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Poggio Bracciolini’s De Varietate Fortunae I
A New All-Latin Edition & Commentary
for Intermediate Students

In 1448 Poggio Bracciolini published his De Varietate Fortunae, a dialogue between himself and his fellow papal humanist Antonio Loschi. The first book concerns primarily the city of Rome, as the speakers juxtapose the physical city before their eyes with a vision of it that exists only in their minds, reconstructed from the testimony of ancient literature.

De Varietate Fortunae’s first book has received two critical editions with scholarly notes in the last few decades — the first in Italian in 1993 and the second with facing French translation in 1999 — and so is unusually accessible by the standards of neo-Latin texts. Why, then, bother to assemble yet another edition?

This talk will present the case for De Varietate Fortunae I as uniquely well-suited for use in the intermediate-Latin classroom — an audience so far ignored by the available editions — as well as for the merits of producing commentaries such as these in Latin, both as a driver of accessibility and universality and in light of the increasing proliferation of Latin-immersion learning environments.

Date and Venue:
Tuesday, 20th August 2019, 6 pm
Zentrum für Alte Kulturen (“Atrium”), SR 5
Langer Weg 11, 6020 Innsbruck