

Book XI.
Title XIX. (XVIII.)

Concerning the study of liberal arts in Rome and Constantinople.
(De studiis liberalibus urbis Romae et Constantinopolitanae.)

11.19.1. Emperor Theodosius and Caesar Valentinian to Constantine, City Prefect.

We direct that all persons who, usurping the title of professors, have been accustomed to assemble pupils collected from everywhere in public halls and rooms, must refrain from all public appearance; so that if anyone after the publication of this imperial sanction shall again attempt what we forbid and condemn, not only shall he be marked with infamy, but he may also know that he will be driven from the city where he is unlawfully. 1. But we do not prohibit, under such threats, those persons who have been accustomed to direct studies here and there in private houses, if they will devote their time to those students only whom they teach within the walls of such private houses. If they belong to those who are appointed as teachers in the auditorium of the Capitol, they are entirely forbidden to teach in private houses, and they must take notice that if they are caught violating the imperial statutes, they will be deprived of those privileges which are justly granted to those who have been appointed to teach in the Capitol. 2. There shall be attached to our auditorium three orators and ten grammarians, who excel in the school of Roman eloquence, and five sophists and ten grammarians, whose fluency in the Greek language is known. 3. And since we do not want ambitious youths to be instructed only in these arts, we shall join to the above mentioned teachers, others of more profound sciences and learning. 4. We wish to add to the rest, one who may open the secrets of philosophy, two others who may disclose the processes of law and justice, and Your Sublimity will assign to each one a special room, so that the students and professors may not impede each other, and so that no mingled confusion of languages or voices distract the ears of any persons from their studies.

Given at Constantinople February 27 (425).

C. Th. 14.9.3.

Note.

A good short account of later Roman education is contained in Holmes, 1 The Age of Justinian and Theodora 204-222; see also Cole, Later Roman Education (Columbia University).