

The History of Ancient Rome

Spring 2012

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Consolidated Syllabus

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Course Description

This course surveys the history of Rome from the Etruscans who dominated northern Italy before the founding of the city in the eighth century BCE down to the collapse of Roman imperial authority in Western Europe during the fifth century CE. The course adopts a traditional focus, on political, social, and military affairs, and is organized chronologically around the traditional divisions of Roman history. The objective of the course is to present the students a thorough analysis of the forces that shaped Rome, the way in which she assembled her empire, the means by which she ruled and defended it, and the processes which led to its ultimate disintegration.

Classroom Behavior

1. Students are expected to attend **ALL** meetings of the class and to do **ALL** of the assigned readings. Excessive absences will lower your course grade.
2. **NO LAPTOPS !!!**
3. **NO TEXTING DURING CLASS !!!**
4. No reading newspapers, magazines, or books during lectures.
5. Save your conversations for after class.
6. Honesty is fundamental to learning. Cheating on any test will be punished with an automatic grade of "F" for the entire course.
7. Any efforts to disrupt the class will be reported both to the Dean of Students and to the UNI Campus Police.

TESTS AND MAKE-UP TESTS

Tests and Study Guides:

- There will be three tests. Consult the Weekly Assignment Schedule for the test dates. Each test will consist of twenty-five multiple-choice questions, drawn from the lectures and the textbook. Each question will be worth two points. There will also be an essay question on each test, which will be worth fifty points.
- Each test will receive a numerical score; at the end of the course I will average those scores together. The grading scale I will use can be found separately on this website.
- Study guides for each test can be found on this website. There will be no questions on any test that are not derived from material included on the study guides.
- I do not give pop quizzes.

Make-Up Tests:

- If for any reason you cannot take a test on the day indicated on the Course Schedule attached to this syllabus, you may take a make-up. I will give all make-up tests at the end of the semester, on the date indicated on the Weekly Assignment Schedule.

Incompletes:

- I do not grant incompletes except in cases of call-up for active military duty or when a student is admitted to a hospital, or disabled, as a result of injury or illness, and consequently is unable to finish the course. In both cases, I must require documentary proof before granting the incomplete.

Extra-Credit Work:

- I do not give extra-credit work.

What Happens If You Don't Take One or More of the Tests?

If you fail to take any of the tests, or fail to submit a Journal Research Report, by Noon on Wednesday of final examination week, you will receive an "F" for the entire course.

Grammar Review Exercises

Despite the rise of mass communications and the integration of those communications into the internet, it remains true that very few of the people with whom we communicate who are not in our immediate physical presence will actually hear our voices or see our faces. Instead, we will communicate with them through writing, whether that writing is a text message, a Twitter tweet, an e-mail, or something we've typed on our computers or written longhand. Nor is writing only the means by which we communicate with people in some other place; it is also the means by which we communicate with people in some other time. Consider that William Shakespeare has been dead for four centuries, but through his writing he still communicates with us. So also do the still longer-gone authors of the books of the Bible and the composers of the world's great epic poems. The fact that our writing is the only way that people who don't know us personally and aren't within sight of our faces or within hearing of our voices can know us and the quality of minds makes it especially important that we write well, because if we write poorly, they are likely to draw the conclusion that we are idiots, or fools.

Perhaps because of this, the Provost has urged faculty to integrate writing practice into their routine class assignments, and it is, in fact, required by the History Department that all upper-division history courses include a writing component. This course responds to that requirement by assigning a major writing project, the Journal Research Report, and drawing half of the credit on each of the four tests from essay questions. Those assignments, and especially the Journal Research Report, will be graded not only on their content but also on their grammar. It has been my experience that many students either never learned English grammar in primary and secondary school, or quickly forgot what they learned. Their grades on the course writing assignments sometimes suffer severely as a consequence.

