



Ancient and Modern Rhetoric

Henriette van der Blom

Sat, 2. Juli 2022

What has ancient rhetoric ever done for us? Why should we study Cicero's speeches? And why are political speeches still important in a time of mass media, social media and fake news? If you want to know, come along.

The Meisterklasse focuses on the ancient Graeco-Roman skills of public speaking and rhetorical analysis and brings them up to date with modern political rhetoric. Through lecture, small-group work, presentations and seminar discussion, we will engage with concrete examples of political speech to develop a wider and deeper understanding of rhetoric and why it matters, in the ancient world and today.

Program:

Sat., 02.07.2022 – BZW /A538

10:30-12:00

- a) Henriette van der Blom: Introduction to ancient and modern rhetoric
- b) Small-group work (with guidance): analysing Cicero *In Catilinam* I in preparation for small presentation after the lunch break

12:00-13:00 lunch break

13:00-15:00

- a) Small-group presentations on *In Catilinam* I
- b) Discussion of presentations and of *In Catilinam* I: what was Cicero's rhetorical strategy and how successful was it? What can we learn from Cicero's speech about political rhetoric?

15:00-15:45 afternoon tea & informal discussion

15:45-16:15

Final discussion: Why does ancient rhetoric matter today?

Practicalities:

Main language of the Meisterklasse is English, but students can speak German. Participants need to read Cicero *In Catilinam* I (Latin and/or German/English) in advance and bring the text with them (the text of the Loeb-Edition will be provided beforehand). Die Anzahl der Plätze ist begrenzt, weswegen eine verbindliche Anmeldung vorher nötig ist – am besten per eMail an: Kerstin.Dittrich@tu-dresden.de