



## International Summer School in Latin Literature

### Reading Roman Reciprocity: Reziprozität in der römischen Literatur

(29 July – 6 August 2014)

On behalf of the Classics department Heidelberg, we are delighted to announce the first Heidelberg International Summer School in Latin Literature. In the stimulating surroundings of Heidelberg in summer, we want to gather students of different backgrounds to discuss a central concept of Roman literature and culture. This will be an opportunity for younger students to get involved in international exchange in a friendly environment, beyond the routine of the academic year.

#### Description:

Reciprocity is a widespread and diverse phenomenon in Rome around the turn of the millenium. Not only was Roman society permeated by the patron-client system, but the literature itself also abounds in different modes of social reciprocity. From the earliest stages of Greek literature onwards, phenomena of reciprocity had constituted a fruitful motif across the board, featuring noisily in all major genres. Sacrifice, gift exchange, hospitality, and – on the dark side of mutuality – revenge all contribute to the dynamics of narrative and non-narrative texts alike.

While it is true that texts show and describe social processes, they are also, in turn, themselves part of a circulation of social, cultural, and economic capital. Reciprocity is also an essential phenomenon of texts and their production: could anyone imagine whole genres, – e.g. letters and panegyrics, not to mention song exchange in drama, lyric and bucolic poetry – without reciprocity as the driving force of their dynamics? From another angle, how does the reciprocity of recitation and revision culture unsettle our notions of the author as solitary genius?

In this year's summer school in Heidelberg, we will be tackling these and other questions. One of our starting points is the thesis that texts never merely *describe* or *reflect* or *aesthetically transform* reciprocity, but that all these processes are simultaneous and consolidate each other: literature helps both to make and model the world of which it is a part.

If you are a student of Classics in the first four years of your studies and think that you might be interested in such questions (or are generally excited about Latin literature and coming to Heidelberg in the summer), we look forward to hearing from you. We will be working with a broad selection of texts from various genres of Roman literature produced (roughly) between 100 BCE and 100 CE; we will also consider some seminal modern theory of reciprocity. We will endeavour to base the corpus of set-texts on the suggestions of applicants.

Contact: [summerschool@skph.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:summerschool@skph.uni-heidelberg.de)

### People involved:

The summer school will be convened by Tobias Allendorf (Heidelberg), Dr Tom Geue (Oxford), and Martin Stöckinger (Heidelberg), who will also run the seminar sessions, which form the major part of the course.

We will have Dr Christopher Whitton (Cambridge) and Dr Kathrin Winter (Heidelberg) as speakers for evening lectures.

The summer school is running under the auspices of Dr Joséphine Jacquier, Prof. Gerrit Kloss, and Prof. Jürgen Paul Schwindt.

### Form of the course:

The course will be conducted in English and German. Active command of either is a prerequisite, and at least passive knowledge of the other desirable.

Students are expected to contribute to class discussions and give a short presentation on a chosen topic. The participants will receive a certificate summarising the workload and content of the course.

There will be a fee of 100 € to cover the cost of some communal meals, class material, and leisure activities that will be organised for the participants.

Accommodation will be at the participants' own expense, but we will assist you by giving suggestions for low-priced hostel rooms and subletting arrangements.

### Application procedure:

As numbers are limited, we kindly ask potential applicants to send their application (preferably a single *pdf* file) to [summerschool@skph.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:summerschool@skph.uni-heidelberg.de), no later than April 11. The application should not exceed two pages and comprise:

- a short *curriculum vitae* (including your level of competence in – and previous experience with – English, German, Latin, Greek)
- a short statement of purpose (no more than 500 words), outlining your motivation and providing some suggestions of passages that could be discussed in our summer school
- the name and contact details of an academic teacher who would be ready to act as an informal referee when approached in the application process.

You will hear from us by the end of April. Further information will follow in due course.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you in Heidelberg this summer!