

# LATIN IN ♦ ROME



UNIVERSITY OF DALLAS

## Giving New Life to Our Long-Lost Past

THE UNIVERSITY OF DALLAS, a private Catholic university, has offered the Rome Program as a part of its undergraduate curriculum for more than thirty-five years. Over 6,000 undergraduates have spent an academic semester in Rome at the heart of our Western heritage.

For the last 10 years we have offered high school students a summer program in Latin conceived in the same spirit of devotion to that heritage. We study passages from Livy, Cicero, Vergil, Horace, Pliny, Suetonius, and other authors. We also read Latin and Greek texts in translation to support travels in and around Rome and Naples. We offer lectures, daily language tutorials and review sessions, group discussions of texts, optional reading sessions, and visits to world-famous historical sites and museums.

### *The Readings: Livy, Vergil, Cicero, Pliny and Others*

- We will read of Aeneas' encounter with the Sibyl when we visit Cumae; hear about the future site of Rome with Vergil's Evander as our guide; and look down from Mount Albanus to the plain of Latium, as Juno did, to see the final end of Turnus.
- Two letters by Pliny – describing the terrible eruption of Vesuvius in 79 AD – will accompany our visit to the remains of Pompeii and the Villa Poppaea at Oplontis.
- We will study selections from Cicero's Letters in concert with our visits to his birthplace, Arpino, and his villa at Tusculum.
- Briefer passages related to the sites we shall visit from a variety of other Roman authors will also augment our travel-study experience.

The readings will support our study of three important epochs of Roman history:

- The Kings and the Early Republic – here we reflect upon those deeds which founded a government where the laws were more powerful than men, an example that informed our own Founding Fathers.
- The Republic in Decline – a growing sense of loss and chaos in the late Roman Republic invites us to think about what was lost, and why.
- The Early Empire – the last great Roman synthesis of the classical heritage will help us understand our own synthesis of the heritage of Rome. Why should we look to Rome when we think about our own times?



### *Rome and Naples*

The topics and readings are designed to take full advantage of the sites and museums in Rome.

Visits will include:

- Within Rome: The Roman and Imperial Fora; the Palatine, Capitoline, and Aventine Hills; the Forum Boarium, the Circus Maximus, and the Arch of Constantine; the Colosseum and the Domus Aurea of Nero; the Ara Pacis and the Mausoleum of Augustus; the Pantheon, the Circus of Domitian, and other sites in the Campus Martius; the Baths of Diocletian, with the recently opened Museo Nazionale Romano in the Palazzo Massimo and the Museo Nazionale Etrusco at the Villa Giulia
- Near Rome: Trips to a Volscian acropolis at Norba; the Etruscan necropolis at Cerveteri; and a picnic at Tusculum, the site of Cicero's suburban villa
- Italy At Large: A visit to Cicero's birthplace in Arpino with three days and two nights in the Bay of Naples and environs (including Pompeii, the Villa Poppaea, a hike up Mt. Vesuvius, and the Cave of the Sibyl at Cumae)
- In Addition: possible tours of St. Peter's Basilica, the Sistine Chapel, and San Clemente (including a visit to the 1st Century A.D. excavations beneath the church)

### *About the Program*

Latin in Rome participants will stay at our campus at Due Santi. Located 21 km outside Rome in a beautiful vineyard countryside along the route of the Appia Antica, our campus offers easy access to the city while remaining in rural seclusion.

Full time faculty-members from the University of Dallas Department of Classics lead Latin in Rome. Faculty directors include Dr. David Oliver Davies, founder of the program; Dr. Karl Mauier; and Dr. David Sweet. All faculty have lived and taught at the University's Rome Campus. They are assisted by staff members who have extensive experience in both classical studies and University of Dallas Study Abroad Programs.

If you will be a high school junior, senior, or a recent graduate, and if you have completed at least three years of high school Latin, we invite you to apply. An official high school transcript, a 400-word essay, and two letters of recommendation (one from a current or former Latin teacher) are required. On successful completion of the program, determined by a final exam, students may receive three hours of college Latin credit.

### *Why Study Latin in Rome?*

As you have surely been told, there are many other reasons to study Latin besides a simple love of the language or an interest in those remarkable Romans. Whatever the reason, learning Latin is hard work, memorizing vocabulary a dull task, and studying grammar a dismal necessity. But all of this can and does change when you walk in the steps of Cicero in the Forum, or gaze as Juno did from Mt. Alban over the fields where Aeneas and Turnus fought (Aeneid XII 134-137). Things heretofore only talked about in books become real. A new urgency to your study is born. And in the Latin in Rome program we will do both: gaze and study; see, and reflect upon what we have seen. Visits to sites in the morning will animate small-group tutorials in the early evening and give a sense of the place to late evening informal discussions.

Our purpose is to stimulate students – to awaken an interest in the history, politics, art, and architecture of Rome, while engaged in advanced study of this remarkable language and the people who spoke it. Most places we visit in morning tours will be the immediate subject of the early evening tutorial sessions. In such a setting, grammar becomes a map to a familiar place and vocabulary the recent discovery of an old friend. Above all, we wish to preserve a “dead language” in living minds. The program, we must emphasize, is demanding. Serious study of a language always is. Yet such study has always been the passport to the life-long journey of a truly liberal education. Our program seeks fellow travelers – not mere sightseers – for that journey.

### LATIN IN ROME

A Study Abroad Program for High School Students 3 Weeks - 3 College Credits

For more information about costs, dates, travel arrangements, and application requirements, visit:

[www.udallas.edu/travel/latin.cfm](http://www.udallas.edu/travel/latin.cfm)