# COKING FOR A REWARDING, INTELLECTUALLY STIMULATING, AND CHALLENGING CAREER? CONSIDER . . . TEACHING LATIN-IN THE 21ST CENTURY

"A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops." Henry Brooks Adams

#### WHY TEACH...LATIN?

Teaching has, of course, always been one of the most rewarding of careers, spiritually at least if not financially—and these days even the salaries are much improved, with beginning salaries often in the \$30-40,000 range for just a nine- or ten-month contract. And Latin teachers have more fun than most: their students tend to be motivated and academically capable above the average, and the subject they teach is richly interdisciplinary, including not only the language and literature of the ancient Romans, but also their history and politics, philosophy and religion, myths and legends, art and architecture, and many other aspects of their fascinating public and private lives as well.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

In most areas of the country the job market for Latin teachers is excellent; serious shortages of qualified Latin teachers have produced, in fact, a seller's market in many states. Once certified at the bachelor's level, teachers can go on to master's, specialist, and even doctoral degrees, moving up the career ladder and boosting their earnings along with their mastery of the subject.

### CERTIFICATION

Certification requirements vary from state to state, but in general include a Latin major or equivalent plus a number of methodology and other professional education courses. A bachelor's degree in education is the more direct route, but many teachers earn instead the bachelor of arts degree and enroll in education courses while in college or after graduation. Many private schools do not require certification, but being certified broadens your employment opportunities. A second major or minor in a field like English, history, or a modern foreign language is a big plus.

#### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Classical Association of the Middle West and South (CAMWS) offers scholarships to undergraduates or postgraduates pursuing certification in Latin; for information visit the CAMWS website at www.rmc.edu/~gdaugher/camwshp.html or write Prof. Gregory N. Daugherty, CAMWS Secretary-Treasurer, Department of Classics, Randolph-Macon College, P.O. Box 5005, Ashland VA 23005-5505.

The American Classical League (ACL) likewise offers a number of "Maureen O'Donnell Scholarships" for individuals pursuing certification; visit the ACL website at www.aclclassics.org, write American Classical League, Miami University, Oxford OH 45056, or see the latest issue of the League's journal, *The Classical Outlook*.

#### FINDING A JOB

CAMWS has Vice Presidents in each of its 31 states and 3 Canadian provinces prepared to assist candidates seeking Latin teaching positions; for names and addresses, visit the CAMWS website (www.rmc.edu/~gdaugher/ camwshp.html).

ACL sponsors a national Latin Teacher Placement Service (www.aclclassics.org), and the National Committee for Latin and Greek (NCLG) lists regional and state placement services on its site at www.promotelatin.org

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#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

For further information and assistance, contact CAMWS, ACL, or NCLG at the above addresses, and visit the University of Kentucky's Latin Teaching site at www.uky.edu/ArtsSciences/Classics/teaching.html; useful publications include the pamphlet *Careers for Classicists*, available from the American Philological Association (visit www.apaclassics.org or write American Philological Association, University of Pennsylvania, 291 Logan Hall, 249 S. 36th St., Philadelphia PA 19104-6304) and the book *Latin for the 21st Century: From Concept to Classroom* (ISBN 0-673-57608-6; available from Prentice Hall Publishers at 1-800-848-9500; description at www.phschool.com).

"The whole art of teaching is only the art of awakening the natural curiosity of young minds for the purpose of satisfying it afterwards."

Anatole France

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