

Roman Civilization – 21:510:256 Section 1
Mondays 2:30pm-3:50pm and Wednesdays, 1:00pm-2:20pm, Conklin Hall 346

Instructor: Isaiah Clough

Instructor Email: isaiah.clough@rutgers.edu

Office: TBA

Office Hours: TBA

Course Website: Via Blackboard (if you do not have access, send me an email).

Course Description

This course will explore Roman Civilization from the mythical founding in 753 BCE to the fall of the empire in the West in 476 CE. We will examine the Romans through historical, social, and political lenses. We will also consider their art, material culture, literature, philosophy, and religion to see what aspects of Roman culture we can glean from these media.

Using critical thinking and reasoning skills, students will consider how the modern world views the Romans through the examination of secondary sources. Students will consider and closely analyze primary sources, accounts from the ancients themselves. We will also observe the ongoing influence of the Roman World on our own.

Course Materials

Potter, D. 2014. *Ancient Rome: A New History*. 2nd edition. Thames and Hudson. (ISBN: 9780500291245)

*Other will course materials will be available on Blackboard or via the internet.

Rubric

Attendance and Participation: 10%

Midterm: 30%

Papers: 25%

Final: 35%

Grade Scale:

A = 100-90

B+ = 89.9-85

B = 84.9-80

C = 79.9-75

C+ = 74.9-70

D = 69.9-60

F = 58 and below

I will **NOT** negotiate grades.

There will be no extra credit.

Learning Goals

- Student is able to understand the bases and development of human and societal endeavors across time and place.

- Student is able to explain and assess the relationship among assumptions, method, evidence, arguments, and theory in social and historical analysis.
- Student is able to explain the development of some aspect of society or culture over time, including the history of ideas or history of science.
- Student is able to employ historical reasoning to study human endeavors.

Attendance and Participation

Keeping up with readings throughout the course will be important since we will not have time to cover all the relevant material in class. Attendance in the class itself is important to get a deeper understanding of the material and to engage with topics not covered in the textbook. Attendance and participation will be determined by short pop quizzes, which will ask simple questions about the day's reading. The dates of these pop quizzes will be random, so try to always be present and prepared for class. Missed pop quizzes will not be available to make up, including ones missed due to late arrival.

Any student who misses eight or more sessions through any combination of excused and unexcused absences will not earn credit in this class. Such students should withdraw to avoid getting an F.

Midterm and Final

The midterm will cover all material from the beginning of the semester to the date of the midterm. The final will NOT be cumulative. It will cover material from the midterm to the end of the semester. Both exams will consist of short, objective essay questions, and longer essays involving references to the textbook and other readings mixed with critical thinking.

Paper

You will complete one source analysis paper of 4-5 pages. Students will choose from a selection of primary sources. The due date of the paper is listed below on the syllabus. Late papers will **NOT** be accepted. In this paper you will do each of the following:

- describe the source and its provenance
- explain both the problems and possibilities that the nature of the source presents
- explain how the source increases our knowledge of Ancient Rome
- assess the usefulness of the source for increasing our understanding of physical, historical or social phenomena in the Roman World.

More detailed information regarding the paper will be provided later in the course.

Disabilities

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation.

<https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS website at <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>. For more information, please visit the Office of Disability Services in the Paul Robeson Campus Center, Suite 219 or contact odsnewark@rutgers.edu.

Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance

Rutgers faculty are committed to helping create a safe learning environment for all students and for the university as a whole. If you have experienced any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available. Rutgers has staff members trained to support survivors in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, and more. The University strongly encourages all students to report any such incidents to the University. Please be aware that all Rutgers employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as advocates, counselors, clergy and healthcare providers as listed in Appendix A to Policy 10.3.12) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the University. This means that if you tell a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment or sexual violence, or other related misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the University's Title IX Coordinator. If you wish to speak with a staff member who is confidential and does not have this reporting responsibility, you may contact the Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance at (973)-353-1918, or at run.vpva@rutgers.edu. Learn more about the office here: <http://counseling.newark.rutgers.edu/vpva>

Cellphone policy: Cellphones should be away during class. The use of cellphones or tablets during quizzes or exams will count as an academic integrity violation.

Classroom Etiquette:

- Be polite to your classmates. Consider others' feelings before you speak: intolerance is unacceptable.
- Be respectful to those around you. Texting, playing games, listening to music, and other non-class related activities can be very distracting and will result in an immediate deduction from your attendance grade.
- If you need to leave class early for an appointment, inform me of it at the beginning of class.

