U3A Roman Studies

For this course we will be looking extensively at the history of the Romans including the myths and legends about Rome's origins and the foundation truths behind these. Then we will look at the many different people groups and their languages of what became eventually modern day Italy. The organisation of government including the magistrates and the Roman Assembly. The development and expansion of the Roman Republic from 500BC to 150Bc, including the Pyrrhic and the 3 Punic wars and the battles with Hannibal. We will then look in detail at a great consul, Marius, then at two dictators: Sulla and Pompey. Next we spend one unit looking at the rise to power of Octavian after the murder of Julius Caesar and Mark Antony and Cleopatra. We will study the development and decline of the Western Empire and the social structure of ancient Rome.