



INTERUNIVERSITARY MASTER'S COURSE

LATIN EPIGRAPHY ON LOCATION

Royal Netherlands Institute Rome

February 22– March 3, 2019

Spring 2019, the Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome will organise again, in close cooperation with the Research School OIKOS and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, a hands-on **course Latin epigraphy on location** intended for MA students, ReMA students and PhDs working in the areas of Ancient History, Classics and Ancient Civilizations, Classical or Roman Archaeology, and Roman Law. The course will take place in Rome from February 22 until March 3, preceded by three days of introductory classes in Amsterdam (January 22, February 7 and 8). The course offers an intensive introduction into Latin epigraphy from the Republican period up until Late Antiquity and is aimed at the acquisition and application of practical research skills in epigraphic research. The approach and focus of this course is strongly interdisciplinary with attention being paid to philological, socio-linguistic, literary, archaeological, and juridical aspects of epigraphic texts. In addition, explicit attention will be paid to the theoretical and methodological aspects of epigraphic research.

Course set up

The main part of the course is set up as a ten days' **intensive seminar** which will take place at the Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome. The organisation of the course is in the hands of **Dr. A.M.J. Derks** (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Archaeology) and **Prof. dr. B.H. Stolte** (RUG, Faculty of Law). The language of the course will be English (unless all participants will have Dutch as their mother tongue).

The course comprises individual study and research (under supervision) in the library of the KNIR (and some neighbouring foreign institutes), alternated with lectures, and museum and site visits. The programme includes visits to the epigraphic collections of the Museo Nazionale Romano, the Musei Capitolini and the Vatican, and further comprises a city walk along monuments with in situ preserved ancient inscriptions, and excursions to the Roman necropolis at Isola sacra and the ancient city of Ostia. The course aims to provide insight in the research potential of epigraphic sources regarding topics as diverse as identity and the treatment of the dead, family relationships and Roman law of succession, the organization of

the administration of the Roman empire, patronage and professional colleges, and content and organization of private and public cults. During the lectures these topics will be dealt with as much as possible through examples that we will see during the museum and site visits. For comparison also epigraphic texts from outside Rome and Italy will be drawn in.

As an individual task each student will be assigned one or more texts (on stone or bronze) kept in a museum or preserved in situ on an archaeological site in Rome or Ostia. By working on your assignment you will learn to read an epigraphic text, to produce a transcription and translation, as well as to write a short epigraphic commentary: in short you learn everything necessary in order to be able to produce a text edition of an inscription that complies with the conventions in the discipline. For the commentary you will be allowed to emphasize philological, literary, archaeological or juridical aspects, according to your competences and field of specialization.

The course's final day will be spent on presentations and discussions of the results from the assignments. Comments from fellow students as well as from the teaching staff need to be taken into account in the final written report which the participants are expected to submit no later than three weeks after conclusion of the course in Rome.

The course will start with three introductory sessions consisting of lectures on the history and organisation of the field, and a brief overview of different categories of Latin inscriptions, alternated by small exercises which aim at a first acquaintance with the most important corpora of Latin inscriptions in print and in digital data bases. These introductory classes will take place in the Main Building of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. You will be asked to read a number of short articles and chapters from edited volumes in anticipation of these classes.

Target group, entry requirements and study load

The course is intended for MA students (MA and research MA) as well as PhD students who are at the beginning of their doctorate research. International students may be admitted to the course provided that they are registered as a student at a Dutch university. The course can be taken as part of the MA programme at the student's home university, as part of the OIKOS education programme and/or as part of the Masterlanguage course for classicists (see www.masterlanguage.nl: Course 'Latin Epigraphy I'). The target group of the course are graduates in Ancient History, Classics, Archaeology, and Law, but others who take a special interest in Latin epigraphy and meet the entry requirements are invited to register as well. Part of the registration is a motivation letter in which you make clear why you would like to take this course, what your own research is about, and what level of command of Latin you have. While no specific knowledge of epigraphy is necessary, all participants should at least have knowledge of Latin at the level of the Dutch VWO exam. Each student will be assigned an epigraphic text the difficulty of which is in accordance with his/her abilities to read Latin; in this way the course hopes to achieve that the different categories of participants will all learn to use epigraphic sources for their own research.

The course can take up to fifteen students. In case more candidates register, a selection will be made whereby students from Classics who take the complete Masterlanguage course (10 ects), members of the OIKOS research school, and students from the six Dutch universities participating in the Netherlands Institute at Rome have priority (in that order). In addition, the motivation letter may be used as a means for selection.

The study load is the equivalent of **5 ects** (140 hours) and comprises ten full days of study in Amsterdam and Rome and some extra time for reading course materials in advance of the course as well as for writing up and editing the paper of the individual assignment after the final meeting. In consultation with the teaching staff the study load can be enlarged on an individual basis. Masterlanguage students can take a follow-up course of **5 ects** ('Latin Epigraphy II').

Costs

For all participants free accommodation will be arranged at the Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome. Entrance to museums and sites which we will visit as part of the course will also be free of charge. Travel costs to and from Rome as well as local transport, meals and refreshments are at your own expense. There is a good cooking facility in the Royal Netherlands Institute free to use for all participants.

Registration

- If you are interested in taking this course, you are kindly requested to register as soon as possible but in any case before **December 1, 2018** by using the standard 'Courses registration form' (or the Dutch version of it: 'Aanmeldingsformulier KNIR-cursus') available from the website of the Royal Netherlands Institute: www.knir.it.
- Please mention the level of command of Latin (VWO exam, BA Classics, MA Classics) under 'Other specifications'.
- To complete your registration you will be asked to upload the list of marks ('cijferlijst') of your BA programme, a CV, and a letter of motivation.
- All participants except PhD students are kindly requested to register for the course on the Masterlanguage website as well (Course Latin Epigraphy I).

Any remaining questions? Please get in touch with:

Dr. A.M.J. Derks Universitair Docent, VU Amsterdam Faculteit Letteren, De Boelelaan 1105 NL – 1081 HV Amsterdam Tel. : 020-598 6438 Email: a.m.j.derks@vu.nl	Prof. Dr. B.H. Stolte RUGroningen Juridische Faculteit, Oude Kijk in 't Jatstraat 26 Postbus 716 NL – 9700 AS Groningen E-mail: b.h.stolte@rug.nl
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