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Public Lecture

Dr. Jeffrey Easton

Lecturer, Department of Classics

University of Toronto

Going Somewhere?

Migration and Economic Mobility in the Roman West

Understanding patterns of migration and geographical mobility is as essential for the study of ancient societies as it is for contemporary ones. An awareness of such demographic patterns in the history of the Roman empire illuminates a broad spectrum of social issues, including the character of regional labor markets and economies and decisions by individual families about how best to pursue social and economic advancement. Scholarly interest in this area of Roman social history has increased in recent years, though the research needs new data-sets that allow for the systematic study of fundamental questions.

One group that offers insights into many of these issues consists of the families of former slaves of Roman towns, known as municipal freedmen and freedwomen. This lecture examines how certain characteristics of these ex-slave families make them a practical case-study of economic migration among the sub-elite populations of the Roman world.



Date: Thursday, October 15, 2020 Time: 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Please join us for the lecture on Zoom by clicking the following link:

All lectures are open to the public and free of charge. sites.utoronto.ca/cims