

THE VROMA MOO IN THE LATIN CLASSROOM

SOME SAMPLE USES IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

Here are some of the ways you might want to consider integrating the VRoma MOO into your courses. This is just a starting point for discussion. Several of the workshop leaders and participants are experienced in one or more of these activities -- don't hesitate to ask if you want some details.

I. Exploring

Ask your students to explore some of the buildings already on VRoma, along with the texts and images linked to them. You might want to log in with them the first time to get them oriented, then ask to them to do some exploring on their own or in groups. Try giving them some specific questions to answer using the information available on VRoma. This is a good way for students to become comfortable with the environment.

II. Building exercises

As a class project, ask your students to build a typical Roman house or other structure. Students can be asked to incorporate images they find on the internet, Latin texts, or other resources into their projects. This is an excellent group project. You may want to specify a minimum (and maximum) number of rooms the building should have.

III. Collaborations

- A. Meet on-line with other Latin classes at pre-arranged times, to discuss something that both classes are learning about. You can also arrange for a guest expert to join you virtually and talk to students or answer their questions.
- B. Set up on-line tutoring sessions with your students or ask them to study together in a VRoma room with links to texts and other study materials. The students can also build such rooms as part of a class project.
- C. Arrange on-line Latin immersion sessions in which your students can log in (maybe from home) and “speak” Latin to each other. Even better, make arrangements with other teachers so that your students can meet other Latin students and speak Latin to them. Set a time for a Latin session (maybe for students of a certain level) and advertise the time along with information about how to log into the VRoma MOO!

SOME GUIDELINES FOR TEACHERS

If you want your students to use VRoma, please contact Suzanne (bonefas@acs.colleges.org) at least 2 weeks in advance of your first meeting so we can set up log-ins for everyone. She will need the following information:

- a. For each student: the student's name and e-mail address (if applicable)
- b. The name of your school
- c. Information about how you want to use VRoma, especially if other teachers and students will be involved.

If you are looking for teachers and students to collaborate with, try writing to the VRomans list. Your message should contain your student's level, the kind of collaboration you are envisioning and the approximate time of day that the collaboration would occur (during school, after school). Of course, you shouldn't hesitate to contact teachers whom you already know and think would be interested. Ask them to write to Suzanne Bonefas for a VRoma login!

The address for the VRomans list is vromans@acs.colleges.org.. This is a moderated list, so your message might not go out right away. If you want to write **just** to folks who came to the workshop, use the vromacore list.

If you plan to use a VRoma classroom with links to materials, be sure to start setting this up far enough in advance that you will be able to test it before students log in. Don't hesitate to write to the vromans or vromacore list to enlist volunteers to help you test things!

If you plan to ask your students to build, you will need to apply for a permit in the usual way, **for each student or group of students who will be building**.

If your students will be building in groups, it works best to have one "builder character" per group, to avoid issues of building ownership from complicating the process. This will be a character who has builder privileges (and a permit!) whom students in the group share (i.e. they all know the character name and password).

If you or your students have any ideas about other ways of using VRoma, please share them -- we want to hear from you!