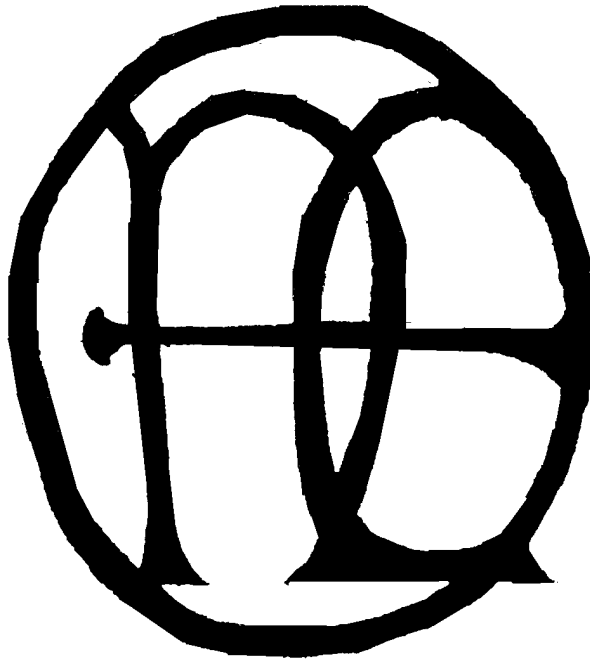


MANCENT

**The Manchester Continuing
Education Network**



Programme for Autumn 2024 (Sept - Dec)

Welcome

Dear All,

I hope you are all well and enjoying our very mixed summer. We definitely had a bit of everything this year.

Please find enclosed the Autumn programme with another fine selection of courses. I particularly look forward to Barry Wood's Othello course and Michael Tunncliffe's course on the History of Persia. Tony Keen is currently on Sabbatical researching more material for his new book and I look forward to hearing all about it after Christmas. Wish him luck that the British Library is bringing the relevant databases back online soon.

In the meantime, I hope you are enjoying the rest of the summer and your travels and look forward to seeing you online and live in September

All the best ,

Birgitta

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Classical World

COURSE The History of Persia

Michael Tunnicliffe

At various times in its history Persia has been at the centre of an extensive empire. This course will explore the history of the three empires of the Achaemenids, the Parthians and the Sasanids. But it will go beyond that to the very beginnings in Iran under the Elamites through to the conquest by the forces of Islam in the 7th century, and the medieval and early modern period down to the Islamic Revolution and the rule of the ayatollahs. Covering 5000 years of history we will also examine the ancient religion of the Persian, the dualistic beliefs of the prophet Zoroaster

Recommended reading

Alvarez Mon J.2021 *The Elamite World* Routledge

Brosius M, 2006 *The Persians* Routledge

Sarkosh V & S Stewart 2021 *The Age of the Parthians* I B Tauris

Darayae T 2013 *Sasanian Persia: The Rise and Fall of an Empire* I B Tauris

Katouzian H 2010 *The Persians: Ancient, Medieval and Modern Iran* Yale University Press

Day: Tuesdays **Time:** 10am - 12 noon
12 weeks, from 17th September to 10th December
Half term - 21nd October

Venue:

Quaker Meeting House, 91 Station Road, Cheadle Hulme SK8 7BG

12-week course	Minimum No.	Maximum No.
£96	8	24

Send bookings to:
Michael Tunnicliffe
5 St George's Way, Northwich CW9 8XG
email: mtunni@sky.com **telephone:** 01606 42116

ONLINE COURSE

The Rise and Fall of the Roman Villa Part 4 – Northern Gaul, Germany and Raetia

Birgitta Hoffmann

An exploration of the Roman idea of living in the countryside in the Northwestern Roman Empire

The Northwest of the Roman Empire is the agricultural powerhouse that fed the large armies on the Rhine and Danube. North of the growing line of Olives and datepalms this means that the villas are likely to depend on cattle, grain and wine for their income. While large open courtyards were of dubious value in the regions north of the Alps. So how did Roman ideas of Living in a Villa adapt to the local conditions.

It is also an area that was newly settled by the Romans in the aftermath of the catastrophic results of the Gallic Wars for the local population. So how much of the Iron Age traditions survived? Did it make a difference, how close the Roman army was to the size and design of your villa?

