



FOREVER
SCHOLARS™



DAILY LIFE, SOCIETY & TECHNOLOGY IN ANCIENT ROME

Professor Livia Galante

Starting September 28, 2023
2 PM ET

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Discover the secrets of Ancient Rome with our course "Daily Life, Society and Technology in Ancient Roman Times." In five exciting lessons, you will explore the fascinating world of the Romans, including their beauty rituals, fashion trends, and entertainment preferences. Learn about the different types of buildings used for various games the Romans loved, from the Colosseum to the theaters for plays. Explore the delicious cuisine of Ancient Rome, including the logistics and distribution of food and the types of meals they enjoyed. Discover the different social classes, the role of the family, the life of women and children, and the political careers and magistrates of Ancient Rome. Finally, delve into the technological achievements of the Romans, including their expertise in building roads, water systems, and concrete arches. Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity to step back in time and explore the world of the Romans!

Session 1

September 28, 2023 - Thursday at 2 p.m. ET

Beauty in Ancient Rome

This first lesson will focus on the various cosmetics and hairstyles the Romans were fond of—recipes for makeup and facial creams, tools to curl the hair, and jewels. We will learn how fashion changed in the different periods and how the hairstyle of an ancient Roman portrait can help archaeologists to date it quite precisely. It will be possible to investigate the other kind of clothing and how much the same garment changed its style through the centuries.

Session 2

October 5, 2023 - Thursday at 2 p.m. ET

Entertainment

Romans loved games and theatrical plays so much that a satirical poet called Juvenal complained that the Romans were only fond of “Panem et Circenses,” “bread and circuses,” to be fed and entertained. We will therefore explore the different types of buildings used for the variety of games the Romans loved: from the Circus Maximus, mainly used for chariot races, to the Stadium of Domitian for athletic competitions, from the Colosseum, where bloody games went on to the theaters for plays, from the “Odeion” or auditorium for the music to an artificial lake where mock naval battles went on, understanding that these did not take place in the Colosseum.

Session 3

October 12, 2023 - Thursday at 2 p.m. ET

Food

From where the food arrived: Infrastructures, logistics, and food distribution. What did the Romans have in their meals? Types of meals. Preparing meals: pans, casseroles, and molds for the cakes...these are some of the themes discussed in this lesson.

Session 4

October 19, 2023 - Thursday at 2 p.m. ET

Society

We will encounter the enslaved people and the traders, the aristocrats, and the women. This conversation aims to understand Roman society, the different social classes, the role of the family, and the life of women and children. There will be a focus on the political carriers and the other magistrates.

Session 5

October 26, 2023 - Thursday at 2 p.m. ET

Technology

The Romans were prodigious builders and expert civil engineers, and their thriving civilization produced advances in technology, culture, and architecture that remained unequalled for centuries. In this lecture, I will focus on three remarkable technological achievements of the Romans: Roads, Water, Concrete & Arches.

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