sas.ac.uk)

## Course sample

### Day 1 Arrival

2.45 pm Epigraphic Ambulatio and Gelato

4.30 Library Tour

6.30: Lost in Translation? The Journey from Text to Monument (A. Graham)

Day 2: Crash course in Epigraphy and Methodology Location: Museo Epigraphico (Terme di Diocleziano)

9.30 Museum: Introduction by Curator: Prof.ssa. Carlotta Carusso. (PERMIT) 11

AM: Genres & Dating in Epigraphy: Friend orFoe? An exploration of how we classify and date inscriptions, through the ground & upper floors.

1.30 PM: Activity in Museo Cortile with Prof. Silvia Orlandi (La Sapienza) Blank Spaces: Students are given a series of courtyard text to draw, photograph, document & study. Back at the BSR, we will compare notes and try to restore these inscriptions. Then check these texts in the CI L @ the library.

Questions: How do scholars study and document on inscription? What can we learn from a hand-on interaction with the stone? What physical aspects of an inscription can be employed in dating a text? How can we use a series of similar monuments to support textual reconstructions? What do variations among similar texts suggest?

Evening: 6.45pm "Armchair Epigraphy": session in the Library

### Day 3: Inscriptions in Different Contexts:

Location: Forum Romanum and the Capitoline Museum.

9.30: PERMIT FOR ENTRY TO FORUM ROMANUM

Questions: How does the Forum Romanum present its epigraphic materials? How is context presented? What are the advantages/ disadvantages of this site.

11.00 PERMIT: Capitoline from 11.00/ 11.30 am CONFIRMED (SNACK!!!)

Activity: Object History: Students choose a text from this collection and try to document its history as an object.

Questions: What does object history add to our understanding of an inscription?

What sort of information can a museum display provide? How does this improve our understanding of an object?

PM. Optional walk back on the Triumphal route through the Campus Martius/ GELATO near Largo Argentina.

### Day 4: The Epigraphic Habit in Ostia Epigraphy Quotidien:

PERMIT FOR OSTIA (Leave BSR at 9am sharp) TBC

Activity: Seeing is Believing: Site Experience. Choose one in situ inscription at Ostia (from a funerary text on a tomb to a mosaic floor). Consider the roles of context and genre. What does viewing and experiencing context add to our understanding of an inscription? Do genre classifications work well in an archaeological context (e.g. "private" vs "public" "honorary" vs. "dedicatory")? What role does an inscription play within a broader archaeological context?

PM: Optional visit to see more inscriptions at Museo Montemartini + Gelato

Day 5: Funerary Monuments in Context Part II. the Via Appia. AM Catacombs of San Sebastiano, Caecilia Metella Museum. AM PERMIT: Caecilia Museum TB at 10am, Tour of San Sebastiano 11.30 (5 Euro per person)

PM Columbarium of Pomponius Hylas & Tomb of the Scipios (PERMITS) Columbarium of Pomponius Hylas at 3pm \*Gelato Biologica by Circo Maximo Tomb of the Scipios at 5pm

Activity: Pick one text from the Caecilia Metella museum. Try to document, translate, & date it. Can you guess its context? Compare this with other epigraphic collections. Christian Vs. Pagan. What are fundamental distinctions between "Pagan" and Christian epigraphy? Are these ancient or modern constructs? How would the ancient viewer have experienced these differences (in context)?

Day 6 \* Leave BSR at 9.10AM

10 AM PERMIT St. Agnese. the visit to Epigraphic Gallery (and San. Constanza)\*  
11.45AM: Recycling Monuments, Reusing inscriptions, rewriting history? Campus Martius in Reverse: Circo Maximus> Forum Boarium> Pons Fabricius (CIL I. 751)> Claudian Pomerium in situ (Via Pellegrino). Piazza Navona (Stadium of Domitian), Pantheon, Horologium Obelisk Ara Pacis & Mausoleum of Aug.

Activity: Choose any reused monument in Rome and consider the following. How does reuse change the function and meaning of the original monument? Does a different context, additional inscriptions, erasures, fundamentally change the function of an inscription? How might an ancient audience have viewed this phenomenon? How can we represent & record these changes in an epigraphic publication?

2PM: Research.

Evening: 6.45 EAGLE: Digital Epigraphy: Inscriptions in a different context.\* Abigail Graham: session on theory, practice & programming.

7.45: Leave for Dinner \*8.30)

Day 7: Research Day: Start Presentations in the Evening.

10am Water, Curses and Abraxas... \*Optional trip to Anna Perenna (nearby) \*\*

Evening: 5.30 -7.00: First presentations

7.00-8pm: Wine, Cheese & Squeeze: Practical Workshop of photography & squeezes in the Courtyard at the BSR.

Day 8: Monuments out of context:

AM: Vatican" Galleria Lapidaria: Talk w/ Prof. Vania De Stefano Manzella  
PERMIT 9.30 AM:for the Vatican (admission) and the Galleria Lapidaria  
4 PM Activity: American Academy Rubbings with Valentina Follo.  
"Hands on" How does a tactile experience change our understanding of on inscription?

Day 9: Student Presentations.

9.30 Student Presentations & Lunch

2.30 PM: EAGLE/ CIL VI: Something old, something new: Publishing Inscriptions and Using Archives w.Prof. Silvia Orlandi@ La Sapienza.

4-45 Battle of Gelati in the Campus Martius.

6.30 pm. Live Carving Demonstration and Drinks in the BSR Courtyard by Wayne Hart.

Day 10: Farewell.