

## **Confronting the Classics, The Ancient Past in Modern Rome & Athens, 16-29 April 2018**

**Deadline: 1 March 2018**

Interdisciplinary course for BA and MA students, a collaboration of the Netherlands Institute at Athens, The Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome, the Swedish Institute in Rome and the Swedish Institute in Athens

### **Course Content**

Rome and Athens loom large over our modern world. The two cities are considered to be the birthplace of the West, heralds of art, philosophy and civilization and timeless representatives of democracy and empire. At the same time, they are the capitals of relatively young nations with turbulent recent histories. What is the significance of antiquity in this modern context?

In this course we will confront Rome with Athens and thus confront the classics in our modern world. Spending one week in each city, we will discuss the international lure of ancient heritage from the Grand Tour to mass tourism, discover the impact of archaeology on contemporary cityscapes, and analyse the political uses of the classical past from Napoleon to the European Union.

Topics of research and discussion range from nationalist, totalitarian and universalist narratives and uses of the ancient past, to strategies of preservation, reconstruction and musealisation of classical heritage.

### **Lecturers**

Dr Frederick Whitling (Swedish Institute in Rome); locally, Dr Nicholas Karachalis (Netherlands Institute at Athens) and other guest lecturers.

### **Target groups**

BA and MA students in History, Classics, Archaeology, Heritage Studies and related disciplines from the KNIR/NIA partner universities (UvA, VU, UL, UU, RU and RUG) as well as from the Swedish universities.

### **Course format and assessments**

The course comprises an intensive stay of fourteen days in Rome (16-22 April) and Athens (23-29 April), including lectures at the KNIR and NIA and excursions and presentations in the two cities. Before the start of the course an introductory meeting for the Dutch students will take place in Amsterdam (date to be scheduled).

Assignments include:

- an exploratory literature survey (800 words)
- a concluding research paper (5000 words)
- two on-site presentations: one in Rome, the other in Athens, focusing on key locations that offer interesting perspectives of comparison.

The topics of the presentations are chosen and prepared before the course starts; students have two afternoons in Rome and Athens to prepare the presentation on site and do some final literature research.

Assessment takes place on the basis of preparatory study of course material (20%), active participation and on-site presentations (30%), and the concluding paper (50%).

**Course material**

A selection of articles (ca. 250 pp.) and Salvatore Settis, *The Future of the 'Classical'* (2006), to be purchased by participants.

**Credits**

The study load is the equivalent of 6 ECTS (168 hours). Each student should arrange with his/her university whether the course can be part of the existing curriculum. The NIA/ will provide a certificate mentioning the study load and evaluation when a student has completed the course successfully.

The study load is based on:

- a) Before the seminar in Rome and Athens: independent study of course material and preparatory assignment: 1 ECTS (28 hours)
- b) Intensive seminar in Rome and Athens (14 days): active participation; two presentations and draft paper: 3 ECTS (84 hours)
- c) After the seminar: Paper of ca. 5000 words: 2 ECTS (56 hours)

**Costs**

Participating students from the KNIR/NIA partner universities will receive free accommodation at KNIR and NIA.

**Application and admission**

A maximum of 15 participants are selected for the course, half of which from Dutch universities. The selection is especially based on motivation and the positioning of the course in the student's curriculum.

Students can apply via the link below; include in your application:

- a letter of motivation
- a cv
- a recent list of grades officially provided by your university

**Deadline application**

1 March 2018

**More information**

nia@nia.gr