To address that problem, I assign Gucker's *Essentials of English Grammar* and Strunk & White's *Elements of Style*, but those are of little use if students don't study them. To encourage the study of those texts, and especially Gucker, therefore, I assign at-home grammar review exercises, which are posted to the course website as PDFs. Typically they will consist of about ten or more items of varying nature and will cover one or more chapters in Gucker. Students are to print them out and complete them long-hand. Collectively they will comprise fifteen percent of your semester grade. **There will be NO grammar review make-ups for anything other than a University activity, and any missed assignments will receive a grade of zero.**

Journal Research Reports

Students are required to submit a research report on a topic in Roman history. **They are to do so by reading articles published in scholarly academic journals in ancient history, classical studies, or classical archaeology ONLY**, and writing a report on the contents of the articles which they read. Any articles taken from a journal that is not a scholarly ancient history, classical studies, or classical archeology journal will not be accepted, and the journal research report containing them will be **penalized a full letter grade, or 20 points**, for each non-ancient history, classical studies, or classical archeology article contained in the report. Any questions about whether or not a journal is an ancient history, classical studies, or classical archeology journal, must be referred to me via email at robert.dise@uni.edu (emailing will provide a record of our consultation), and I will tell you whether or not the journal in question is acceptable.

The report is to be submitted **electronically**, as an email attachment in MS Word format (.doc or .docx). Reports are due on the date indicated on the Weekly Assignments Schedule. **Reports submitted late will be penalized TWENTY-FIVE (25) points for EACH class day that they are late.** Late penalties will be applied beginning at the conclusion of class on the date the reports are due.

The report must discuss a **minimum of FIVE** scholarly articles. Each article is to be discussed individually, on its own page, or pages, in the report. The discussion should combine a summary of the contents of the article with an analysis of the article's argument, sources, and methodology. The first line of the first page discussing each individual article must identify the article being discussed by giving the following information in the following order:

author's last name, author's first name and middle initial, title of the article in quotation marks, title of the journal either italicized or underlined, volume number of the journal, year of the volume, page numbers containing the article

If your report covers fewer than five articles, it will be **penalized a full letter grade (20 points)** for each article that it lacks.

Students are to include at the conclusion of their report a general discussion of what they learned **about their topic** from the articles which they read. This discussion must **NOT** be a series of summaries of the various articles. It is to be an overview of what was learned **about the topic** from reading the articles as a whole. If you merely summarize the various articles' contents, your grade will be reduced.

Journal articles can be found by consulting on-line bibliographic resources such as JSTOR or *L'Annee Philologique*. *L'Annee Philologique* is particularly valuable as a resource in classical studies, classical archeology, and Greek and Roman history. For instructions on how to consult *L'Annee*, see How To Do Research in Classical Studies, on the course website.

Formatting Requirements

ON THE FIRST PAGE OF YOUR REPORT, state your name and the topic you are looking at, and list the articles that you are summarizing. The articles should be listed in the following format:

author's last name, author's first name and middle initial, title of the article in quotation marks, title of the journal either italicized or underlined, volume number of the journal, year of the volume, page numbers containing the article

Failure to include this initial page with bibliography will cost your report a **full letter grade (20 points)**.

The discussion of each article must be **single-spaced, not multiple-spaced (which is the MS Word default spacing)**, and must be **AT LEAST a FULL page in length**. Reports which fail to conform to these requirements and/or in which any article discussion is not at least a full page in length will be **penalized a full letter grade (20 points)** for each article discussion that fails to conform.

The discussion at the end of the report of what students learned about their topic must be **double-spaced**, and at least **two FULL** pages in length. Failure to double-space this discussion, or submitting less than two full pages of discussion, will cause a report to be **penalized a full letter grade (20 points)**.

All pages must be numbered. Failure to do so will cause a report to be **penalized a full letter grade (20 points)**. Page margins should be 1¼ inches left and right, and one inch top and bottom.

IMPORTANT:

Read the document “Writing Errors to Avoid” on my website (www.uni.edu/dise), and avoid those errors. Remember: **each time** you commit one of them, it will cost you **five points** off of the grade given your Journal Research Report.

BAD GRAMMAR WILL LOWER YOUR GRADE

Journal Research Report Bibliography Instructions

On the fourth Monday of the semester, students are to submit a proposed bibliography for their Journal Research Report. I will review the bibliography and return it with my comments, indicating whether it is satisfactory as submitted or whether it needs revision and resubmission. Revisions should be made, and submitted for approval, as soon as possible after I return the bibliography.

The bibliography is to be submitted as a document in MS Word format (.doc/.docx), attached to an e-mail. My comments will be returned via e-mail on a copy of that bibliography.

The bibliography must state the topic the student has chosen, taken from the list posted on the course webpage of my website.

