**Ancient Classics Italy Trip, January 2020: key information**

In the inter-semester break (27-31 January 2020), the Department will be putting on a five-day, four-night tour to Rome and the Bay of Naples, designed to complement our students’ studies of the Roman world, to be led by Dr. Jon Davies and Dr. Kerry Phelan. All students registered for courses in Latin, Greek or Greek and Roman Civilisation are eligible to sign up for the trip, provided that they will be 18 or over on 27th January 2020. The tour aims to complement your primarily text-based study of the Roman world by introducing you to some of the most significant and impressive archaeological remains from the heart of the Roman Empire.

The **provisional tour schedule** will be as follows:

 **27th January (Day 1):** Fly to Rome. Afternoon tour of the Catacombs of St. Callixtus, ancient Early Christian burial tunnels. Evening walk through Rome, taking in some of the more iconic post-classical sights like the Trevi Fountain and the Spanish Steps.

**28th January (Day 2):** Full-day walking tour of classical Rome, visiting some of the most iconic remains of the ancient city, including the Circus Maximus, the Palatine, the Forum, the Colosseum, Trajan’s Column and the Pantheon.

**29th January (Day 3):** Transfer to Naples via coach. Visit the National Archaeological Museum in Naples, where many of the moveable objects from Pompeii and Herculaneum are displayed. Bus trip to the peak of Vesuvius, the volcano which buried Pompeii.

**30th January (Day 4):** Full-day tour of Pompeii, one of the richest, most spectacular and most famous archaeological sites in the world.

**31st January (Day 5):** Transfer from Naples to Rome airport via coach. Fly back to Dublin.

The cost of the tour will be €750. Costs that will be covered by this are as follows:

* Flights
* Hotel accommodation
* Tickets for site and museum entrance
* Coach transit from Rome to Naples, and from Naples to Rome airport.
* Insurance.

Additional costs to be met by students are as follows:

* Lunch and dinner each day.
* Personal spending.
* Other forms of transport within Italy (e.g. tickets on the Rome metro, train tickets from Naples to Pompeii).
* Travel to and from Dublin Airport.

Please note that students **must be over 18 on 27th January 2020** to participate. Students are also responsible for ensuring that their passport will be in date for the period of travel, and (if they are not an EU citizen) to ensure that any visa requirements for Italy have been taken care of before travelling.

It will be possible to pay for the tout in two instalments of €375 each. The beadline for the **first instalment** is **October 31st 2019**. The deadline for the **second instalment** is **December 13th 2019.** In order to register for the course and secure your place, you must pay the first instalment by the October 31st deadline, by selecting the “pay now” option on the Rome Trip page of the Ancient Classics Department website, which will take you through to the university’s secure payment site. Do ensure, however, that you are certain you will be able to come before paying, as the first instalment cannot be guaranteed to be refunded.

Upon securing your place, I will send you a form requesting information which we will need to secure our bookings. We will also hold a second information meeting later in the semester, when the bookings have been made, where I will provide more detailed practical information about the trip, including flight times and the names and details of the hotels where we will be staying.

In the meantime, if you have any further questions about the trip, please feel free to contact Dr. Jon Davies, in Office 7 of the arts building, or on jonathan.davies@mu.ie.