Call for Expressions of Interest: ARC Network for Early European Research-sponsored Postgraduate Advanced Training Seminar

Latin Clinic for Medievalists and Early Modernists

Organisers: Yasmin Haskell (University of Western Australia) and Frances Muecke (University of Sydney)

Date: 13 November 2009

Venue: Classics Centre, University of Sydney, NSW

Rationale and aims

How’s your Latin lately? As students of medieval and early modern history, thought and literature all of us will come across (or up against ...) texts in Latin, the international language of scholarship, science, medicine, law, religion and diplomacy well into the eighteenth century. Latin was also an important vehicle for creative writing, so it can’t be safely ignored even by students of the European vernacular literatures. This NEER postgraduate advanced training seminar is designed to introduce you to a range of post-classical Latin literature and genres and to help you tailor your language learning to your particular research needs and interests. If you’re struggling with a Latin inscription, letter, or other document, why not bring it along and ask an expert? And if you’re a classical Latinist, why not come and see how the other half lives! We aim to accommodate different levels of experience, and to help even the rustiest learners conquer their fear of the un-dead language ... To get the most out of this workshop, though, you will need to have at least a basic familiarity with the grammar and vocabulary of classical Latin.

Format

Experienced medievalists and early modernists who specialise in or regularly use Latin in their research will lead sessions throughout the day in the areas of medieval Latin, Renaissance humanist Latin (fifteenth-sixteenth centuries), and early modern Latin (seventeenth-eighteenth centuries).

Provisional program

9:15 am: Welcome by the convenors.

9:30 am: Day to be launched with a talk on the transition from classical to post-classical Latin/ self-guided Latin-language learning.

10:30 am: Coffee.

11:00 am-5:30 pm: Parallel sessions (TBC, depending on availability of presenters and interests of participants).
• Medieval Latin language
• Reading medieval Latin historical texts
• Reading medieval Latin literary texts
• Editing and translating medieval Latin texts

• Using Italian/ Northern European archives and libraries
• Reading Renaissance Latin historical texts
• Neo-Latin poetry and the Classical Tradition
• Translating and editing Renaissance and neo-Latin texts

• Social and political classics of Dutch humanism (Erasmus, Grotius, Lipsius)
• Latin in scientific, medical, or philosophical texts
• Latin in the Enlightenment – the end of an era or a new frontier?
• Any other suggestions ....?

Expert presenters (TBC)

Medieval Latin: Dr Juanita Feros Ruys (University of Sydney); Professor Philippa Maddern (University of Western Australia).

Renaissance Latin: Ms Frances Muecke (Sydney); Dr Maurizio Campanelli (University of Rome), Dr Andrea Rizzi (University of Melbourne); Dr Francesco Borghesi (University of Sydney); Dr Grantley Macdonald (University of Tours).

Early modern Latin (seventeenth-eighteenth centuries): Professor Yasmin Haskell (University of Western Australia); Dr Maurizio Campanelli (University of Rome); Dr Jan Waszink (University of Utrecht).

Other guests and facilitators:

Dr Trevor Evans (Macquarie University)
Professor Nerida Newbigin (University of Sydney)
Professor Joseph Farrell (University of Pennsylvania)

Information for applicants
Postgraduates registered with NEER and ECR NEER participants accepted to attend the seminar may be eligible to receive financial assistance from NEER of up to $500 to attend the seminar.

Applications to attend should be sent directly to Yasmin Haskell (yah@arts.uwa.edu.au) and Frances Muecke (frances.muecke@usyd.edu.au) and should include:

(i) details of the degree in which you are enrolled (PGs) or the title of your current research project (ECRs);
(ii) a c.300-word abstract outlining how attendance at this workshop will directly benefit your research;
(iii) a c.300 word statement stating your level of experience in (classical) Latin and the periods, genres, and texts you would be most interested in studying. (Please rank your five preferred sessions from the offerings above.);
(iv) demonstrated necessity of financial assistance (if applicable);
(v) for planning purposes, an indication of whether you might be interested in staying on for a one-day symposium (14 November) of the NEER Latin research cluster. The theme is ‘Latin Identities: Representations of Self and Community from Antiquity to the Present’.