CHRISTOPHER DAWSON CENTRE

**ANNUAL SUMMER SCHOOL**

**IN MEDIEVAL AND ECCLESIASTICAL LATIN**

13-17 JANUARY, 2020

Latin is arguably the mother tongue of Europe. Its literature is immensely rich. In a sense it never died; original work continued to be written in Latin up to modern times. This course will offer a general introduction to Latin with a focus on the post-Classical period. We shall also look at passages of older material that remained highly influential in the later period (e.g. Scripture, Virgil). There will be an introduction to palaeography, including an opportunity to handle original manuscripts.

Some prior knowledge of Latin is necessary, but beginners with experience of learning a foreign language might consider purchasing a self-instruction primer and working on the basics between now and the start of the course. Participants will never be embarrassed if their Latin is imperfect: the teaching method leaves the entire task of translation and exposition to the Lecturer. This approach has been useful to relative beginners as well as those who are more experienced.

Any Latin Primer designed for self-instruction can be used, but F Kinchin Smith’s *Teach Yourself Latin* (out of print, but cheap copies are easily available from internet sites such as [www.abebooks.com](http://www.abebooks.com)) is particularly good.

The Lecturer is Dr David Daintree who founded the Annual Latin Summer School in 1992.

THE PROGRAMME

There will be four lectures a day on each of the five days, starting at 9.00 am. There will be only one lecture after lunch each day, to free up the afternoons for private study. Classes will be held at Jane Franklin Hall, a college of the University of Tasmania, at 6 Elboden Street, South Hobart. The college is roughly midway between the City centre and the University main Campus (1.5 kms in each direction). Residential accommodation may be available at the College, but application must be made directly to the office at <https://jane.edu.au/contact-us/>.

The cost of the course is $300. Meals and accommodation are *not* included. Proceeds from this course will assist the Christopher Dawson Centre (<http://www.dawsoncentre.org>).

To enrol and for further information contact dccdain@gmail.com.

THE PROGRAMME

Day 1

General introduction to Late and Medieval Latin.

A review of Latin grammar; developing and broadening a Latin vocabulary from a study of English cognates and derivatives.

Readings: Excerpts from Liturgy (the order of the Mass) and Scripture.

Day 2

Latin Prose Narrative: extracts from Bede, Einhard, the anonymous `Brendan Voyage', St Isidore of Seville, Robert Grosseteste.

Day 3

Religious poetry: selected hymns of St Ambrose, Venantius Fortunatus, Adam of St Victor, Hildegard of Bingen, St Thomas Aquinas.

Day 4

The Classical Tradition - how the writers of the ancient world continued to be read throughout the centuries: extracts from Virgil and several pagan writers.

Secular Poetry: the Archpoet, Walter of Chatillon, Walter Map, the Cambridge Songs, *Carmina Burana*.

Palaeography workshop (with examination of specimens of original manuscript)

Day 5

Philosophy, the Fathers of the Church and scholastic theology: extracts from St Augustine, St Benedict, St Patrick, St Columbanus, Dante, Thomas a Kempis.

NOTES

The ‘days’ are to be interpreted flexibly: depending on the needs of participants, coverage of topics may overflow from day to day.

Examples of the work of all listed authors will be presented, as a minimum, but pieces by other authors may be included.

Intending participants are encouraged to request the inclusion of works by other writers.