



university of
 groningen

Summer School

Schools in Transition

16 - 22 June 2025 | Rome, Italy

(Research) MA students and PhD candidates

How did early monasticism transform, adopt, and adapt patterns of schooling in the ancient world? How was it innovative in its approach to education? This interdisciplinary and international summer school introduces students to the study of this key transition in Western intellectual and religious history through the study of a broad range of textual and material evidence, current approaches to situational learning, and results in the study of early Western monasticism.

Comparison with the contemporary institution of the Late Antique school introduces students to the cultural and

social worlds in which monasticism developed, and prompts reconsideration of continuities and discontinuities between these two institutions of formation.

The school's research-based approach introduces the structures, resources, ritual practices, disciplinary programs, textual practices, materials (including manuscripts), and spaces of situated learning. Through expert-led tours of the Vatican Library, late antique sites of Rome, and the Abbey of Montecassino, students gain on-site experience of sources and sites important to their own research. Time is provided for participants to undertake their own research while in Rome.

The school, which is offered through the Dutch Research School of Medieval Studies and the University of Groningen Summer Schools, is a collaboration with the students and faculty of the Medieval Institute and the Center for Italian Studies of the University of Notre Dame (USA).



Dutch Research School
for Medieval Studies



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