## LATN 200-02—Directed Readings: Roman Comedy

.25 Course Fall Semester Monday 3:00-3:50 PM Instructor: Simmons



Clever slaves, arrogant soldiers, witty prostitutes, lecherous old men, and young lovers separated by circumstances beyond their control are all typical characters in the Roman comic theatre, and their self-serving schemes lead to hilarious outcomes. In Directed Readings: Roman Comedy, we will read (in Latin, supplemented by readings of



English translations of the works) selections from a range of plays from the goofball comic poet Plautus, and possibly from the more

refined and cerebral comic poet Terence. These two were widely acknowledged as the funniest and most provocative of Rome's comic playwrights, and their works have aged very well, as evidenced by themes and techniques of their plays that have appeared in the movies of such contemporary humorists as the Farrelly brothers and Judd Apatow. Students who are eligible for this once-a-week course are those who have completed Elementary Latin II (LATN 102), or who have tested out of it.