Hadrian’s Villa

Columbia Summer Program in Italy: Archaeological Fieldwork

Academic Program

Columbia University offers a four-week summer program that provides undergraduate and graduate students with the unique opportunity to excavate and learn together at Hadrian’s Villa, a UNESCO World Heritage site near Rome and the most important of Roman imperial villas. It synthesizes Roman, Greek, and Egyptian architectural and artistic traditions and has attracted scholarly attention for centuries. Partial and full scholarships are available for both Columbia and non-Columbia students.

Students enroll in the following course:

Hadrian’s Villa: The Archaeology of an Imperial Court. 6 points.
- Professor Francesco de Angelis, Department of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia University
- Professor Marco Maiuro, Department of History, Columbia University

Coursework includes daily excavations, workshops, seminars and on-site presentations. Central to the course is the combination of fieldwork with the formulation of new historical questions and scholarly approaches. The project is intended both to promote familiarity with archaeological methods and techniques and to suggest avenues about how to employ this technical knowledge to think critically about the importance of Hadrian’s Villa in the ancient world.

Activities

Students participate in trips to Rome and nearby areas to help situate Hadrian’s Villa within the broader context of the residential culture of Roman emperors, and to appreciate its impact on Renaissance architecture.

Housing

Students live in a hotel near the excavation site. Meals are provided during the week.

Eligibility

- Must be a currently enrolled undergraduate or graduate student in good academic standing. Postgraduate students may also apply.
- Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA
- No previous coursework is required but preference is given to those who can demonstrate interest in the ancient world and/or in the history of architecture