Discovering Life Through the Ashes of Time…. Pompeii!

OLLI South Fall term, 2019
6 Week course – Tuesday afternoon, beginning September 17th
No reading is recommended or required; Two books that may be of interest are:
Pompeii the Living City by Alex Butterworth and Ray Laurence
The Fires of Vesuvius – Pompeii Lost and Found by Mary Beard
Facilitator: Barbe Ratcliffe
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In this course we will focus on the settling of Pompeii; the eruption of Mt Vesuvius; and
the subsequent discovery of Pompeii and excavations over the past 250 years. In
addition, we will focus on what has become evident about the lives of those living in
Pompeii at the time of the eruption. This course will utilize several video lectures from
the Great Courses as well as shorter U-Tube videos. A Picture is worth a Thousand
Words!

Week 1 – September 17th – The Settling of Pompeii
Opening Comments on Reflections on Pompeii
The Settling of Pompeii
Lecture 6 – Building the Roman Colony

Week 2 – September 24th – A Bit about Mt. Vesuvius
Lecture – Pliny Narrates the Eruption of Vesuvius
Video – The Riddle of Pompeii (2015)

Week 3 – October 1st – Public Life in Pompeii
Lecture – Eumachia, Public Priestess
Lecture – Games and Competition for Offices

Week 4 – October 8th – The Underclass in Pompeii
Lecture – A Female Slave in Pompeii
Lecture – The House of the Tragic Poet

Week 5 – October 15th – Art in Pompeii
Lecture – Wall Paintings in the House of the Vettii
Lecture - Villa of the Papyri and Life with Piso

Week 6 – October 22nd – Bathing, Country Clubs and Visiting Emperors
Lecture – A Pompeian Country Club
Lecture – Worshipping the Emperors at Herculaneum
A Final Walk through Pompeii