

ANCH 027-920: Ancient Rome
Preliminary Syllabus: Subject to Change

Summer Session II
30 June-5 August 2016
MTWR 2:40-4:15pm
Claudia Cohen Hall 204

Office Hours:
MTWR: 1:30-2:30
Claudia Cohen Hall 268

Course Description

In 49 BC Julius Caesar crossed the Rubicon, forever altering the trajectory of Roman history and the history of the Western world. The Roman Republic gave way to the Roman Empire, which would grow to control the entire Mediterranean basin and beyond. This course will look at how Rome reached this pivotal moment in her history, and how she responded to it.

We will start with the Roman Republic. What was the Republic, and how was it transformed into an empire? How did Republican politics influence the expansion of Rome, and vice versa? At what point did that balance tip, ending the Republic and opening the door for the monarchical empire? To answer these questions, we will look at the development of Roman law, military practice, and administration, alongside her achievements in art, architecture and literature to understand the civilization whose legacy lives on in our own society. Each class session will be a combination of lecture by the instructor and group discussions that focus on primary source readings. Students in this course will learn how to do close readings of texts from a variety of genres that help us to reconstruct Rome's ancient past

Objectives

This course's objectives are

1. Provide an outline of the history of the Roman Empire, from its founding to the beginning of its decline in the 3rd century CE.
2. Instill an understanding of the processes that drove the geopolitical expansion of the empire and the internal political changes of the Republic and Principate.
3. Introduce students to the process of analyzing and dissecting primary source documents in order to derive historical understanding.
4. Place these processes and concepts into a larger theoretical framework of interdisciplinary thought that defines the liberal arts.

Grading & Assignments

Quiz 1: 10%

Quizzes 2 & 3 (15% Each): 30%

Participation: 10%

Reading Evaluations: 5%

Canvas Posts: 5%

Paper: 20%

Final Exam: 20%

Each of the three quizzes will consist of a combination of multiple choice, term identifications, and short answer responses. For the term IDs and short answer, there will be some choice given to the student.

The Participation grade is evaluated based on a student's perceived preparedness for class, best measured by participation in the discussion each day. But points can be lost to tardiness or lack of preparation.

The reading evaluation is a simple check to ensure that students are completing the assigned readings. At the beginning of class, flashcards are distributed and two True or False questions based on that day's assigned primary readings are placed on the board. Students are expected to answer both correctly. For every three missed T/F, you will lose one participation point. These flashcards, generally, will not be returned and the answers will be provided after their collection; however, they can be produced upon student request.

The Canvas posts correspond to each of the days listed below as "Canvas." Those days will have an accompanying secondary article assigned. Students are expected to read these articles and, under the appropriate discussion thread on canvas, post a comment/question/critique in response to the assigned article.

The procedure for the papers will be discussed in class no later than July 7. At that time potential paper topics will be distributed. Students are expected to have narrowed their paper to one of the three possible topics by July 11. Students should arrange to meet with the instructor no later than July 21 to discuss the

progress of their paper topics. In the last week of classes, students will meet the instructor to receive comments and feedback on their papers.

The final will take place during the regular class time on August 4. It will be cumulative, and consist of term identifications, passage identifications, and a short essay.

Course Policies

Attendance: This is a greatly accelerated class. Each class corresponds roughly to a full week of instruction in a normal semester. This means that consistent attendance is absolutely vital for success in the course. Each student is allowed to miss one day without penalty, provided they complete an assigned makeup assignment. For every day that is missed after this, the student's final grade will drop by a whole letter grade.

Academic Integrity: All students are expected to abide by the University's Code of Academic Integrity (available here:

http://www.upenn.edu/academicintegrity/ai_codeofacademicintegrity.html)

Any student caught engaging in cheating or plagiarism will automatically fail the course. Further punitive action with the university will be pursued, as well.

Texts

The following text is required:

M.T. Boatwright - D.J. Gargola – N. Lenski – R.J.A. Talbert, *The Romans. From Village to Empire*, 2nd ed. 2012.

Additional readings will be posted on the course canvas site under "Files" and on the page for that week.

Preliminary Schedule of Topics and Readings

Week 1 (Boatwright Ch. 1)

Thursday, June 30

Introduction; Rome Before Rome; Foundation of the City

Readings: Virgil, Aeneid, Book 8 Ins. 213-435; 716-859.

Week 2 (Boatwright Ch. 2)

Monday, July 4

NO CLASS, Independence Day

Tuesday, July 5

The Early Roman State: Monarchy to Republic

Readings: Livy, Bk. 1.57-2.8. ; Polybius, Bk. 6.1-18.

Wednesday, July 6

The Republic, Conflict of the Orders: Patricians vs. Plebeians

Readings: The Twelve Tables, Livy, Bk. 2.17-35; 2.41;3.32-36;3.44-50.

Thursday, July 7

Early Expansion; Quiz 1

Canvas: Brennan, "Power and Process under the Republican 'Constitution'"

Week 3 (Boatwright, Ch. 3-4)

Monday, July 11

The Punic Wars

Readings: Livy, Selections from Book 21; Polybius, 3.22-26

Canvas: Hoyos, "Treaties True and False: The Error of Philinus of Agrigentum"

Tuesday, July 12

Roman Expansion into the Greek World

Readings: Polybius, 15.20; 18.44-47; Select Inscriptions from Sherk, Rome and the Greek East to the death of Augustus, and Welles' Royal Correspondence.

Canvas: Eckstein, "The Pact Between the Kings."

Wednesday, July 13

The Effects of Expansion: Politics and Culture at Home

Readings: Senatus Consultum de Bacchanalibus
Canvas: Gruen, "The Advent of the Magna Mater"

Thursday, July 14

The Breakdown: Gracchi

Readings: Plutarch, The Life of Tiberius Gracchus

Quiz 2

Week 4 (Boatwright Ch. 5-7)

Monday, July 18

Marius and Sulla

Readings: Plutarch, Life of Marius; Life of Sulla

Tuesday, July 19

The Late Republic

Readings: Cicero, Pro Milone

Wednesday, July 20

The Dynasts: The First Triumvirate and Caesar

Readings: Caesar, Gallic Wars, Book 1

Thursday, July 21

The Rise and Reign of Augustus

Readings: Res Gestae; Laudatio Turiae

Week 5 (Boatwright Ch. 9-10)

July 25

To Succeed Augustus

Readings: Tacitus 1.1-15; 3.20-39; 5.1-5.

Canvas: Cowan, "Tacitus, Tiberius, and Augustus"

July 26

Julio-Claudians

Readings: Suetonius, Life of Nero

July 27

The Flavian Dynasty

Readings: Josephus, Jewish War, 4.8.1; 4.9.2; 4.10.1-7; 4.11.1-5; 7.4.1-2; 7.5.3-7

Canvas: Millar, "Last Year in Jerusalem: Monuments of the Jewish War in Rome."

July 28

Museum Visit

Papers Due

No Readings

Week 6 (Boatwright Ch. 10-12)**August 1**

The Five Good Emperors and the Roman Provinces

Readings: Pliny, Select Letters

Canvas: Woolf, "Becoming Roman"

August 2

The Severan Dynasty and Looking to the End

No Readings

August 3

Review

August 4

Final