



Tu/Th  
9:30-10:50 am

USC

## RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE IN THE GRECO-ROMAN WORLD (REL 325)

In this course we explore the exciting landscape of religious practice in the Roman Empire, from traditional Roman ritual to the early Christians and beyond. We'll watch gladiators fight each other from the cheap seats in a Roman amphitheater, gaze on ritual sacrifices before huge marble temples and the secret meetings of mystery cults, walk through the dark alleys of Pompeii and peak in at the brothels and bars that dot the landscape. We'll join the rich in their sumptuous villas as they sacrifice to the household gods, surrounded by luxury and art, and then peer back into the servants quarters to see enslaved men and women huddled around statues of gods from their homelands. We'll look at temples, sacrificial rituals, narratives of divine epiphanies, prophecy, ancient mysteries, and other aspects of religious life in the Greco-Roman world.

**No prerequisites for enrolling in the course.**

**Prof. Cavan Concannon**