

University of Georgia
CLAS1010: Roman Culture
T/TH 12:30-1:45
Park 114
Fall 2009

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Office Hours: T/TH 10:00-11:00 or by appointment.

Course Description:

A survey course of Roman culture from the foundation of Rome to the early Empire. We will consider primary source material in its cultural contexts, focusing especially on the late Republic and early Empire. Authors studied represent a variety of literary genres: history, epigram, epic, and the novel. All readings in English. Powerpoint Presentations and Films will complement themes discussed in readings. All course readings will be available on elc.uga.edu.

Course Outline:

The course will follow a seminar format. Students must read texts prior to each class, attend lectures regularly, and contribute to classroom discussions. Pop quizzes are possible if students do not keep up with readings! Bring texts to each class. Assignments: Mid-term Exam, 2 short papers (5 pages each, double spaced, one inch margins), Final Exam, and Participation grade which is based on attendance (if you are not in class, you are not participating!) and participation. Students who miss more than 4 classes will be automatically withdrawn from the course. Adherence to UGA's Academic Honesty Policy is expected. This course is accessible to students with disabilities. Please see me if special arrangements in seating, reading, or test-taking are needed.

Required Texts:

C. Scarre, *The Penguin Historical Atlas of Ancient Rome* (Penguin).
Livy, *The Early History of Rome*, transl. de Selincourt (Penguin).
Catullus, *The Complete Poems*, transl. Guy Lee (Oxford).
Virgil, *The Aeneid*, transl. David West (Penguin).
Petronius, *The Satyricon*, transl. J.P. Sullivan (Penguin).
Seneca, *Four Tragedies and the Octavia*, transl. Watling (Penguin).
Tacitus, *Annals of Imperial Rome*, transl. M. Grant (Penguin).

Grading:

Participation	10%
Papers	30%
Mid-Term Exam	30%
Final Examination	<u>30%</u>
	100%

UGA policy statements:

All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." Students are responsible for informing themselves about these standards before performing any academic work.

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

Schedule

Aug 18: Introduction.

Reading Assignment: PHA "From City to Empire" pp. 12-19.

Aug 20: Foundation myths of Rome.

Reading Assignment: Livy, Book 1, pp. 33-51 (coin cover) or 29-49 (war cover).

PHA "Origins of Rome" pp. 20-21.

Discussion: How secure is the foundation myth of Rome?

Aug 25: Etruscan Kings and the Foundation of the Republic: Livy Book 1.

Reading Assignment: Livy, Book 1, pp. 52-101 (coin cover) or 50- 104 (war cover).

Discussion: To what extent is the fall of the monarchy due to Tarquin's personality in Livy's account?

Aug 27: Middle Republic: Punic Wars and Roman Expansion.

Reading Assignment: PHA "The Wars with Carthage" pp. 24-25.

PHA "Rome's Conquest of the East" pp. 26-27.

Film: The Punic Wars.

Discussion: Did Rome chance upon an empire?

Sep 01: Late Republic: Poetry: Catullus.

Reading Assignment: Lesbia poems 1; 2; 3; 5; 7; 8; 36; 51; 58; 70; 72; 75; 76; 79; 83; 85; 86; 87; 107. Iuventius poems: 15; 21; 24; 48; 81; 99.

Discussion: Fictional elements in Catullus' relationship with Lesbia.

Sep 03: Late Republic: Poetry: Catullus.

Reading Assignment: poems 13; 16; 21; 22; 23; 25; 28; 34; 42; 49; 50; 56; 57; 59; 61; 95; 101; 116.

Writing Assignment #1: Why does Catullus Poem 8 seem autobiographical?

Sep 08: Late Republic: Julius Caesar.

Reading Assignment: PHA "The Over-Mighty Generals" pp. 28-29.

PHA "Caesar's Conquest of Gaul" pp. 30-31.

PHA "Crossing the Rubicon" pp. 32-33.

PHA "The Civil Wars" pp. 34-35.

Film: Julius Caesar.

Discussion: Did Caesar, as Dictator, project himself as a king?

Sep 10: Augustus and the Founding of the Principate/Empire.

Reading Assignment: PHA "The Imperial Regime" pp. 38-45.

PHA "The New Order" pp. 46-47.