Day: Thursdays

Time: 7 - 9pm

10 sessions starting on 3rd October to 12th December. Half term 31st October

Online platform: Zoom

Lectures will be recorded and distributed to the participants at the beginning of the next week. This should allow participants from different

10-week course	Minimum No.	Maximum No.
£120	8	50

Send bookings to:

Birgitta Hoffmann, 55 Broadwalk, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5PL

email: latinteacher@btinternet.com **phone:** 07377 791562

or book through the MANCENT website (UK residents only)

<https://mancent.org.uk>

or via Eventbrite www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-rise-and-fall-of-the-roman-villa-part-4-northern-gaul-roman-germany-tickets-923834201967

ONLINE COURSE

Mithraism and other Roman Mystery Religions

Birgitta Hoffmann

Away from the demands of the Roman state religions or the continuing traditions of the indigenous population the Roman Empire had room for a large number of personalised religious experiences, the so-called mystery religions, whose cults might make very different demands on the use of any given space. Some of these cults very highly localised, such as Eleusis. Others such as Mithras were spread across the entire Roman Empire.

This course will look at Mithraism and other sites of various mystery religions and explore in how far the written record and the archaeology help us to understand how these religions were practised.

Day: Fridays

Time: 2 - 4pm

10 sessions starting on 4th October to 13th December.

Half term break 1st November

Online platform: Zoom

10-week course	Minimum No.	Maximum No.
£120	8	50

Send bookings to:

Birgitta Hoffmann, 55 Broadwalk, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5PL

email: latinteacher@btinternet.com **phone:** 07377 791562

or book through the MANCENT website (UK residents only)

<https://mancent.org.uk>

or via Eventbrite www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mithraism-and-other-roman-mystery-religions-tickets-923884672927

ONLINE DAYSCHOOL

Studying in Athens – or what Romans thought they should see of Greece

Birgitta Hoffmann

The Romans saw Greece as a highly cultured land, the home of philosophy, rhetoric, Homer, and art, but also a land of witch craft and some very strange habits.

By the late Republic spending time in Athens perfecting your language skills and learning Greek philosophy had led to Athens becoming for a while the ‘finishing school of Rome’s elite’ and by the second century Pausanias saw a market for writing one of the earliest travel guides to Greece.

This dayschool is going to look at the places Romans hoped to see and discuss why.

Date: Saturday 21st September **Time:** 11am – 4pm

Online platform: Zoom

Dayschool	Minimum No.	Maximum No.
£35	8	50

Send bookings to:

Birgitta Hoffmann

55 Broadwalk, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5PL

email: latinteacher@btinternet.com **phone:** 07377 791562

or book through the MANCENT website (UK residents only)

<https://mancent.org.uk>

or via Eventbrite www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/studying-in-athens-or-what-romans-thought-they-should-see-of-greece-tickets-923805215267

ONLINE DAYSCHOOL

The Hand that Rocks the Cradle – the Severan Emperresses

Birgitta Hoffmann

For the first two hundred years it was understood that the Roman Emperor had to be a man, preferably able to lead the Roman armies in person, and thus it remained until Septimius Severus. In the aftermath of his death the family of his wife Julia Domna produced a series of women that were not only able to act as the power behind the throne as efficiently as anything Livia had achieved, but also established the concept of the regency for an under age emperor, usually with them as leader of the regency council.

This dayschool will look at these women and their children and explore how they managed their power and how they laid the foundations for child emperors in late antiquity and Constantinople.

Date: Saturday 19th October

Time: 11am – 4pm

Online platform: Zoom

Dayschool	Minimum No.	Maximum No.
£35	8	50

Send bookings to:

Birgitta Hoffmann

55 Broadwalk, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5PL

email: latinteacher@btinternet.com **phone:** 07377 791562

or book through the MANCENT website (UK residents only)

<https://mancent.org.uk>

or via Eventbrite www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-hand-that-rocks-the-cradle-the-severan-emperresses-tickets-923816288387

ONLINE DAYSCHOOL

‘I have surpassed Solomon’ – Justinian’s Buildings

Birgitta Hoffmann

The Emperor Justinian (483-565) was one of the longest-lived emperors of the 6th century. His conquests in Italy, Africa and Spain had massive consequences for those provinces, not always in a good way.

