

COURSE DETAIL

ROMAN LETTERS

Country

Ireland

Host Institution

Trinity College Dublin

Program(s)

Irish Universities, Trinity College Dublin

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Classics

UCEAP Course Number

109

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

ROMAN LETTERS

UCEAP Transcript Title

ROMAN LETTERS

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.00

UCEAP Semester Units

2.70

Course Description

To write a letter – whether a formal, public composition or a private letter to a friend – is to create an image, consciously or unconsciously, of oneself as writer and of one's relationship with the letter's recipient. This was just as true for Roman letter-writers as it is for us today. This course explores a selection of the wide range of letters that have survived from Roman antiquity, from the highly personal correspondence of Cicero to the self-consciously artful letters of Pliny the Younger. The course also looks at the fictional letters of Ovid, the *Heroides* (Letters of Heroines), which take the form of first-person compositions sent by the heroines of myth to their lovers. Taken together, these varied texts offer a fascinating window onto the thought-world of writers and readers from the 1st century BC to the 2nd century AD and prompt reflection on such issues of self-representation and political "spin"; on the relationship between the public and private spheres; and on male and female "voices" in Roman literature.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

CL2323

Host Institution Course Title

ROMAN LETTERS

Host Institution Campus

Trinity College Dublin

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Classics

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