Only articles in ancient history/classical studies/classical archeology journals will be acceptable. Books and book reviews will not be approved for inclusion in bibliographies, nor will essays in edited volumes. The following are examples of book entries, essay entries, and journal article entries from *L'Annee Philologique*:

Book entry:

Badian E. - Roman imperialism in the late republic. Ithaca : Cornell Univ. Pr., 1968. XII & 117 p. || CW LXII 1969 365 Oost | JRS LIX 1969 270-271 Brunt | Latomus XXVIII 1969 524-525 Jal | RBPh XLVII 1969 1081-1083 Liebmann-Frankfort | CJ LXV 1970 367-370 Eadie | EHR LXXXV 1970 826 Cuff

Book entries begin with the author's name, followed by the title of the book, the place of publication, the press that published it, the year of publication, the number of chapters as a Roman numeral (in this example, XII) and the total number of pages in the book, followed by a list of reviews of the book in various journals (whose titles are abbreviated), with their volume numbers, years, the page number where the review is located, and the reviewer's last name.

Essay entry:

Morris, Ian. - The greater Athenian state. The dynamics of ancient empires : 99-177.

Essay entries begin with the author's name, followed by the title of the essay, the title of the edited volume, and the page numbers on which the essay appears. There is no year of issue and no volume number.

Journal article:

Corcoran, Simon. - Anastasius, Justinian, and the pagans : a tale of two law codes and a papyrus. JLA 2009 2 (2) : 183-208.

Journal article entries begin with the author's name, followed by the article's title, the name of the journal, typically abbreviated (JLA), then the year of the issue of the journal (2009), then the volume (2) and the part of the volume, if applicable (in this example shown as (2)), then the pages on which the article appears.

Always spell out abbreviated journal names completely in your bibliography. Any bibliography submissions with abbreviated journal names will be returned.

Since the analytical synopsis you are required to write of each article must be at least one full page long, and single-spaced, the journal articles you submit should be at least five pages long.

The journal articles you submit are to come from the most up-to-date scholarship on the topic you've chosen. I will not accept articles published before 1970 except in the most extraordinary circumstances.

Any changes to your bibliography after I have approved it must be submitted to me via e-mail for my review and approval.

Apportionment of Grades

Together, the three tests will count sixty (60) percent of your course grade. The Journal Research Report will count for twenty-five (25) percent. The Weekly Grammar Review scores will count for the remaining fifteen (15) percent.

Attendance Policy

The 2010-2012 UNI Catalog states:

“Students are expected to attend class, and the responsibility for attending class rests with the student.

“Students are expected to learn and observe the attendance rules established by each instructor for each course.”

My attendance rules for this class are as follows:

Personal Absences:

- After the add deadline, you are allowed **SIX** personal absences. You may use them for whatever you like, but once they are gone, you will not receive more, so they should be saved up and used for illnesses, appointments, and family emergencies such as deaths and funerals.
- Once you have used up your six personal absences, each additional absence will reduce your **end-of-the-semester** average by **FIVE** points.
- Absence from class on the Friday immediately before Spring Break will count as **THREE** personal absences.

Excused Absences:

- Under the terms of the UNI Catalog, absences due to official activities of University athletic and academic organizations may not be counted against a student. This rule does **NOT** apply to social and religious groups affiliated with the University. If you are on a University athletic team or participate in a University academic organization and must be absent, bring me a formal letter stating the reason for your absence, signed by the University official in charge of the activity.
- I will also excuse absences due to the following non-University causes:
 - actual, physical, hospitalization (i.e., overnight admission)
 - call-up for military duty
 - court duty, including
 - jury duty
 - appearance as a witness
 - appearance as a plaintiff
 - appearance as a defendant
 - as with excused University activities, you must give me documentary proof of the reason for your absence.
- No other absences, including those for personal or family emergencies, will count as excused absences, so you should save up your absences in case of such emergencies.
- I will post your **TOTAL** number of absences along with the scores on each test. Consult the posting to see what the tally of your absences is.

GRADUATE STUDENT REQUIREMENTS

Tests

Graduate Students will take the same tests as the undergraduates enrolled in the course. Collectively, those tests will count for one-half of the semester grade. Graduate students do not have to complete the weekly grammar assignments.

Graduate Student Research Paper

Formatting Requirements and Penalties

Graduate students will write a research paper, not less than **twenty (20) full pages** in length, **counting text alone**. Papers are to be double-spaced, with 1¼-inch side margins and 1-inch margins top and bottom. Their pages must be numbered. Endnotes are to be used rather than footnotes, and a separate bibliography page is to be included, conforming to the citation style discussed in the undergraduate **Journal Research Report Requirements**. Each failure to conform to one of these requirements will cost **ten (10) points** off of the paper's grade.