But one of the most unusual results of his reign is Prokopius’ list of Justinian’s Buildings, which included churches like Hagia Sophia, Towns like Justiniana Prima, but also fortresses. Many of these sites can still be identified today and this dayschool will go on a tour of these sites and discuss why they caught the attention of his contemporaries.

Date: Saturday 7th December **Time:** 11am – 4pm

Online platform: Zoom

Dayschool	Minimum No.	Maximum No.
£35	8	50

Send bookings to:

Birgitta Hoffmann

55 Broadwalk, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5PL

email: latinteacher@btinternet.com **phone:** 07377 791562

or book through the MANCENT website (UK residents only)

<https://mancent.org.uk>

or via Eventbrite www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/i-have-surpassed-solomon-justinians-buildings-tickets-923827080667

World Archaeology

ONLINE COURSE The History of Jerusalem

Michael Tunnicliffe

Jerusalem has a long and complex history and has been ruled over the millennia by many different powers. It began as a Canaanite city which was taken over by the Israelites and attacked by Assyrians and Babylonians. It came under the control of Persians, Greeks, Romans and Byzantines before the conquest by Muslims in 638. Over the last 1000 years it has been contested space with the coming of the Crusaders and in more recent times ruled by Ottoman Turks, then the British and now is at the epicentre of the conflicting claims in the Middle East. This course will give an over view of the last 4000 years of the "City of Peace"

Recommended reading

Simon Sebag Montefiore 2012 *Jerusalem; The Biography*, Phoenix

Day: Thursdays **Time:** 1.45 - 3.45pm
12 weeks, from 19th September to 12th December
Half term break: 24th October

Online platform: Zoom

12-session course	Minimum No.	Maximum No.
£84	8	24

Send bookings to:
Michael Tunnicliffe
5 St George's Way, Northwich CW9 8XG
email: mtunni@sky.com **telephone:** 01606 42116

ONLINE COURSE

Silkroad Studies: Travel and Trade within China

Birgitta Hoffmann

An Introduction how the Silkroad harbours and depots were supplied and accessed from within China

The Silkroad is traditionally described as ending in Chang'an for the inland route or the Southern Chinese harbours for the Maritime Searoute. But how did the traded material reach these points or go from there to the Imperial residences and the large interior cities? This course will look at the history of Chinese interior transport and travel from rivers like the Yangtse and the Yellow River to man-made i infrastructure like the Grand Canal or the large North-South-Roads from the Han to the beginning of the Qing period.

Please note all lectures will be recorded and distributed to the participants at the beginning of the next week. This should allow participants from different time zones, or those working catching up with the lectures.

Day: Thursdays **Time:** 2 -4pm
10 sessions starting on 3rd October to 12th December
Half term break 31st October

Online platform: Zoom

10-session course	Minimum No.	Maximum No.
£120	8	50

Send bookings to:

Birgitta Hoffmann, 55 Broadwalk, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5PL

email: latinteacher@btinternet.com **phone:** 07377 791562

or book through the MANCENT website (UK residents only)

<https://mancent.org.uk>

or via Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/silkroad-studies-travel-and-trade-within-china-tickets-923861764407>

ONLINE DAYSCHOOL

Angkor – the Capital of the Khmer

Birgitta Hoffmann

In Northern Cambodia beyond the flood line of the Tonle Sap lies a huge archaeological site – Angkor. Surveys have established its size at about 2-3sqkm in size with huge temple complexes and palaces, reservoirs, a canal system that supplied the town with water, but also served for transport as well as a large districts full of traders and craftsmen.

This is the centre of power of the Khmer Southeast Asia's largest pre-Mongolian landpower, with trade and political links stretching from Persia to China.

This dayschool will look at the archaeological remains and what recent archaeological work has added to our understanding of this empire and its capital

Date: Saturday 16th November **Time:** 11am – 4pm

Online platform: Zoom

Dayschool	Minimum No.	Maximum No.
£35	8	50

Send bookings to:

Birgitta Hoffmann

55 Broadwalk, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5PL

email: latinteacher@btinternet.com **phone:** 07377 791562

or book through the MANCENT website (UK residents only)

<https://mancent.org.uk>

or via Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/angkor-the-capital-of-the-khmer-tickets-923820500987>

Latin

ONLINE COURSE Latin Prose Composition and Pliny

Birgitta Hoffmann

In the Autumn we will translate selections from Pliny the Elder.

