

**Great Conversation 115ABC: Romans and Christians**  
**January, 2008, M-F 1-3 pm**

Section A Gary Gisselman, Artistic Director, Theater 43, X3320, <gisselma>  
Section B Edward Langerak, Philosophy, Holland Hall 601C, X3494, <langerak>  
Section C Mary Trull, English, Library 415, X3445, <trull>

**Required Books**

- Livy, *The Early History of Rome, Books I-V*, tr. by Aubrey de Sélincourt (Penguin Classics, 2002; ISBN: 0140448098).
- Suetonius, *The Twelve Caesars*, tr. by Robert Graves (Penguin Classics, 2003; ISBN: 0140449213).
- Virgil, *The Aeneid*, tr. by Robert Fagles (Penguin, 2008).
- Marcus Tullius Cicero, *On the Good Life*, tr. by Michael Grant (Penguin Classics, 1971; ISBN: 0140442448).
- Epictetus, *The Handbook*, tr. by Nicholas P. White (Hackett, 1983; ISBN: 0915145693).
- Ovid, *The Metamorphoses*, tr. by Horace Gregory (Signet Classics, 2001; ISBN: 0451527933).
- *The New Oxford Annotated Bible with the Apocrypha, Third Edition, New Revised Standard Version, College Edition* (Oxford, 2001), 0-19-528485-2
- Borg, Marcus, *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time* (Harper, 2002), 0060609192
- Melchert, Norman, *The Great Conversation: A Historical Introduction to Philosophy* (Oxford, 5th ed., 2007) 0-19-530682-1
- Raimes, Ann, *Keys for Writers*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. (Houghton, Mifflin, Co., 2007), 0618437851

**Assignments**

- Oration Day: You will be assigned a topic to discuss for five minutes in class.
- Aeneid Paper: 3-4 pp.
- Roman Portrait Paper: 3-4 pp.
- Images of Jesus Paper: Compare Matthew's portrayal of Jesus to Mark's. 3-4 pp.

**Schedule**

Thurs., Jan. 3 Melchert chap. 8; Ed Langerak, plenary lecture on Hellenistic Philosophy  
Fri., Jan. 4 Livy Book 1

Mon., Jan. 7 Livy Book 5  
**Monday Dinner:** Mary Trull on oration

Tues., Jan. 8 Suetonius, Books 1, 2, and 6 (Julius, Augustus, Nero)  
Wed., Jan. 9 Virgil, *Aeneid* Books 1-4  
Thurs., Jan. 10 *Aeneid* Books 5-8  
Fri., Jan. 11 *Aeneid* Books 9-12

Mon., Jan. 14 Sheldon Nodelman, "How to Read a Roman Portrait" (HO)  
**Aeneid Paper Due**  
**Field Trip to Minneapolis Institute of Arts**  
**Monday Dinner:**

Tues., Jan. 15 Epictetus, *Handbook*; Cicero, *Discussions at Tusculum*, pp.53-72, 90-97  
Wed., Jan 16 Cicero, *On Duties*, pp. 131-51; *On the Orator*, pp.236-90 (esp. 260-90)  
Thurs., Jan 17 Ovid, love poetry (HO); *The Metamorphoses* ??

Fri., Jan 18     **Oration Day**

Mon., Jan 21    Borg chaps. 9 and 10, 1 Thessalonians, Galatians, Daniel chaps. 7-9, Dead Sea Scrolls (HO), Revelation 4-8, 19-21; Plenary Lecture by Charlie Wilson, then discussion groups  
                  **Roman Portrait Paper Due**  
                  **Monday Dinner:**

Tues., Jan. 22   1 Corinthians, Romans chaps. 1-13

Wed., Jan. 23   Gospel of Mark; Borg, chap. 8. Plenary Lecture by Charlie Wilson in Viking, then discussion groups

Thurs., Jan. 24   Gospel of Matthew, Ephesians

Fri., Jan. 25     Gospel of Luke, Book of Acts

Mon., Jan. 28    Gospel of John, Book of Thomas (HO), Elaine Pagels, *Beyond Belief* (HO)  
                  **Monday Dinner:** Film talk by Mary Trull; Denys Arcand, *Jesus of Montreal* (1990)  
                  **Images of Jesus Paper Due**

Tues., Jan. 29   Review Day

Wed., Jan. 30   Exam