PHA "The City of Rome Under Augustus" pp. 48-49.

PHA "List of Roman Emperors" p. 136.

Powerpoint: Augustan Rome.

Discussion: Octavian/Augustus' rise to power.

Sep 15: *Film:* Augustus.

Sep 17: Foundation myths of Augustan Rome: Vergil: The Aeneid.

Reading Assignment: Books 1-4.

Discussion: How does Vergil arouse sympathy for the fall of Troy in Book 2?
How responsible is Aeneas for Dido's Death? Does Vergil say?

Sep 22: Foundation myths of Augustan Rome: Vergil: The Aeneid.

Reading Assignment: Books 5-8.

PHA "Shades of the Departed" pp. 36-37.

Discussion: Vergil's description of the Underworld and Aeneas' arrival in Italy.
How does Vergil mythologize the reign of Augustus?

Sep 24: Foundation myths of Augustan Rome: Vergil: The Aeneid.

Reading Assignment: Books 9-12.

Discussion: Does Aeneas display "pietas" (clemency) in his killing of Turnus? Is there an allusion to Augustus' defeat of Mark Antony?

Sep 29: **Mid-term Exam.**

Oct 01: Early Empire: Nero.

Powerpoint: Neronian Rome.

Oct 06: Tacitus: Annals.

Reading Assignment: "The Mother of Nero" pp. 252-283.

Discussion: Could Nero have become emperor without Agrippina?

Oct 08: Early Empire: Tacitus: Annals.

Reading Assignment: "Fall of Agrippina" pp. 284-319.

Discussion: Theatrical elements in Tacitus' narrative.

Oct 13: Early Empire: Tacitus: Annals.

Reading Assignment: "Burning of Rome and the Plot" pp. 360-381.

"Innocent Victims" pp. 382-397.

Suetonius, Life of Nero .

- Oct: 15 Early Empire: (Pseudo) Seneca: Octavia.
 Reading Assignment: Read the Octavia (entire play).
 Tacitus, Annals "Nero and his Helpers" 341-343.
- Oct 20: *Film*: Nero.
Writing Assignment # 2: Discuss Tacitus' depiction of Nero.
- Oct 22: Early Empire: "Neronian literature": Petronius: The Satyricon.
Reading Assignment: "Puteoli" pp. 37-67.
Discussion: What sort of novel is this?
- Oct 27: Early Empire: "Neronian literature": Petronius: The Satyricon.
Reading Assignment: "Dinner with Trimalchio" pp. 68-91.
Discussion: Is the portrayal of Trimalchio a parody or political invective?
- Oct 29: Early Empire: "Neronian literature" : Petronius: The Satyricon.
Reading Assignment: "Eumolpus" pp. 92- 125; "The Road to Croton" pp. 126-140; "Croton" pp. 141-160.
PHA "Map of Pompeii" p. 56 (brothels).
Film: Pompeii
Discussion: Is Petronius' world strictly fictitious?
- Nov 03: Early Empire: Flavian Rome.
Reading Assignment: PHA "Nero and the Year of the Four Emperors" pp. 52-53.
Discussion: The Year of the Four Emperors and the Flavians.
Film: Colosseum.
- Nov 05: Early Empire: Domitian.
Reading Assignment: Suetonius, Life of Domitian.
Powerpoint: Domitianic Rome.
Discussion: From Principate to Monarchy.
- Nov 10: Early Empire: The Beginning of the age of the Adoptive Emperors:
 Nerva/Trajan/Hadrian.
Reading Assignment: PHA "The Imperial Peace" pp. 46-71.
Discussion: What pitfalls of the Julio-Claudians and Flavians did the adoptive emperors learn to avoid?
- Nov 12: Early Empire: Pagans and Christians.
Reading Assignment: Pliny, Letters 10.96; 10.97.
Discussion: Christian persecutions.

Nov: 17: Pagan, Christian, and Jewish Burials.

Powerpoint: Pagan, Christian, and Jewish Burials.

Nov 19: Early Empire: Hadrian.

Powerpoint: Hadrian's Villa in Tivoli.

Nov 23- 27: Thanksgiving Break.

Dec 01: Virtual Tour of Ancient Rome.

Dec 03: Concluding Lecture and Discussion.

Dec 15: **Final Examination:** 12:00-3:00.