We will translate and discuss the text as well as alternating with exercises of translating English into Latin, focusing in the first half on the gerund, gerundive and supinum.

For the grammar exercises and English into Latin translations, we are using Andrew Leigh's Latin Prose Composition. Other learning materials will be provided, but a Latin/English dictionary will be useful, which can be found online.

Newcomers are always welcome but should ensure that they are familiar with Latin Grammar and vocabulary at roughly A-level or beyond. This course also does prose composition exercises (translations from English into Latin). Feel free to ask to come for a trial session, if you are unsure.

Day: Tuesdays **Time:** 6 - 7.30pm
10 sessions from 1st October to 10th December
Half term: 29th October

Online platform: Zoom

10-session course	Minimum No.	Maximum No.
£120	2	7

Send bookings to:

Birgitta Hoffmann

55 Broadwalk, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5PL

email: latinteacher@btinternet.com **mobile:** 07377 791 562

If you would like to pay via BACS or Paypal please contact Birgitta Hoffmann for details.

ONLINE COURSE

Reading Latin: Ovid's Heroides 9 - 11

Birgitta Hoffmann

Ovid is possibly the most versatile of the Augustan poets ranging from the lighthearted banter of the *Ars Amatoria* to the regrets of the *Tristia*. But the best-known poem is probably the *Metamorphoses*, a collection of mythological stories that included the transformation of one of the protagonists. The *Heroides* is a collection of fictitious letters in which Ovid takes the view of the women, who get married, abandoned, replaced or mistreated by the the more famous Greek Heroes like Odysseus or Herakles

Known since the Middle Ages these stories are some of the earliest stories with females as the lead and are extremely well observed and expressed by Ovid.

We will start this term with the 8th letter: from Hermione and Orestes, and will progress to Deidameia and Herakles and finish with Ariadne and Theseus.

Newcomers are always welcome but should ensure that they are familiar with Latin Grammar and vocabulary at roughly A-level or beyond. Feel free to ask to come for a trial session if you are unsure.

Reading list:

Any complete edition of Ovid's *Heroides* will do. The poems are available online at www.thelatinlibrary.com/ovid.html

Day: Mondays **Time:** 2 - 3.30pm
10 sessions from 30th September to 9th December.
Half term: 28th October

Online platform: Zoom

10-session course	Minimum No.	Maximum No.
£120	4	7

Send bookings to:

Birgitta Hoffmann

55 Broadwalk, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5PL

email: latinteacher@btinternet.com **phone:** 07377 791562

Literature

COURSE Novel Discussion Group

Creina Mansfield

We meet once a month. The format is open, with participants expressing their views about all aspects of the novels. We concentrate on twenty-first century texts. This season one might not be 'a novel' at all.

October 12th	<i>Haweswater</i> (2002) by Sarah Hall
November 9th	<i>Brotherless Night</i> (2023) by V.V.Ganeshanathan
December 7th	<i>Long Island</i> (2024) by Colm Toibin
January 11th	<i>Death and the Penguin</i> (2003) by Andrej Kurkov
February 8th	<i>Killers of the Flower Moon</i> (2017) by David Gann
March 8th	<i>The Fraud</i> (2023) by Zadie Smith

Day: Saturdays

Time: 10.30am - 12.30pm

Venue:

Cross Street Chapel, Cross Street, Manchester M2 1NL

6-session series	One session	Minimum No.	Maximum No.
£75	£15	1	20

To book, please email creina.m@hotmail.com or phone 01625 511581.

Please complete the MANCENT booking form and send it with a cheque (made payable to: Creina Mansfield) to:
Creina Mansfield, Beech Court, Beech Hall Drive, Macclesfield, SK10 2EF

COURSE

Othello: Reading and Performing

Barry Wood

“Othello” is one of the most celebrated of Shakespeare’s tragedies but also one of the most controversial. The controversy arises mainly—though not exclusively—from the portrayal of Othello himself: “the Moor of Venice”. The course will concentrate on detailed study of the text with a focus on language, characterization and plot.

It will also consider major productions and performances, particularly those involving Paul Robeson, Lawrence Olivier, and more recently James Earl Jones and Lawrence Fishburne. Sidney Poitier refused an offer to play the part. It’s a tangled web and morally perplexing for the 21st century reader and theatre-goer. However, it’s worth reflecting on the words of Ayanna Thompson in her introduction to the 2016 Revised Edition of the Arden Shakespeare: “While Othello continues to inspire artists, audience members and scholars to re-tell the story as a way to control the play’s stories, frames and contexts, it really should inspire a new breed of listener, one who can discern the significance and validity of those stories, frames and contexts”.

