

Humanities Seminars Program

Art and the Classical Ideal

July 10-31, 2018

Tuesdays 10 - noon

Regents Professor David Soren

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Recommended Text:

Soren, David. *Greek and Roman Art and Archaeology and Their Influence: An Introduction*. Kendall Hunt Publishing, 2017. ISBN-13: 978- 1524921057.

This course will survey the principal monuments, history and government of the Greeks and Romans with an eye to their importance as a “classical quarry” or resource for future generations of Europeans and Americans. Included are brief discussions of Pericles, the Agora, The Acropolis, the Parthenon and the Roman Forum plus the so-called Fall of Rome and Dr. Soren’s original research into the effects of malaria.

The course will then trace the slow rebirth of interest in the classical quarry, fueled by the work of Petrarch, Leonardo Bruni, Andrea Palladio and others. Some of the ideas and art of the Renaissance, Mannerist and Baroque periods will be highlighted ending in the Rococo and Romantic movements incorporation of classical forms.

In addition, the remarkable discoveries at Pompeii and Herculaneum and the open letters of Johann Joachim Winckelmann will be considered along with the drive to create a French academic art led by such classical revivalists as Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres and William-Adolphe Bouguereau.

The course continues with a look at the adventurous Lew Wallace, the Arizona Territory and its connection to the creation of the novel Ben-Hur. Classicism then takes a remarkable turn with its enormous influence on the creation of Washington, D. C. and the concept of making the American capitol into a new Rome and a look at Italy and Germany where Mussolini and Hitler used the classical quarry to create their own unique art and architecture.

SCHEDULE:

July 10- A Look at Greece and Rome, The Classical Quarry

July 17- After Antiquity: Reviving the Classical World from the Renaissance to the Rococo

July 24- Classicism in the Romantic Age: From Pompeii to the Arizona Territory

July 31- Fascists and Nazis: The New World Order and Classical Antiquity