

BRITISH SCHOOL AT ROME

TEACHING CLASSICS AND ANCIENT HISTORY IN THE ETERNAL CITY

Monday 26th July – Friday 30th July 2027

Course Directors: Sharon Marshall (University of Exeter) and Christopher Siwicki (BSR)

Course information

The British School at Rome is delighted to announce our new Continuing Professional Development (CPD) course *Teaching Classics and Ancient History in the Eternal City*. This immersive and intensive programme is aimed primarily at teachers delivering post-16 classical subjects across the UK, including Classical Civilisation, Ancient History, Classical Studies and related ancient-world qualifications. It is also open to all teachers in secondary and further education more broadly who are looking to develop their subject knowledge and pedagogical practice.

Led by experts in the ancient city of Rome and in Classics education, it will combine research-led visits to Rome's archaeological sites and museums with guidance on bringing material culture to life in the classroom. Staying at the BSR and joining its community of scholars, participants will have the opportunity to access to some sites not normally open to the public (permit depending), explore the BSR library and special research collections, and share experience and expertise with fellow educators in this unique and inspiring environment.

The BSR

The British School at Rome is Britain's leading humanities research institution overseas and an ideal base for studying the city's ancient history. You will stay in a research centre with an internationally renowned library, which is home to a resident community of scholars in a wide range of academic areas, as well as architects and artists. Visit www.bsr.ac.uk for further information.

Eligibility

Applicants must be currently employed as a teacher or educator in a UK secondary school, sixth form college, or equivalent secondary/further education institute. The programme is aimed at those teaching Classical Studies, Classical Civilisation and Ancient History, but teachers in adjacent subjects (Classics, Latin/Greek, History, etc) are very welcome to apply.

Participants are advised that the course is intensive and physically demanding, involving visits to outdoor archaeological sites on foot in the summer heat (Rome can be very hot in July). Those with accessibility requirements are encouraged to contact the BSR/Course Directors to discuss their circumstances in advance of applying.

Cost and accommodation

The cost of the course is £620 for a single room, to be paid by international bank transfer and covers:

- Four nights accommodation at the BSR
- Breakfast and dinner at the BSR, and packed lunches for site visits.
- Local transport around Rome, excursions and entrance fees to archaeological sites and museums
- Tuition
- BSR Membership for a year
- 24/7 access to the British School at Rome library

Please note that the cost of the course does not include travel to/from Rome and the BSR, or travel insurance.

In the event of cancellation there will be no charge for cancellation up to 30 days prior to arrival. Cancellations within 30 days of initial arrival date will be charged at 50% of the total cost of the course.

How to apply

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

Your application must include:

1. a cover letter (one page maximum) outlining your current position and the context in which you teach, your motivation for the course, and how it will benefit your teaching and professional development
2. a curriculum vitae (including full contact details: telephone, home and work email, address)
3. a letter of reference from your employer (e.g. member of Senior Leadership Team or Head of Department, confirming support for your application)
4. bursary application, if appropriate (see below)

Applicants should be sent via email to c.s.siwicki@exeter.ac.uk

The deadline for receipt of applications is **7 December 2026**.

Applicants will be notified whether they have been accepted for the course by **early January 2027**.

Bursaries

We delighted to be able to offer a limited number of full and partial bursaries for participants with financial needs, generously funded by the Classical Association and Classics for All. If you would like to apply for a bursary then please complete the Bursary Application Form in the link.

Provisional Programme (subject to change)

Monday 26th

WELCOME

15.30 Arrive at the British School at Rome and orientation

Introductory Seminar by Course Directors

Library session: 'Sources of Roman Topography: Physical and Digital'

Welcome Drinks

19.30 Dinner at BSR

Tuesday 27th

FOUNDATIONS OF ROME

09.45 Meet at Piazza Bocca della Verita

The Forum Boarium

The Great Altar of Hercules

The Velabrum

The Temples of Portunus and (?) Hercules Victor

The Capitoline Hill

14.00 The Capitoline Museums, including classical statuary, imperial portraiture, temple of Jupiter Capitolinus, bronze she-wolf, statue of Mars Ultor, Fasti Capitolini

19.30 Dinner at BSR

Wednesday 28th

THE IMPERIAL FORUMS

09.45 Meet at the Vittoriano

The Imperial forums of Caesar, Augustus, Nerva, Vespasian, and Trajan

Trajan's Markets and the Museum of the Imperial Forums

15.30 Afternoon seminars at the BSR

19.30 Dinner at BSR

Thursday 29th

AUGUSTUS' TRANSFORMATION OF THE CAMPUS MARTIUS

09.30 Meet at Piazza del Popolo

Obelisk of the Circus Maximus

Mausoleum of Augustus (exterior)

Res Gestae

Ara Pacis Museum

Horologium/meridian of Augustus

14.30 Collection of the Museo Nazionale Romano, Palazzo Massimo. Including, imperial portraiture, Classical statuary, frescos of the villa of Agrippa and villa of Livia at Prima Porta, ancient numismatic collection.

19.30 Closing remarks and reception

20.00 Special dinner at BSR

Friday 30th

COURSE ENDS

While the course programme is relevant for those teaching a range of subjects concerning the history, literature, society, and culture of ancient Rome and the classical world, the chosen sites and museums are of direct relevance to:

OCR A Level Classical Civilisation (H408)

- The World of the Hero (Virgil's *Aeneid* H408/11)
- Component Group 2: Culture and Arts (Imperial Image H408/22, Greek Art H408/24)
- Component Group 3: Beliefs and Ideas (Politics of the Late Republic H408/33)

OCR A Level Ancient History (H407)

- Republic and Empire (H407/21)
- The Eleven Caesars (H407/22)

Qualifications Scotland Higher Classical Studies (C815 76)

- Life in the Roman World

Qualifications Scotland Advanced Higher Classical Studies (C815 77)

- History and Historiography
- Heroes and Heroism