



Undergraduate Ancient Rome Summer School 2027
Course Director Dr Christopher Siwicki

Thursday 2 September and departure Sunday 12 September

Course information

This intensive ten-day programme of visits to the sites, monuments and museums of ancient Rome and its vicinity is accompanied by experts in the field and integrated with a series of evening lectures. It provides a stimulating introduction to the topography of the city, its architecture and art, the latest discoveries and new developments in archaeological approaches.

Although no specialised knowledge is assumed, the course is ideal for undergraduates in Classics, Ancient History, Classical Archaeology and related subjects. Students who will have finished their degree by September 2025 are not eligible. If it is over-subscribed, precedence will normally be given to students about to enter their final year of undergraduate study.

Please note that the arrival date is Thursday 2 September and departure Sunday 12 September

See www.bsr.ac.uk for more information about the course and the BSR.

Cost and accommodation

The cost of the course is €1400 for a single room or €1275 for a shared room be paid by international bank transfer and covers:

- Accommodation at the BSR
- Dinner from arrival on Thursday 2 September (Mon, Tue, Thurs, and Fri at 19.30; Weds at 20:00) and breakfast until departure on Sunday 12 September. It also covers packed lunches for the days when there are visits scheduled. On 'free study' days students can make use of self-catering kitchen facilities.

- Local transport, excursions and entrance fees

Rooms will be assigned on a first come first served basis.

This fee does not include the cost of travel to Rome, for which participants must make their own arrangements, in addition to providing their own travel insurance. A refund less a €100 administration fee will be given to students who notify us of withdrawal 30 days before the beginning of the course. No refund will be made for withdrawals after this date.

We strongly recommend that students explore the possibility of having cancellation cover as part of their travel insurance policy.

How to apply

Applications should be emailed to Stefania Peterlini: segretaria@bsrome.it

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 detailing your interest in Rome, explaining why you wish to participate in the Summer School and what you hope to gain from it
2. an academic curriculum vitae with your contact details (telephone and email) and details of University courses/modules undertaken with results
3. one letter of academic reference (referees should email references directly to segretaria@bsrome.it References must be received by the closing date and it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure this)
4. an essay on any subject relating to the Classical world. It must be an original work, not exceeding 4000 words, and including footnotes or endnotes and a full bibliography.

The Gladstone Memorial Trust offers a prize worth £400 towards the cost of a place on the Summer School to the student who writes the best essay. Essays will be judged by members of the Faculty of Archaeology, History and Letters of the British School at Rome.

The deadline for receipt of applications is 30 April 2027

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

Bursaries are available in cases of particular financial need. Applicants should submit a statement of their financial circumstances together with their course application (one page of A4 maximum, detailing annual income and expenditure and the reason for applying). The referee's letter should confirm the need and that all appropriate applications for assistance have been made to the home university.

The British School at Rome gratefully acknowledges the support of the Cambridge Classics Faculty, the Craven Committee of the Faculty of Classics, Oxford University, the Gladstone Memorial Trust and the Society for Promotion of Roman Studies.

Sample course itinerary

DAY 1 – Arrivals, Orientations, and Introductions

- 15:00** Check-in
- 15.15** Building orientation (Christine Martin, residence manager)
- 15.45** Library tour (Librarians)
- 16.10** Afternoon tea
- 17.45** Seminar – Navigating the history and topography of Rome (Chris Siwicki)
- 19.00** Welcome drinks
- 19.30** Dinner

DAY 2 – Origins of Rome and Traces of the Triumphal Route

- 08.30** Collect Sandwiches from ArchBar (Stefania)
- 09.00** Leave BSR
- 10.00** Meet Piazza Bocca della Verità (BUS 160 from Del Fiocco/Valle Giulia to Petroselli)
 - Forum Boarium
 - Temples of Portunus and Hercules
 - S. Maria in Cosmedin, crypt (Great Altar of Hercules)
 - Velabrum, Arch of the Argentarii & 'Arch of Janus'
 - Sacred area of S. Omobono, Triumphal Porticoes
- 12.00** Victory temples of the Forum Holitorium [**PERMIT**]
 - Tiber Island, pons Fabricius, pons Cestius, pons Aemilius
 - Theatre of Marcellus and temple of Apollo
 - Porticus Octaviae
- 14.10** Sacred area of Largo Argentina [**MIC**]

