CLASSICS 84 = HIST 102A

THE ROMANS

Spring Quarter 2017
MWF 11.30-12.20
200-030

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


Schedule and readings
(* = sections)

Mon, April 3  Introduction: Why Rome?

Wed, April 5  What can we know about early Rome? – Bottom-up perspectives
  *The Romans* 1-42

*Fri, April 7  Discussion: What are we told about early Rome? – The fabrication of historical tradition
  *Mellor* 119-151

Mon, April 10  Governing Rome
  *The Romans* 53-69, 125-129

Wed, April 12  Roman imperialism
  *The Romans* 43-53, 69-124; *Mellor* 40-48

*Fri, April 14  Discussion: In search of the perfect constitution
  *Mellor* 30-40

Mon, April 17  Belief systems: Cult and ideology
  *Mellor* 4-5, 48-49; handouts
Wed, April 19  Economic change  
   *The Romans 129-153; Mellor 233-241*

*Fri, April 21  Discussion: ‘Just war’  
   *Mellor 221-227; handouts*

Mon, April 24  From republic to monarchy: The great transition  
   *Mellor 478-490; *skim* The Romans pp. 154-281*

Wed, April 26  Governing the Roman empire  
   *The Romans 309-329, 375-386*

*Fri, April 28  Discussion: How did Roman politics really work?  
   *Quintus Cicero (?), Handbook on Canvassing (handout) (recommended optional supplement: Mellor 50-65)*

**Mid-term papers due**

Mon, May 1  The military complex  
   *Romans pp. 291-294 (again), 329-330, 373 source 10.1; Mellor 269-273*

Wed, May 3  Beyond the borders  
   *Mellor 301-306, 502-516*

Fri, May 5  Guest lecture: Roman coinage

*Mon, May 8  Discussion: The Augustan regime  
   *Mellor 8-9, 254-262, 306-308, handouts*

Wed, May 10  The provincial world  
   *The Romans 335-339, 374-375; Mellor 490-497, 531-536; handouts*

*Fri, May 12  Discussion: Emperors, aristocrats, and provincials  
   *Mellor 6-8, 290-301*

**Abstracts and preliminary bibliographies due**

Mon, May 15  Imperial religions: Ruler cult and pluralism  
   *The Romans 339-345, 386-387*

Wed, May 17  The Jews in the Roman world  
   *Mellor 273-288, 380-387; handouts*

*Fri, May 19  Discussion: Becoming a god  
   *Handouts*

Mon, May 22  The creation of Christianity  
   *The Romans 421-426; Mellor 360-363, 392-394; handouts*

**Introduction and extended outlines due**
Wed, May 24  Instability and restoration  
*The Romans 427-486; Mellor 525-526*

*Fri, May 26 Discussion: Cult, community, and imperial power  
*Mellor 360-363, 392-394; handouts*

Mon, May 29  Memorial Day (no class)

Wed, May 31  Decline and Fall? Transformations of the Roman world  
*The Romans 487-518; handouts*

Fri, June 2  Continuity and change  
*Handouts*

*Mon, June 5 Discussion: The Christian takeover  
*Mellor 527-543, 573-574*

Wed, June 7  No class (extra time to go over drafts with TA)

Fri, June 9  *Final papers due*

**Course requirements**

1. **Grading**
   Your grade will be determined by the research paper (40%), a mid-term assignment (20%), and participation in section (40%). Assignments vary depending on whether you take this class for 3, 4 or 5 units, reflecting the required amount of work outside contact hours. This is explained in the following.

2. **Research paper**
   The research paper counts for 40% of the final grade 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’). For 3 units, the paper will consist of 3,000 to 4,000 words of text; for 4 units, of 4,000-5,000 words; for 5 units, of 5,000-6,000 words (in all cases 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.)

   The research paper will be completed in three steps. First, a one-page abstract outlining the general topic and the specific problems and issues to be addressed in the paper, along with a tentative bibliography of at least five items (including both books *and* journal articles or chapters in edited volumes) must be submitted by Friday, May 12, at noon. These will be returned with comments and/or a brief discussion with the TA. Following the timely return of the abstracts, you will have until Monday, May 22 (at noon), to submit both an introduction and an extended outline of the final paper. Both of these preliminary assignments will be graded, according to the criteria listed on the relevant handouts (to be distributed in section). The final paper itself is due on Friday, June 9, 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.
3. **Midterm assignment**
The midterm assignment counts for 20% of the final grade. The mid-term paper should contain c. 1,000 words (for 3 units), c. 1,500 words (for 4 units), or c. 2,000 words (for 5 units), and will address the question ‘How democratic was the Roman Republic?’ The midterm assignment is due on Friday April 28 at noon. The same penalties for late submissions apply.

4. **Class participation**
Class participation in sections counts for 40% of the final grade. This part of the grade will be based on the exercises, short quizzes and reports in section. All students will present either an oral or a written report on the readings for a particular week. Oral reports should be supported by brief handouts and/or slides. Written reports should contain at least 500 (3 units), 1,000 (4 units) or 1,500 (5 units) words and must be handed in prior to the relevant session. Session attendance is mandatory and unexcused absence will be factored into the relevant portion of the final grade.

5. **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)
- 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)

Further reading

M. Pallottino, *The Etruscans* (1975)
E. S. Staveley, *Greek and Roman Voting and Elections* (1972)
F. E. Adcock, *The Roman Art of War under the Republic* (1963)
T. W. Potter, *Roman Italy* (1987)
K. Hopkins, *Conquerors and Slaves* (1978)
M. H. Crawford, *Coinage and Money under the Roman Republic: Italy and the Mediterranean Economy* (1985)
M. Beard & M. Crawford, *Rome in the Late Republic* (1985)
E. Badian, *Sulla, the Deadly Reformer* (1970)
E. Badian, *Roman Imperialism in the Late Republic* (1968)
E. J. Kenney and W. V. Clausen (eds.), *The Cambridge History of Classical Literature II: Latin Literature* (1982), ch. 3-14
R. Syme, *The Roman Revolution* (1939)
D. Shotter, *The Fall of the Roman Republic* (1994)

C. Ando, *Imperial Ideology and Provincial Loyalty in the Roman Empire* (2000)


---, *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)
