

CLASSICS DAY

at the College of Charleston
(Saturday, November 4, 2017)

Workshops

“An Empire of the Mind: The Egypt of Ptolemy I” (Dr. Jen Gerrish) While his predecessor Alexander subdued the world with his army, Ptolemy I of Egypt “conquered” his own kingdom in new ways. Dr. Gerrish will show how Ptolemy used religion, literature, and science to build a new cultural capital and an empire that lasted three hundred years.

“Atomic Lettering: Lucretius’ *Litterae* as the Face of Nature” (Dr. James Lohmar): This talk will dissect Lucretius’ analogy that his letters and words are analogous to the atoms and bodies of the universe. Through precise poetical moves, he recreates at the level of language the universe he describes.

“Conversations about Classics” Undergraduate members of the Epsilon Rho chapter of Eta Sigma Phi (the National Honorary Society for Classical Studies) will discuss why they have chosen to study Classics at the college level.

“From the Arena to the Circus to the Stars: Screening Epic Heroes in the 21st Century” (Dr. Hunter Gardner): This presentation examines changing depictions of Greek and Roman heroes in 21st c. film and television. In concluding, Dr. Gardner looks to science fiction as a new context for heroic qualities often associated with ancient epic poetry.

“The Glass Lab” Join student researchers from Dr. Sterrett-Krause's archaeology lab to learn about the use of glass in the Roman world. Workshop participants will get hands-on with real Roman artifacts and discover what they might reveal about Roman life. Research assistants will share what they have learned about the practice of classical archaeology through their work in the glass lab. Limited to 20 participants per session.

“The Legacy of Greek and Roman Slavery” (Dr. Samuel Flores): In this workshop, Dr. Flores will lead participants in analyzing primary source materials that tell us about the forms of slavery that existed in Greece and Rome. This will be followed by a discussion of the impact of Greek and Roman slavery on the modern world, especially American culture and history.

“The World’s First Alphabet: The Invention of Writing in Ancient Greece” (Dr. Andrew Alwine) Participants in this workshop will learn about the origin of the Greek alphabet and then read some short inscriptions from the 8th century B.C. (including the famous Cup of Nestor). They will also see images of Greek inscriptions written on pots, walls, or whatever. No prior knowledge of Greek is required!

“What You Do with a Classics Major” (Dr. James Newhard) Studying the civilizations of Greece and Rome is not only crazy-stupid fun, but is actually something that can lead to an exciting career in...well...a lot of things. In this talk, we will explore what the study of Classics is like in college, and how this can translate into a wide array of career paths.