CLASS HIS 60
THE ROMANS
Spring Quarter 2012
MoWeFr 11-11.50

Required texts (available at the Stanford Bookstore, and on reserve in Green)

- Tacitus, *Agricola and Germany* (Oxford University Press, 2009)

Schedule and readings
(* = sections)

Mon, April 2  Introduction: Why Rome?

Wed, April 4  What can we know about early Rome? – Bottom-up perspectives
*The Romans* 1-42

*Fri, April 6  Discussion: What are we told about early Rome? – The fabrication of historical tradition
*Mellor* 1-5, 169-205

Mon, April 9  Governing Rome
*The Romans* 53-69, 125-129

Wed, April 11  Roman imperialism
*The Romans* 43-53, 69-124

*Fri, April 13  Discussion: In search of the perfect constitution
*Mellor* 50-63

*Mon, April 16  Discussion: How did Roman politics really work?
*Quintus Cicero (?), Handbook on Canvassing (handout) (recommended optional supplement: Mellor 82-115)*
Wed, April 18  Belief systems: Cult and ideology
   *Handouts*

*Fri, April 20  Discussion: ‘Just war’
   *Mellor 215-227, 288-294, 317-320; handouts*

Mon, April 23  Economic change
   *The Romans 129-153; Mellor 304-312*

Wed, April 25  From republic to monarchy: The great transition
   *Mellor 65-79; skim The Romans pp. 154-281*

*Fri, April 27  Discussion: The Augustan regime
   *Mellor 281-308, handouts*

Mon, April 30  Governing the Roman empire
   *The Romans 309-329, 375-386*

   **Mid-term papers due**

Wed, May 2  The military complex
   *Romans pp. 291-294 (again), 329-330, 373 source 10.1; Mellor 539-555*

Fri, May 4  The provincial world
   *The Romans 335-339, 374-375; Mellor 490-497, 531-536; handouts*

Mon, May 7  Beyond the borders
   *Tacitus, Germany*

Wed, May 9  Imperial religions: Ruler cult and pluralism
   *The Romans 339-345, 386-387*

*Fri, May 11  Discussion: Emperors, aristocrats, and provincials
   *Tacitus, Agricola*

   **Abstracts due**

Mon, May 14  The Jews in the Roman world
   *Mellor 331-345; handouts*

Wed, May 16  The creation of Christianity
   *The Romans 421-426; Mellor 510-514, 536-538; handouts*

*Fri, May 18  Discussion: Cult, community, and imperial power
   *Mellor 510-514, 536-538, 557-574; handouts*

   **Bibliographies due**

Mon, May 21  Instability and restoration
   *The Romans 427-486; Mellor 557-574*

Wed, May 23  Decline and Fall? Transformations of the Roman world
   *The Romans 487-518; Mellor 606-613; handouts*
Course requirements

1. **Research paper**
The research paper counts for 40% of the final grade (if you take this class for 4 or 5 units) or for 50% of the final grade (if you take this class for 3 units), and deals with a topic of your choice, provided that it relates to an aspect of Roman history. We are happy to advise you on your choice of topic and relevant bibliography. Topics should be problem-driven rather than descriptive summaries (i.e., focus on ‘how’ and ‘why’ rather than ‘what’ and ‘when’). The paper will consist of 4,000 to 5,000 words of text (excluding the bibliography). Your arguments should ideally be based on your own interpretation of ancient primary sources and take account of divergent views in the secondary literature. (The balance between ancient and modern sources should be appropriate to the problem you choose to address, and will vary from topic to topic.)

One-page abstracts outlining the general topic and the specific problems and issues to be addressed in the paper must be submitted by Friday May 11. Bibliographies of at least five items (including both books and journal articles or chapters in edited volumes) that will be used in the paper must be submitted by Friday May 18. The paper itself is due on Monday June 4 at midnight. All deadlines are final, and no extensions will be granted except in properly documented cases of illness and other emergencies. Papers submitted at a later date will drop one grade and continue to drop a further grade every two business days thereafter.

