

# CLAS 210-01/THEA 297-01: Roman Comedy Alive

.5 Course

First half of Fall Semester

Tuesday and Thursday 12:30-1:45 AM

Instructor: Dr. Bob Simmons



Roman Comedy Alive will approach the sometimes silly and slapstick, sometimes dark and unsettling, comedy of ancient Rome through multiple approaches. We will read the plays as works of drama and literature, and understand them as products of their time and performance circumstances. We will also learn about them as works composed to be performed. We will reconstruct acting techniques, costumes, blocking, and the like from

hints in the texts and from visual depictions of these plays, and benefit from other scholars' efforts to do the same. To illustrate what we



are learning as we go along, we will act scenes out (in a low-key, fun way). One of our culminating projects will be a performance of an excerpt of one of these plays at a small Classics conference that is meeting on campus in October.

Furthermore; there may be opportunities to perform that same scene in other circumstances as well. No theatre experience is necessary to be in this course, nor do you need actually to act during our big performance—there are other things you can contribute to the production. All students are eligible to take this course.

