This course is a unique opportunity for students to develop research skills in the study of ancient Rome. It examines the city as a whole — the topography, development and function of the Imperial capital — and analyses selected monuments in terms of their structural history, their architectural characteristics, their place in the development of the urban plan, their social, economic or religious function and their subsequent use and influence. The course is the most in-depth and rigorous of its kind. It comprises an eight-week module of full-time study, intended to form one quarter of one year’s full time postgraduate course, at Masters or early-Doctoral level.

The Course Director in 2014 will be Dr Robert Coates-Stephens (BSR Cary Fellow). His main area of research is the archaeology and architecture of ancient and medieval Rome. He has directed BSR undergraduate and postgraduate taught courses since 2003, is the author of Porta Maggiore. Monument and Landscape, and corresponding member of the Pontificia Accademia Romana di Archeologia.

Course Coverage and Structure
One half of the course is devoted to site visits led by the Course Director and tutors (approximately 100 hours), supplemented by 12 hours of lectures and seminars given by distinguished, often world-famous, guest speakers. The other half is reserved for individual study supervised by the Course Director. The course begins with a discussion of the topography and infrastructures of the city, and continues with a detailed study of the most important monuments of the Roman period, emphasising recent discoveries and controversies. It concludes with a discussion of the relation of the city to its suburbium, including Ostia and the Port of Rome. Additional site visits will be targeted to meet the research needs of individual students, or to complement lectures by guest speakers. Students will be expected to prepare in advance for, and contribute to, the site visits. Each student will have a major topic for study (to be allocated by their home university in consultation with the Course Director) and will be expected to give a seminar on it during the course, and to submit a written paper on it at the end of the course, before departure.

BSR Facilities
The British School at Rome is an ideal base for postgraduate study of the City of Rome. It possesses a first-class library, and a renowned network of contacts essential for access to the museums, monuments, galleries, libraries, archives and archaeological sites of Rome. Its own resources are supplemented by those of other foreign academies and learned institutions in the city. In addition to the academic staff of the School, the resident community includes a considerable number of postgraduate students and visiting senior scholars in a wide range of academic areas, as well as scholars in architecture and visual art. The City of Rome course facilitates the acquisition of research skills and provides an essential foundation for high-level research. See www.bsr.ac.uk for further information about the BSR.

Assessment
Students will be assessed according to a standard format that requires each participant to produce one written paper while in Rome, on the research topic agreed in consultation with the Course Director, and to present a seminar during the course. The Course Director will provide a report on each student including a mark based on the paper, on the seminar and on course participation. The home institution may use these marks in the manner that best fits its assessment methods and requirements.
Eligibility
In order to benefit fully from the seminars and lectures by experts, and texts in Italian, a reasonable level of fluency in Italian is expected; students with little or no Italian at the time of application are asked to be aware of this. Visits to sites form an integral and important part of the teaching. This is an intensive and both intellectually and physically demanding course and applicants must take this into account when applying, and are responsible for their capacity to meet the course requirements.

Cost and Accommodation
Tutorial fees are set at one quarter of the current tutorial fee for an EU student of the home institution (from £975 to £1,975). This covers the honoraria of the Course Director, tutors and occasional lecturers, site entries and transport. The BSR charges UK universities the same fee for non-EU and EU students. The home institution is required to agree a transfer and shall pay the fee direct to the BSR, and not pass it on to the student as an additional charge. The tuition fee is payable by 1 March 2014. The home institution of each participant is required to have a valid Institutional membership to the BSR (£120 p.a.).

Residential fees for accommodation in a shared room and full board (except for dinner on Saturdays and lunch on Sundays) are euro 2,100 for eight weeks from 1 April to 27 May inclusive. Accommodation in a single room may also be available at the higher rate of euro 2,600, subject to availability. Participants are responsible for meeting all residential costs and for their travel and insurance. The BSR regrets that partners cannot be accommodated. Half the residential fee is payable by bank transfer by 1 March 2014, the balance is payable by 15 April 2014. Applicants should have prior knowledge of Roman history and Roman building techniques. If in doubt, students should consult in advance of the course with the Course Director who will supply an appropriate bibliography.

How to Apply
Applicants will be accepted on the basis of merit. The selection of participating students will be made by the Course Director in consultation with the BSR. Applications should be made via the applicant’s university. Where a fee transfer has been agreed, the application should include the university’s guarantee that this payment will be made directly to the BSR.

Applications must include:
1. a cover letter with details of current course explaining how the City of Rome course will fit into this, and outlining the reason for application
2. an academic curriculum vitae (including full contact details: telephone, email, address)
3. a one-page summary of the research topics to be pursued in Rome
4. one letter of reference from current institution
5. one letter of reference from undergraduate institution (first year MA or PhD students at a ‘new’ institution only)

Please email applications to Stefania Peterlini: segretaria@bsrome.it.

The deadline for applications is: Friday 8th November 2013
Applicants will be notified whether they have been accepted by early December.

Bursaries are available for cases of particular financial need. Applicants should submit a statement of their financial circumstances together with their course application (one page of A4 maximum, detailing annual income and expenditure and the reason for applying). The referee’s letter (current institution) should confirm the need and that all appropriate applications for assistance have been made with the university or college.

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