



## **HCL 402 - HISTORY OF ANCIENT ROME: THE EMPIRE**

**(Monday-Wednesday, 09:30-10:50)**

**SPRING 2018**

**Prof. Giulia Pettena - [giulia.pettena@csufirenze.it](mailto:giulia.pettena@csufirenze.it) - [giulia.pettena@gmail.com](mailto:giulia.pettena@gmail.com)**

**Office Hours: Monday, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM or by appointment**

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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Content: This course is a historical survey that will assess processes of change over time within a chronological and geographical framework.

Italy is the homeland of the Romans. Rome was founded in central Italy and from there the Romans started to expand their culture, language, institutions and military power first conquering all of Italy, then a great part of Europe and many of the lands on the Mediterranean Sea.

This course focuses on history, culture, society, religion, art, architecture, literature and daily life of the Romans from the time of Julius Caesar, and Rome's violent conversion from a Republic to an Empire, to the long success of that Empire until to its final collapse in the 5th century A.D.

The analysis of the major institutions and achievements of the Romans will help the students in tracing the origins of many aspects of European culture and of contemporary western societies and political systems.

Students will experience ancient Roman history in person, enhancing both their knowledge and their critical approach, through guided visits and on site learning activities.

Both primary and secondary sources will be used to help students to develop analytical interpretations of textual and non-written evidence.

Excerpts from major authors of the period such as Suetonius and Tacitus.

Method: Illustrated lectures. Classes and lectures will be held in English.

Teaching methods include:

- ✓ Lectures and class discussion;
- ✓ Assigned readings and class discussion;
- ✓ Web researches;
- ✓ Videos;
- ✓ Students-led seminars and students' presentations;
- ✓ In-class group activities.
- ✓ Museums and sites visits.

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## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students will be evaluated on the basis of **2 in-class exams (mid-term and final)**, on **2 papers, 1 oral presentation, assignments, attendance and class participation**, proportionally broken as follows:

Mid-term Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%
Papers	20%
Class Participation	20% (Class participation, attendance, 1 oral presentation, site visits assignments)

### **1. EXAMS & ASSIGNMENTS**

Exams:

The general format of the mid-term and final exams will be: **an essay/paper and a multiple choice, fill-in-the-blanks, matching short answers, maps, plans and slides identification.**

Research Mid and Final Papers:

Students are required to write a mid-term (3 pages, font: arial, double space) and a final paper (6 page, font: arial, double space) concerning one of the topics studied during the course. **The dead-lines for the papers are April 16 and May 23.**

Topic and structure of the final paper will have to be agreed upon by the student and the teacher. Students are invited to choose a broad subject as soon as possible and then discuss it with the teacher in order to plan the paper and concentrate on some specific question within the broad subject chosen.

This paper has to be an original work in which students demonstrate their ability to analyze a subject/problem in connection with what they have learnt in class and with their personal research on books and specific websites.

**This papers count for 20% of the final grade.**

Assignments:

Students are required to fulfil assignments connected to the field trip to Naples (Mar. 15-18) and to the class visits.

## 2. ATTENDANCE AND CLASSROOM CONDUCT

Because there is a **close correlation between class attendance and satisfactory performance, the student is expected to come to class.** Being present means being on time for class.

Use of the computer in class is restricted to oral presentations, unless previously approved by the professor.

Eating is **NOT** allowed in class.

Cellular phones and other noise-making electronics must be **turned off** or placed on *silent mode* during class.

### CSU Attendance Policy 2017-2018 (for classes that meet twice a week):

**Attendance to all CSU courses is mandatory.**

Two unexcused absences are allowed during the semester but more than two unexcused absences will lower your grade as follows (excused absences will be accepted for serious medical reasons or emergencies): **THREE** unexcused absences, lowers 1 letter grade; **FOUR** unexcused absences, lowers 2 letter grades; **FIVE** unexcused absences, lowers 3 letter grades.

**More than FIVE unexcused absences will result in failure of the course.**

In order not to disrupt the class, punctuality is required. Students are expected to be in class at the beginning of the class hour; any delay exceeding ten minutes will be considered an absence.

Dates of mid-term and final exams **can not** be changed for individual travel plans or personal needs. Students should take note of the dates and hours of the midterm and final exams and plan their trips after the last exam. It is important to inform friends and relatives about these exam dates so that no tickets are purchased for you that will interfere with these exam dates. Missing the midterm or the final exam will mean failure of the course.

During the academic year photocopies and other material may be distributed in class by the instructors. Students who were not in class are responsible for getting the material from their classmates and making their own photocopies.

## 3. ASSIGNMENTS AND PARTECIPATION.

Participation in class and discussions are strongly encouraged; preparation is expected and required for every class. The reading assignments will be of fundamental help in the full comprehension of the lecture topics.

### REQUIRED READINGS

#### **To buy:**

LE GLAY M., VOISIN J.-L., LE BOHEC Y., (EDS.), *A HISTORY OF ROME*, WILEY-BLACKWELL 2009.

### **Downloads:**

Slides and assigned readings for each class will be sent by the instructor via DropBox.

