The Roman Collegia

The Modern Evolution of an Ancient Concept

This volume maintains that contemporary events, ideologies, and institutions have shaped scholarly work on the ancient Roman collegia, a group of institutions known principally from epigraphic and legal sources. It traces the origins of thinking on the subject from the creation of the Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum through the political and social movements of the 19th and 20th centuries in Western Europe. The bulk of the book focuses particularly on the intersection of scholarship and economic theory in Fascist Italy, as the collegia were analysed by the Istituto di Studi Romani, incorporated into the Mostra Augustea della Romanità, and ultimately championed by the Minister of National Education, Giuseppe Bottai, in 1939.

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177,50 € 165,89 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

ArtikeInummer: 9789004150805

Medium: Buch

ISBN: 978-90-04-15080-5

Verlag: Brill

Erscheinungstermin: 09.06.2006

Sprache(n): Englisch

Auflage: Erscheinungsjahr 2006 Serie: Mnemosyne, Supplements / Mnemosyne, Supplements, History and Archaeology of Classical Antiquity

Produktform: Gebunden

Gewicht: 599 g Seiten: 248

Format (B x H): 163 x 243 mm



