

Conventiculum Buffaloniense / Spoken Latin Workshop
June 27-29, 2011

Descensus Averno

University at Buffalo, SUNY

Schedule of Sessions

Moderators: Anna Andresian, Neil Coffee, Catherine Nicastrò

Monday, June 27

6:30-8:30 PM	Welcome and Overview	Dinner, overview in English, brief warm-up exercises in Latin.
Byblos Restaurant, 270 Campbell Blvd, Getzville, NY, (716) 636-3102	Warm-up: “Salve, quid tibi nomen?”	Session languages: English and Latin.

Tuesday, June 28

(All Tuesday and Wednesday sessions start in 120 Clemens Hall, University at Buffalo North Campus.)

9:00-9:30	Refreshments Served	
9:30-10:30	Session 1: “De nobis et de anno scholastico peracto”	Greetings and personal information: de urbe tua, de vita cotidiana, de schola. After the initial greeting exercise, the group will split into those who wish to continue practicing basic greeting/daily life vocabulary and those who wish to speak more broadly about the previous school year.
10:30-12:00	Session 2: “Facilis descensus Averno”	First group reading session on the underworld. <i>Aeneid</i> 6.268-94 on the monsters of Avernus and 6.440-76 on Dido and others.
12:00-1:00	Lunch	
1:00-2:30 (includes time for walking to	Session 3: “Imagines Photographicae”	Visit sites in the underworld outdoors on campus and photograph scenes from underworld mythology.

and from
Clemens
Hall)

2:30 – 3:45	Session 4: “De imaginibus”	Discussion of cartoons.
3:45-4:00	Break	
4:00-5:00	Session 5: “Orationes et Iudicium”	Participants listen to speeches recited by underworld characters then discuss and vote on which one is the most unfortunate.

Wednesday, June 29

9:00-9:30	Refreshments Served	
9:30-10:30	Session 6: “De hominibus”	Participants learn vocabulary related to personality and occupations. Discuss people in the room as well as characters from books, TV/movies, mythology.
10:30-12:00	Session 7: “Facilior descensus Averno”	Second group reading session on the underworld. <i>Aeneid</i> 6.576-627 on underworld criminals, including Ixion, Tantalus, Theseus, and Sisyphus.
12:00-1:00	Session 8: “De cibis”	Participants learn vocabulary for common foods and simulate ordering at a restaurant.
1:00-2:00	Lunch	
2:00-3:00	Session 9: “Res Occulta”	Identity guessing game. Participants have names of underworld characters pinned on their backs, and have to figure out from others who they are.
3:00-4:00	Session 10: “Infandum”	“Taboo” style game in Latin using vocabulary from throughout the conventiculum.
4:00-5:00	Concluding Session: “Aestimatio conventiculi”	Participants give written evaluations of the workshop. Feedback from participants, idea sharing, discussion of practice of active Latin. Session language: English.