



# GRS 314: Age of Nero

Fall 2025 MTh 11:30-12:50 pm

Professor Cedric Littlewood

## Choose your narrative:

Did Nero, the last of the Julio-Claudian emperors, promote an artistic golden age to rival that of the first emperor, Augustus?

Or

Was Nero a degenerate artist who fiddled while Rome burned?

## Learning Outcomes:

- ✓ read Roman writers such as Seneca, Lucan, Persius and Petronius
- ✓ investigate Nero's reputation as an 'artist-emperor'
- ✓ make connections between theatricality and imperial power; challenge the idea of the glory (literary and political) of the Augustan age
- ✓ understand the reception of Nero and his age by later audiences.

No prerequisites. GRS 102 recommended