2. **Midterm assignment**
The midterm assignment counts for 20% (4-5 units) or 25% (3 units) of the final grade. The mid-term paper should contain c.2,000 words, and will address the question ‘How democratic was the Roman Republic?’ The midterm assignment is due on Monday April 30 by noon. The same penalties for late submissions apply.

3. **Class participation**
Class participation in sections counts for 25% of the final grade. If you take this class for 4 or 5 units, you will prepare a critical report on the readings for one of the discussion sections, which counts for an additional 15% of the final grade. Depending on class size, you may choose between an oral and a written report. Written reports should be c.1,000 words long and must be handed in prior to the relevant session. Oral presentations should be supported by brief handouts and/or slides. Session attendance is mandatory and unexcused absence will be factored into the relevant portion of the final grade.

4. **Students with documented disabilities**
Students who may need an academic accommodation based on the impact of a disability must initiate the request with the Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC) located within the Office of Accessible Education (OAE). SDRC staff will evaluate the request with required documentation, recommend reasonable accommodations, and prepare an Accommodation Letter for faculty dated in the current quarter in which the request is being made. Students should contact the SDRC as soon as possible since timely notice is needed to coordinate accommodations. The OAE is located at 563 Salvatierra Walk (phone: 723-1066).
General bibliography

General outlines of Roman imperial history and culture:
• J. Boardman et al. (eds.), *The Oxford History of the Roman World* (Oxford University Press, 1986)
• A. Cameron, *The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity AD 395-600* (Routledge, 1993)
• P. Garnsey & C. Humfress, *The Evolution of the Late Antique World* (Orchard Academic, 2001)

Sourcebooks:
• M. Maas, *Readings in Late Antiquity: A Sourcebook* (Routledge, 2000)

Recommended ancient authors (Penguin Classics):

General reference:

Heavy-duty scholarship: for detailed discussion of most of this period and up-to-date bibliography, see *The Cambridge Ancient History* 2nd ed. vols. VII 2, VIII-XIV (Cambridge University Press, 1989-2005)

Links to relevant websites: www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/; http://www.users.globalnet.co.uk/~loxias/jact.htm; http://artsceu.wustl.edu/~cwcconrad/classics.html

Further reading
M. Pallottino, *The Etruscans* (1975)

---, *War and Society in Imperial Rome 31 BC – AD 284* (2002)
A. Birley, *Garrison Life at Vindolanda* (2002), with http://vindolanda.csad.ox.ac.uk


K. Bradley, *Slaves and Masters in the Roman Empire: A Study in Social Control* (1987)

B. Levick, *Tiberius the Politician* (1976)
---, *Claudius* (1990)
K. Wellesley, *The Long Year AD 69* (1975)
---, *Marcus Aurelius* (2000)
---, *Septimius Severus* (1999)

---, *Tacitus* (1958)


J. Wacher (ed.), *The Roman World* (1987)

D. Magie, *Roman Rule in Asia Minor* (1950)

M. Millett, *The Romanization of Britain* (1990)
A. King, *Roman Gaul and Germany* (1990)
J. Wilkes, *Dalmatia* (1969)


R. Lane Fox, *Pagans and Christians* (1986)


R. MacMullen, *Christianizing the Roman Empire* (1984)
---, *Martyrdom and persecution in the Early Church* (1965)

P. Southern, *The Roman Empire from Severus to Constantine* (2001)

T. Barnes, *Constantine and Eusebius* (1981)
G. Bowersock, *Julian the Apostate* (1978)
A. H. M. Jones, *The Later Roman Empire* (1964)
---, *The World of Late Antiquity* (1971)
---, *The Making of Late Antiquity* (1978)
R. MacMullen, *Soldier and Civilian in the Later Roman Empire* (1963)

P. Heather, *Goths and Romans, 332-489* (1991)


C. Wickham, *Framing the Early Middle Ages: Europe and the Mediterranean, 400-800* (2005)