Research Paper Contents and Due Dates

If at all possible, graduate student papers should advance a thesis. If you have questions about how to that, discuss them with me. Graduate papers are expected to be grounded in the primary ancient sources (in translation), and in the scholarly journal literature. **Paper topics are to be decided in consultation with me not later than the Monday after Labor Day**. Papers are due in class on the date indicated on the weekly lecture and assignments schedule for the submission of Journal Research Reports. Papers are to be submitted **both** in hard copy and electronically, as an email attachment in MS Word format (.doc or .docx) or Rich Text Format (.rtf). Failure to submit an electronic copy will result in a **20-point penalty**.

Incompletes are available, at my discretion, for just cause.

Graduate papers are expected to be well written and free of the errors listed in **Writing Errors to Avoid**. Each error will cost **ten (10) points** off the grade given the paper. I will also deduct points for poor grammar and organization.

The paper will count one-half of the semester grade.

Attendance

Graduate students receive six (6) personal absence days for illness, medical business or family emergencies. After the add deadline, they will be penalized **five** points off of their end-of-semester average for each absence above six.

Textbooks

Dunstan, William E., *Ancient Rome* (Rowman & Littlefield: 2011) ISBN: 978-0-7425-6833-4

Gucker, Philip, *Essential English Grammar* (Dover: 1966) ISBN: 0-486-21649-7

Strunk, W. & White, E.B., *The Elements of Style*, 4th ed., (Allyn & Bacon: 2000) ISBN: 0-205-30902-X

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Weekly Schedule Spring Term 2012

All dates except those of the last test/final exam are subject to change.

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Subjects</u>	<u>Reading Assignments</u>
January 9	<u>Introduction</u> Syllabus The Geography of the Roman World	Dunstan: chapter 1
January 16	<u>MLK DAY: NO CLASS</u>	
January 18	<u>The Monarchy</u> The Etruscans The Monarchy	Dunstan: chapters 1 & 2
January 23 <u>GRAD Student Paper Topics due</u>	<u>From Monarchy to Republic</u> Early Roman Society The Overthrow of the Monarchy	Dunstan: chapter 2
January 30 <u>JRR Topics, Bibliographies Due</u>	<u>The Young Republic</u> The Conflict of the Orders The Republican Constitution	Dunstan: chapter 3
February 6	<u>Rome and Italy</u> The Italian Commonwealth	Dunstan: chapter 4
February 13	<u>The Birth of the Empire</u> The Punic Wars The Macedonian and Eastern Wars The Spanish Wars	Dunstan: chapters 5 & 6
February 20	Test 1	
February 22	<u>The Effects of Empire</u> The Decay of Italy The Gracchi	Dunstan: chapters 7, 8, 9, & 10
February 27	<u>Civil War & The Death of the Republic</u> The Warlords The First Triumvirate Caesar The Second Triumvirate	Dunstan: chapters 11, 12, 13, & 14
March 5	<u>The Augustan Principate</u> The Restructuring of Politics The Restructuring of the Empire	Dunstan: chapters 15, 16, & 17
March 12	SPRING BREAK	

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Subjects</u>	<u>Reading Assignments</u>
March 19	<u>The First Century</u> The Julio-Claudians The Flavians	Dunstan: chapters 18 & 19
March 26	Test 2	
March 28	<u>The Second Century</u> The “Five Good Emperors” The “Silver Age” of Roman Culture	Dunstan: chapters 20, 22, & 23
April 2	<u>Imperial Roman Government</u> Imperial Administration The Imperial Army Romanization	Dunstan: chapter 21
April 9	<u>Crisis and Recovery</u> The Severans The Third-Century Crisis	Dunstan: chapters 24 & 25
April 16 <u>JRRs & GRAD PAPERS DUE</u>	<u>The Later Empire</u> Late Roman Government and Army The Triumph of Christianity Church and State	Dunstan: chapters 26, 27, 28, & 29
April 23	<u>“Decline and Fall”</u> The Fall of the West The Byzantine Empire to 602	Dunstan: chapters 30 & 31 & Epilogue
May 2: 10:00 AM	Test 3	