COURSE DETAIL

ANCIENT ROMANS AT WORK AND PLAY: RECONSTRUCTING THE PAST
Country Italy
Host Institution UC Center, Rome
Program(s) Made in Italy, Rome,Sociology in Rome,Communication Studies in Rome
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) History Classics Anthropology
UCEAP Course Number 106
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title ANCIENT ROMANS AT WORK AND PLAY: RECONSTRUCTING THE PAST
UCEAP Transcript Title ANCIENT ROMANS
UCEAP Quarter Units 5.00
UCEAP Semester Units

3.30

Course Description

The life of the ancient Romans was guided by two important concepts, otium, or leisure time, and negotium, a more structured use of time that may be associated with work of varying kinds. A good Roman life could, and often did, include both. This course explores Roman daily life and the many activities associated with both otium and negotium. The business of ancient Rome was largely conducted in the central and market areas of the city, and students study the ancient Roman Forum, the ancient river port in Rome and its associated features (wharves, warehouses, and rubbish heaps), as well as the ancient port city of Ostia. The leisure time of the aristocracy was noticeably different than that of the poor. They often spent leisure time in a relaxing environment outside of the city, such as villas, where they could pursue all types of activities deemed beneficial to the mind and body. The poor, instead, tended to stay in Rome, and spend their unstructured time at state-sponsored events and venues such as the games held in the Flavian Amphitheater, or at a monumental bath complex, such as the Baths of Caracalla. Alternatively, they would congregate in small taverns or popinae, or they might just sit on the stairs of a city building and play a game. Students visit and study the places where the Romans spent their leisure time looking closely at the leisure activities. As students get to know the Romans by studying what they have left us in terms of physical and literary remains, they discuss how much of what is "reconstructed" from the evidence can be certain, and how much must remain debatable. This course includes visits to Rome-area museums and sites, and special outings to the Roman cities of Ostia and Pompeii.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

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Host Institution Course Details https://uceap.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/DocumentLibrary/EZ8uAm-89ItIsMl6KJOQnlsBNLzW…
Host Institution Campus
Host Institution Faculty
Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department
Course Last Reviewed 2021-2022

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