DAY 3 – Religion and Politics in the Forum and on the Palatine Hill

08.45 Leave BSR

09.45 *Meet at Piazza Venezia in front of the Vittoriano (BUS 160 from Del Fiocco/Valle Giulia to Piazza Venezia)*

10.00 Forum Romanum **[PERMIT]**

Arch of Septimius Severus and Augustus

Basilicas Julia and Aemilia

Lacus Curtius

Temples of Castor and Pollux, Divus Iulius, and Saturn

Curia Julia and rostra

Regia, temple and House of Vesta

The Palatine Hill, South West Corner

Temples of Magna Mater and Victory

Hut of Romulus

Houses of Livia and Augustus

House of Augustus

DAY 4 –Roads, Tombs, and Villas

10:00 *Meet at Arco di Travertino Metro Station (Line A)*

Villa dei Quintili **[PERMIT]**

Via Appia

Tomb of Caecilia Metella

Villa of Maxentius **[MIC]**

DAY 5– Suburbs: on the Edge of the City (half day)

10:00 *Meet at Piazza Vittorio. Metro Line A to Piazza Vittorio*

Nymphaeum of Alexander Severus

10.15 Museo Ninfeo **[PERMIT]**

Porta Maggiore and the Tomb of Eurysaces

Aurelian Wall

San Giovanni Metro C excavations

Colosseum/Imperial Forum Metro C excavations

Free afternoon (**free museum day**) Suggested museums: Palazzo Massimo, Baths of Diocletian, Palazzo Altemps

DAY 6 –War and Peace in the Forum and Imperial Forums

10:00 *Meet at Piazza Venezia in front of the Vittoriano (BUS 160 from Del Fiocco/Valle Giulia to Piazza Venezia)*

The Vittoriano and the Unification of Italy

Tomb of Bibulus

Via dei Fori Imperiali/Via dell'impero and fascist city planning

Forum of Caesar

Forum of Nerva

- Temple of Peace
- Forum of Augustus
- Forum of Trajan, Basilica Ulpia, Trajan's column
- 11.30** Trajan's Markets [MIC]
- 14.30** **Forum/Palatine [PERMIT]**
- Temple of Venus and Roma
- Arch of Titus
- Imperial Palace of Domitian

DAY 7 –The Augustan Transformation of the Campus Martius

- 09:30** *Meet on the steps of Santa Maria del Popolo (Piazza del Popolo) [walk from BSR]*
- Obelisk at Piazza del Popolo
- Mausoleum of Augustus
- 10:50** Ara Pacis [MIC]
- 13:00** Mausoleum of Hadrian [PERMIT]
- Piazza Navona/Stadium of Domitian
- 15:00** Pantheon [PERMIT]

DAY 8 –Entertainment and Vice

- 10.00** *Meet at Circo Massimo Metro Station (Line B)*
- 10.15** Baths of Caracalla [PERMIT]
- 11:50** Circus Maximus [MIC]
- Capitoline Hill
- 13:50** Capitoline Museums [MIC], Tabularium, Temple of Jupiter Optimus Maximus

DAY 9 –The Aftermath of Nero and the Rise of the Flavians

- 10:00** *Meet at Circo Massimo Metro Station (Line B)*
- Caelian Archaeological Garden
- 11:00** Roman Houses under SS. Giovanni & Paolo [PERMIT]
- 12:00** Forma Urbis Museum [MIC]
- Temple of Claudius
- Villa Celimontana
- Colosseum, exterior
- Arch of Constantine
- 15.00** Domus Aurea [PERMIT]

DAY 10– Ostia Antica

- 09:30** Coach from BSR
- Isola Sacra [PERMIT]
- Ostia Antica [PERMIT]
- 19:00** Final drinks and dinner

Day 11 – Course ends

Leave BSR
Check out by 10am