

CLASSICS DAY, 2007

A morning of lectures, discussions and competition
for high school students who are studying Latin.

Thursday, October 25, 2007

9:00 am – 1:30 pm

Sponsored by

The Institute for the Humanities, Montclair State University

On Thursday, October 25th, the Department of Classics and General Humanities at Montclair State University invites high school students who are studying Latin, together with their teachers, to our annual “Classics Day”—a morning of lectures, discussions and academic competition.

Six (6) students from each school may participate in the competition, which is geared for students who have completed Latin 3 and 4.

Our aim is to provide students with the experience of studying Classics in college. **(We encourage teachers to bring additional students who would like to attend the lectures only.)**

Classics Day will begin with an opening address in the MSU Student Center Ballrooms at 9:00 am. Students and teachers will then go to assigned rooms to hear two different lectures.

THE LECTURES

Choose two presentations from the following topics (see registration form).

1.

The Authority of the Archetype: The Universal Significance of Myth

We typically approach myths as products of the ancient world and objects of historical study, but even as we do we become increasingly aware of their perpetual recurrence and relevance, and thus their universal or “archetypal” significance. In this lecture, we will consider the mysterious power of myths to re-inscribe themselves in later narratives and lives, and explore the possible origins and purposes of the universality of myths.

Speaker: Glen Robert Gill, Assistant Professor, Department of Classics and General Humanities, Montclair State University

2.

What Do You Do With Dad When He's Mad (or Mom When She's Just Plain Mean)?

Would you talk back to your dad if he had the legal right to kill you, or make you marry at 14 and then later force you into a divorce? We'll see how the ancient Greeks and Romans thought about such things, and how they portrayed the interaction on the comic and tragic stage.

The speaker: Susan Hussein, Adjunct Professor, Department of Classics and General Humanities, Montclair State University

3.

Roman Inscriptions and Roman Social History

Reading inscriptions from the ancient world in Latin is not only interesting and fun for its own sake, but also an important entry point into understanding much more about how ordinary people in the world of Rome behaved, thought, and related to one another than we can learn from ancient literary works alone. In this session, we will look at the Latin text of several inscriptions, examine what they can tell us about Roman society, and consider how you can continue this kind of study further.

Speaker: Timothy Renner, Professor, Department of Classics and General Humanities, Montclair State University

4.

The Ancient World on the Big Screen: Hits and Misses

Why do we love some film treatments about Greece and Rome, and despise others? We will look at the appeal of films like *Gladiator* and *300* (among others) to American audiences, in order to better understand what sorts of visions of the past we do and do not appreciate as a culture.

Speaker: Sulochana R. Asirvatham, Assistant Professor, Department of Classics and General Humanities, Montclair State University

The Competition

Following the lectures, a competition, testing knowledge in three areas—Roman Civilization, Latin Grammar, and Classical Mythology—will be held. The competition will be entered on a school group basis. Six students from each school may participate.

Your group will be assigned to an area where they can discuss and complete the answers to the questions, which will be multiple choice in format. The group will have one-half hour to demonstrate its collective knowledge of the material. The three groups which get the most correct answers within the time limit will each receive a prize for their school. Winners will be announced at the awards ceremony following lunch at 1:00 pm.

Teachers may be asked to proctor a group from a school other than their own.

Registration Information

For planning purposes, we ask that you pre register your school group by returning the attached form, along with a check or purchase order number by the **deadline, Thursday, October 18.**

- **The registration fee for this program is \$18.00 per student or teacher.**
- ***There will be an additional fee of \$12.00 for teachers who wish to receive three (3) hours of professional development credit.***
- **We do not bill schools for payment.** If you plan to use a purchase order, send us a copy of the registration form, as well as a copy to your business office—to act as an invoice.
- Registrations may be mailed, faxed or sent via E-mail to the *Institute for the Humanities, and check mailed under separate cover.*
- **Make checks payable to: Montclair State University.**
- **After we receive your registration information, a confirmation letter and directions to the campus will be e-mailed to you. Please include your e-mail address on the registration form.**

Lunch

Teachers will meet for lunch in Ballroom 'C' at 12:00 Noon. A complimentary lunch will be offered to one teacher per school group. Additional teacher's lunch may be purchased for \$7.00. (See registration form.) Students may bring a bag lunch, or they may purchase lunch in the MSU Student Center. Lunch specials run from \$3.50 to \$7.00.

For complete 2007-2008 program calendar visit our web site: <http://chss2.montclair.edu/instituteforthehumanities/>

Address: Montclair State University, Institute for the Humanities, 105 Dickson Hall, Montclair, New Jersey 07043

Phone: (973)-655-7516

Fax: (973)-655-7207

Email: inst_hum@mail.montclair.edu

Registration Form
Classics Day 2007

Return to our office by deadline date, October 18th.

Registration Fee: \$18.00 per student or teacher (\$12.00 additional for professional development credit hours)

Teacher's Name: _____ Department: _____

School Name: _____

School Address: _____ (zip code) _____

Telephone: () _____ Fax: () _____

Students: _____ # Teachers: _____

E-mail address (print clearly): _____

(Please provide an e-mail address to send your confirmation information)

Parking: # Cars _____ Van/Bus _____ Add'l Teacher's lunch (\$7.00 per person) \$ _____

I would like to receive 3 hours Prof. Development Credit: (\$12.00 additional)

Yes, our school will participate in the Competition

Purchase Order No.: _____ Amount Enclosed : \$ _____

- **You will have the opportunity to attend two of the four presentations. Write-in the total number of people in your group (including teachers) for each of your selections. Large school groups may be divided.**

_____ **The Authority of the Archetype: The Universal Significance of Myth** *Glen R. Gill*

_____ **What Do You Do With Dad When He's Mad (or Mom When She's Just Plain Mean)?** *Susan Hussein*

_____ **Roman Inscriptions and Roman Social History** *Timothy Renner*

_____ **The Ancient World on the Big Screen: Hits and Misses** *Sulochana R. Asirvatham*