Policy on Academic Integrity: No act of academic dishonesty will be tolerated in this course. If there is evidence that a student has committed any violation of academic integrity, the matter will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct, which will determine the appropriate sanctions. Rutgers University's full Academic Integrity Policy can be found at this address: <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>. All students are required to include the Rutgers honor pledge on all major course assignments submitted for grading: "On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this examination (assignment)."

Reading Assignments

Readings are to be done by the day on which they are listed.

Trigger Warning:

This course will deal with important but sensitive material such as violence, sexuality, and racism. These topics will come up both in the reading and in class discussion. If any student thinks he or she may have trouble dealing with such topics, I suggest that he or she contact me to get more information.

Schedule¹

¹ Do note that this schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

Wednesday, 9/4

Course Introduction and Syllabus Review

Monday, 9/9: Early Rome and Myth

Potter, p. 19-47

Selections from Livy (See BLACKBOARD)

Wednesday, 9/11: The Formation of the Republic

Potter, p. 47-56

Selections from Polybius (see BLACKBOARD)

Monday, 9/16: The Conquest of Italy

Potter, p. 58-73

Wednesday, 9/18: The Conquest of the Mediterranean (the Punic Wars)

Potter, p. 73-104

Monday, 9/23: Women and Slavery during the Roman Republic

Article on Women on BLACKBOARD

Article on Slavery on BLACKBOARD

Wednesday, 9/25: Roman Religion during the Republic

Article on Roman Religion on BLACKBOARD

Monday, 9/30: Civil Unrest

Potter, p. 106-116

Plutarch, Life of Tiberius Gracchus (see BLACKBOARD)

Wednesday, 10/2: Marius

Potter, p. 117- 124

Plutarch, Life of Marius (see BLACKBOARD)

Monday, 10/7: Sulla

Potter, p. 124-140

Wednesday, 10/9: Rise of Pompey the Great

Potter, p. 140-143

Plutarch, Life of Pompey (see BLACKBOARD)

Monday, 10/14: Cicero and the War with Catiline

Potter, p. 143-148

Selections from Cicero's *In Catilinam* and Sallust's *Bellum Catilinae* (see BLACKBOARD)

Wednesday, 10/16: The "First Triumvirate"

Potter, p. 150-168

Selections from Catullus and Lucretius (see BLACKBOARD)

Monday, 10/21: Julius Caesar

Suetonius, Life of Julius Caesar (see BLACKBOARD)

Wednesday, 10/23: Midterm Exam

Monday, 10/28: The Second Triumvirate

Potter, p. 168-178

Plutarch, Life of Marc Antony (see BLACKBOARD)

Wednesday, 10/30: The Age of Augustus I

Potter, p. 178-193

Monday, 11/4: The Age of Augustus II

Selections from Augustan poets (see BLACKBOARD)

Selections from Zanker, *The Power of Images in the Age of Augustus* (See BLACKBOARD)

Wednesday, 11/6: Tiberius, Caligula, and Claudius

Potter, p. 193-201

Suetonius, Life of Caligula (See BLACKBOARD)

Monday, 11/11: Nero and the Year of the Four Emperors

Potter, p. 201-208

Selections from Lucan and Seneca (see BLACKBOARD)

Wednesday, 11/13: The Flavians

Potter, p. 210-217

Suetonius, Lives of Vespasian, Titus, and Domitian (see BLACKBOARD)

Monday, 11/18: The Five Good Emperors

Potter, p. 217-227

Selections from the writings of Marcus Aurelius (see BLACKBOARD)

Wednesday, 11/20: The Five Good Emperors

Potter, p. 217-227

Selections from the writings of Marcus Aurelius (see BLACKBOARD)

Monday, 11/25: Crisis of the Third Century

Potter, p. 258-286

Wednesday, 11/27: NO CLASS!!!

Monday, 12/2: Diocletian and Constantine

Potter, p. 286-310

Wednesday, 12/4: Christianity during the Roman Empire

Selections from Celsus and Augustine (see BLACKBOARD)

Monday, 12/9: The Theodosian Dynasty and the Collapse of the West

Potter, p. 311-329

Wednesday, 12/11: The Byzantines

Potter, p. 329-354

PAPER DUE

Final exam: Monday, December 23 – 3:00pm-6:00pm