Learn the secrets behind gladiatorial combat!

Experience arenas, circuses, and theaters!

Explore the images and objects of spectacle!

This twelve-day study tour explores the fascinating concept of spectacle in the Roman world. It includes the topics of gladiatorial combat, animal hunts, prisoner executions and other spectacles, the spaces where they occurred, their origins and uses in the Roman world. Days will include lectures, reading of ancient sources on site (in translation), firsthand investigations of the spaces and objects of spectacle, and some free time to explore on your own.

After explorations in Rome we move to our headquarters for this tour at the Villa Vergiliana, the overseas center for the Vergilian Society located in the heart of Campania, where gladiatorial combat and amphitheatres originated. The tour begins and ends in Rome.

Site visits include: Rome’s triumphal procession route; Circus Maximus; Colosseum; triumphal arches of Titus, Constantine, Septimius Severus; Stadium of Domitian; Ostia, including Theater; Paestum’s Lucanian tomb paintings of funeral games; amphitheatres at Cumae, Puteoli & Capua; Pompeii and more!

Director: Steven Tuck, PhD, Professor of History & Classics, Miami University, winner of eight teaching awards, director of twenty study tours, and lecturer for the Great Courses.

Cost: $2950 includes all room and board, all transportation during the program, site and museum admissions, and a source book. Airfare and travel expenses before and after the tour not included.

Contact: For further information, applications, and detailed itinerary, see the Vergilian Society website: www.vergiliansociety.org or email Steven Tuck at tucksl@miamioh.edu.

Feedback from previous participants:

- “Dr. Tuck’s penetrating surveys of the material and historical legacies of sites provided the rare combination of an inspiring and useful experience that I cannot wait to apply in all my classes.”

- “This was an all around terrific experience. I got more out of it than I would have ever imagined.”

Scholarships are available!