I would like to thank both Valeria Vitale from the ICS and the Roman Society for this summer placement in which I have learnt very interesting things. I have applied for the placement in the Institute of Classical Studies because Digital Humanities is the field that interests me the most. I think that gathering together modern technologies with traditional knowledge is the key to maintain Classics Studies alive and available, spreading the information and gaining the collaboration of both professionals and amateurs. This is the aim of many projects currently offered at the internet to which everyone can have access.

One of this projects is Pleiades, a community-built online gazetteer of ancient places which allows users to use information coded about places, monuments and many more. I have decided to explore Triumphal Arches for my project. To me, Triumphal Arches are the quintessential buildings of the ancient Roman culture, representing his politics of expansion and conquest and they are as well beautiful pieces of art. As a project, I decided to investigate more about these Arches, how are they coded in the gazetteer, what information we have about them and how many of them are still standing.

I have planned the structure of the information together with Valeria Vitale. She showed me how to use very interesting tools and technologies available online for my project. There are many of them from all the Universities across the globe. I have particularly enjoyed Vertexer that allows to locate monuments, draw its shape and obtain the coordinates of the whole structure.

Apart from the Arches Project, the idea of information connected and linked across the internet is one of the aspect regarding Digital Humanities that I find essential for the future world of teaching and researching. The world of open data is at the same time already present and yet starting. Valeria is deeply
involved in Pelagios Common - a community & infrastructure for Linked Open Geodata in the Humanities - that offers a powerful tool, Recogito, to link information.

This linking is possible due to the already mentioned gazetteers. Valeria kindly offered me advice about some tutorials to investigate more about the interesting world of open and linked data.

I would like to thank Fiona Haarer and the Roman Society for this opportunity I have had a wonderful time at the Institute of Classical Studies and in its amazing library, I have enjoyed as well the talks about digital humanities held at the Institute and opened to everyone. I left bringing with me good memories and a boost in my interest to continue exploring Digital Humanities.

Nelida Ballesteros, 2018