Recommended Reading: Please buy or borrow the Arden Revised Edition (2016) of the play and/or the Penguin Classics series, edited by Kenneth Muir, first issued 1968; reissued 2005/ 2015.

Day: Thursdays **Time:** 10.30am - 12.30pm
8 sessions from 3rd October to 28th November, with a half-term break on 31st October.

Venue:

Cross Street Chapel, Cross Street, Manchester M2 1NL

8-session course	Minimum No.	Maximum No.
£80	12	20

To book, please email barrywood42@hotmail.com .

Please complete the MANCENT booking form and send it with a cheque (made payable to “Barry Wood”) to:

Barry Wood, 12 St Brannock’s Road, Manchester, M21 0UP.

Music

ONLINE COURSE Haydn's String Quartets

Rosemary Broadbent

The significance of the sixty-eight string quartets written by Josef Haydn cannot be underestimated. These works established a genre which has challenged (and terrified) composers ever since. It has become a medium for formal exploration, technical innovation, and for the communication of the deepest emotions. It can be both entertaining for audiences and deeply satisfying for the performers.

In a short course it is not possible to cover the whole of Haydn's treasure house of works, but we shall take a detailed look at two sets of quartets which are particularly rewarding to study. The six quartets of Opus 20 were written when Haydn was forty, and well-established as Kapellmeister to the Esterházy family, whom he served for more than forty years. The music is exploratory, both in form and in emotional expression, reflecting the sensibilities of the 1770s.

Twenty-five years later Opus 76 appeared, the last set of six quartets, although some individual works were to follow. By this time, Haydn was a well-travelled celebrity, but his enthusiasm for experiment was undimmed. This collection includes some of his most popular works, including the 'Emperor' and the 'Fifths' quartets.

Day: Thursdays

Time: 10am - 12.30pm

10th October Six quartets Opus 20

17th October Six quartets Opus 76

Online platform: Zoom

Each morning will consist of two one-hour lecture/discussions. There will be a twenty-minute break for coffee, during which the meeting will remain open for informal conversation.

Price per session	Price for 2 sessions	Minimum No.	Maximum No.
£15	£27	5	24

Send bookings and enquiries to:

Rosemary Broadbent

26 Bowden Lane, Marple, Stockport SK6 6ND

email: rosemary.broadbent@st-hughs.oxon.org

Tel: 07801 491031

Cheques payable to Rosemary Broadbent. Details for bank transfer will be supplied on request. Bookings close one week before each event.

For information on online and face-to-face talks visit:

<https://rosemarybroadbent.co.uk/speaking-workshops/>

Theology & Religious Studies

COURSE Paul's Prison Letters

Michael Tunnicliffe

This term we conclude our reading of New Testament text by examining some of the shorter letters of Paul which appear to come from the end of his life when he was a prisoner in Rome

They have some of the most developed theology of the Apostle. But they are also controversial and contested. All of the six short letters we will study have been disputed as to their authorship – some more strongly than others. So this course will examine each of them to try to discern the context in which it was written as well as to explore the message of these texts for today

Special requirements: Bring a Bible

Recommended reading:

Any up to date commentaries on Colossians & Philemon, Ephesians and the Pastoral Letters to Timothy and Titus

Day: Tuesdays

Time: 1 - 3pm

10 sessions, from 24th September to 3rd December

Half term break: 22nd October

Venue:

Birch Community Centre, Brighton Grove, Manchester, M14 5JT

10-session course	Minimum No.	Maximum No.
£80	8	15

Send bookings to:

Michael Tunnicliffe

5 St George's Way, Northwich CW9 8XG

email: mtunni@sky.com **telephone:** 01606 42116

MANCENT: Terms and Conditions

As an agency our terms and conditions are those of our lecturers. We thus have a set of 'General terms and Conditions' that apply to all lecturers, as well as special terms specific to individual lecturers (these particularly concern booking procedures and cancellations). While the differences may be minimal, we recommend that you check the entry under the lecturer you are interested in and read them carefully.