Students are expected to collect any additional materials/photocopy distributed in class by the instructor and to consider it as part of the program, to be tested during exams.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS**

#### **Readings from (all in CSU library):**

Hadas M., *The complete works of Tacitus*, Hadas  
Seneca, *Letters from a Stoic*, Penguin Classics  
Suetonius, *The Twelve Caesars*, Penguin Classics  
Virgil, *The Aeneid*, Penguin Classics

Boatwright M., *The Romans from Village to Empire*, Oxford University, 2006  
Cherry D., *The Roman World a sourcebook*, Blackwell, 2010  
Claridge A., *Rome. An archaeological guide*, Oxford University Press, 1998  
Galinsky K., *The Cambridge Companion to the Age of Augustus*, Cambridge, 2009  
Gibbon E., *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, Saunders, 2005  
Goldsworthy A., *The Roman Army 100 BC – AD 200*, Claredon, 2010  
Huskinson J. (ed.), *Experiencing Rome. Culture, Identity and Power in the Roman Empire*, Routledge, London-New York 2009  
Keppie L., *The Romans on the Bay of Naples. An Archaeological Guide*, Mac Millan, 2010  
Lewis N., *Roman Civilization: Sourcebook 2, The Empire*, Harper, 1996  
Nilsson M.P., *Imperial Rome*, Schocken, 1996  
Shelton J.-A., *As the Romans did. A source book in Roman social history*, Oxford University Press, 1988

#### **4. SITE VISITS**

Students will be required to participate in site visits. The trips and visits will be carefully prepared in class: archaeological sites, monuments and works of art in general will be surveyed beforehand in a lecture-slide format with some discussion.

### **COURSE FEES**

Total entry fees for site visits: max 10 Euros.

### **MAKE-UP HOURS**

In order to make-up the two missed classes (Apr. 25 and Apr. 30), three classes during the semester will start at 9:00 instead of at 9:30 (dates to be announced).

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## CLASS CALENDAR

Class		Topic	Reading Assignment
Week 1	Feb. 26	Introduction: class and syllabus presentation Review on Archaic Rome	Le Glay, Chap. 2.
	Feb. 28	Review on the Republican Age	Le Glay, Chap. 3-4-5.
Week 2	Mar. 5	From Julius Caesar to Augustus: the fall of the Republic and the beginning of a new era  Historical sources on Roman Empire	Le Glay, Chap. 6, pp.157-184; Chap. 7.  Cherry D., <i>The Roman World a sourcebook</i> . Lewis N., <i>Roman Civilization: Sourcebook 2, The Empire</i> . Shelton J.-A., <i>As the Romans did. A source book in Roman social history</i> . Suetonius, <i>De Vita Caesarum (The Twelve Ceasars)</i> .
	Mar. 7	The Age of Augustus -1	Le Glay, Chap. 8, pp.207-256. Galinsky, <i>The Cambridge Companion to the Age of Augustus</i> .
Week 3	Mar. 12	The Age of Augustus -2 Art & Architecture. History, Poetry and Philosophy.	Livy; Virgil, <i>The Aeneid</i> ; Horace; Tibullus; Propertius; Ovid.
	Mar. 14	The Julio Claudian Emperors -1	Le Glay, Chap. 9, pp. 257-87.
Week 4	Mar. 19	<b>NO CLASS (Field Trip to Naples)</b>	
	Mar. 21  Mar. 23  <b>FRIDAY</b>	The Julio Claudian Emperors -2  <b>9:30 - 12:15</b> <b>Walking tour of Roman "Florentia" and site visit to Palazzo Vecchio, Roman Theatre excavations - 4 Euro - possibly we can get a free entrance. (TBC)</b>	Le Glay, Chap. 9, pp. 257-87.

Class		Topic	Reading Assignment
Week 5	Mar. 26	Crisis of 68-69 A.D. and the Flavian Emperors	Le Glay, Chap. 10, pp. 289-317.
	Mar. 28	The Flavian Emperors	Le Glay, Chap. 10, pp. 289-317.
Week 6	Mar. 30-Apr. 8	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	
Week 7	Apr. 9	The "Good Emperors" -1	Le Glay, Chap. 11, pp. 319-403.
	Apr. 11	The "Good Emperors" -2	Le Glay, Chap. 11, pp. 319-403.
Week 8	Apr. 16	Daily Life in Imperial Rome <b>Deadline for mid-term papers.</b>	Video + readings assigned in class
	Apr. 18	<b>MID-TERM EXAM</b>	
Week 9	Apr. 23	Roman Literature Under The Empire: Poetry, History and Philosophy	Tacitus, Pliny the Elder, Pliny the Younger, Seneca, Lucanus, Juvenal, Martialis, Petronius, Apuleius.
	Apr. 25	<b>NO CLASS (National Holiday: Liberation Day)</b>	
Week 10	Apr. 30	<b>NO CLASS (Ponte Holiday: CSU CLOSED)</b>	
	May 2	African and Syrian Emperors: the Severans and their successors	Le Glay: Chap. 12, pp. 405-435.
	<b>May 4</b>	<b>12:30 - 15:30 Visit to Fiesole (Archaeological site + museum) - 6 Euro</b>	
Week 11	May 7	<b>Students' presentations</b>	
	May 9	The Crisis of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Century	Le Glay: Chap. 13, pp. 439-455; Chap. 14, pp. 457-470.
Week 12	May 14	The Restoration and its Failure: Diocletian and the Tetrarchy	Le Glay: Chap. 15, pp. 471-75.

Class		Topic	Reading Assignment
	May 16	The Age of Constantine & his Family Different Institutions (Central Government, Army, Territorial Authorities)	Le Glay: Chap. 15, pp. 477-484. Le Glay: Chap. 16, pp. 485-502.
<b>Week 13</b>	May 21	A different socio-economic world (Cities and Municipal Life)	Le Glay: Chap. 17, pp. 503-521.
		Between Paganism and Christianity	Le Glay: Chap. 18, pp. 523-544.
	May 23	The 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Centuries. Barbarians on the frontier: the end of the Roman World? <b>Deadline for final papers.</b>	Le Glay: Chap. 19, pp. 545-557. Gibbon E., <i>The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire</i> , Saunders, 2005 (readings from).
<b>Week 14</b>	May 28-31	<b>FINAL EXAM</b> (date to be announced)	