General Terms and Conditions

Learning support

We aim to be fully inclusive. However, MANCENT lecturers use a wide variety of venues which offer markedly different options to students with special needs or mobility problems. On enrolment, please make sure you make your special needs known to us, so that we can advise on suitability and provide learning support if possible.

Mailing list and personal information

You will automatically be included in our mailing list (unless you specifically ask us not to), whenever you enrol on a course. This list is not shared with any other organisations and exists purely to be able to contact you. It will not be published. If your contact details change or you want to be removed from the list, please let us know. We will contact you by email if you have given us an email address,

unless you ask us to use the postal address.

Smoking and non-smoking areas

Due to the current legal requirements, most venues will be non-smoking. Students and tutors/lecturers are trusted to comply with the individual rules at the venues and when smoking in the designated areas, not to leave litter.

Complaints and exclusions

MANCENT is committed to ensuring that all participants, whether student or lecturer/tutor are treated with equal respect. All participants are, thus, reminded that they are bound by current legislation concerning harassment and discrimination.

For some courses, your tutor/lecturer will establish specific ground rules (e.g. confidentiality, health and safety issues), these form an agreement that all participants need to honour for the course to function effectively.

Should there be a complaint about the way the course is run or a member of the group, the first port of call should be the lecturer/tutor, and only afterwards the Course Director.

However, MANCENT does not act as an employer and the Course Director has thus no formal authority over the individual lecturer. The Course Director (after consultation with other tutors and students) reserves the right to

exclude persistent offenders (tutors and students alike) from the network for any of the following : abusive or threatening behaviour, undue disruption to the learning of others, damage or misuse of property belonging to the venue, the lecturer or other students.

Damage, loss and injury

MANCENT or its participating tutors/lecturers cannot be held responsible for any damage, loss or injury sustained by participants inside or outside the venue. This includes theft of (and from) and damage to vehicles, parked near the venue.

MANCENT: Terms and Conditions

Special Terms and Conditions for individual lecturers.

Birgitta Hoffmann, Alan Sennett, Michael Tunnicliffe, and Barry Wood

Enrolment procedures

Enrolment is continuously, from the point of publication of the brochure on a first come, first served basis. Courses will go ahead, if the minimum numbers are reached.

Enrolment must be accompanied by the booking fee. In cases of late enrolment the fees can be paid on the day of the first lecture, if the maximum number of the course has not been reached.

We accept cash or cheques, but not credit cards. It is not possible to register 'online'.

An enrolment confirmation letter/email will be send to you as soon as possible after receipt of your enrolment. Please bring this to the first meeting of the course. Details of your course venue will be given in this letter or can be found on the Website.

In special cases the course will be confirmed by telephone.

Fees and refunds

Class and lecture fees are based on the rate of the rent of room and equipment as well as possible class size and thus vary. Fees are shown against the details of all other activities.

Trial sessions have to be agreed with the lecturer beforehand and are limited to one session per course.

Please note, that due to changes in the law relating to Adult Education provision, we are not able to offer reduced fees to those on a state retirement pension.

If a course has to be cancelled because of low enrolment or for some other operational reason, a full refund will be given to those students, who have enrolled. In this case the students will be informed as soon as possible by the lecturer.

Refunds can be given, if notice is received three weeks before the booked

event. After this no refund can be given, unless the space can be filled otherwise. This is because by that point we will have made a financial commitment to book the venue and to run the course with a known number of students.

Other costs

On some courses you may be required to pay additional costs for items such as materials, books etc. Please ask about these, when (or before) you enrol.

How to contact us:

For general enquiries (including more copies of this brochure, or booking forms):

Birgitta Hoffmann
MANCENT Course Director
55 Broadwalk
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5PL

email: latinteacher@btinternet.com or mancent.courses@gmail.com
Phone: 07377 791562

Webpage (with updates): <http://www.mancent.org.uk>

For bookings or information on individual courses:
Please contact the lecturers listed for the course.

The Programme at a glance

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Monday		Latin	
Tuesday	Classical World	Theology	Latin
Wednesday			
Thursday	Music Literature	World Archaeology	Classical World
Friday		Classical World	
Saturday	Literature		

Dayschools in Autumn 2024 Term

Date	Subject
Saturday 21st September	Classical World
Saturday 19th October	Classical World
Saturday 16th November	World Archaeology
Saturday 7th December	Classical World