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Office hours: Tuesday, 11:30-13:00; Thursday 12:30-14:00

**AROL 224
Introduction to the Roman World
Spring Semester 2010**

1. Course learning Outcomes

This course introduces students to the social and material culture of Rome between the eighth century BC and the fourth century AD. Students are also expected to develop an understanding of the historical framework for this period and the domination by Rome of the lands around the Mediterranean and into Western Europe. In addition, other topics covered include: the daily life of the Romans and their art, architecture and religious beliefs; the development of the provinces of the Roman Empire; political and economic transformations of the empire; the social and political consequences of Rome's adoption of Christianity.

The course ends with a look at the transformation of the Roman Empire in Late Antiquity. Students are expected to apply the knowledge acquired from the lectures to solve problems and synthesize material: identifying and commenting on the significance of artifacts; and making connections between different classes of material and textual evidence. Students are also expected to develop their organizational skills and use of appropriate material through the presentation of a particular subject.

2. Some suggested readings

There are literally thousands of books which have been written on the Ancient Roman World, it is important that students read at least one book on the subject.

The recommended basic course text book is:

Kamm, A. 2008. *The Romans: An Introduction*. London: Routledge.

Some other useful overviews include:

The Cambridge Ancient History. Various volumes. 2nd Edition.

Boardman, J., Griffin, J. and Murray, O. (eds) 2001. *The Oxford History of the Roman World*. Oxford.

Cornell, T.J. and Matthews, J. 1982. *Atlas of the Roman World*. London.

Garnsey, P. and Saller, R. 1987. *The Roman Empire: Economy, Society and Culture*. London.

Goodman, M. 2001. *The Roman World, 44BC - AD 180*. London.

Greene, K. 1986. *The Archaeology of the Roman Economy*. London.

Kelly, C. 2006. *The Roman Empire: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford.

Sartre, M. 2005. *The Middle East Under Rome*. Cambridge, Ma.

Wacher, J. (ed.) 2001. *The Roman World*. London.

Wells, C. 1992. *The Roman Empire*. London. 2nd Edition.

Woolf, G. 2003. *The Cambridge Illustrated History of the Roman World*. Cambridge.

3. Grading Criteria

In addition to a mid-term and a final exam, students are expected to undertake a 10 minute presentation on an aspect of a particular province of the empire, with guidance from the instructor. By delivering a successful presentation the student will have practiced their research skills, engaged more deeply with the subject to look for connections between artifacts and texts, and to deal with ancient cultural and intellectual issues. Students are encouraged to think for themselves and apply knowledge learned to a unique problem. The final exam covers all the material in the course.

The weighting of the final grade will be based on:

mid-term exam	30%
presentation	15%
attendance	10%
final exam	45%.

It is hoped that a day trip will be arranged one Saturday to some interesting sites of the Roman period in which Lebanon is particularly rich.

4. Schedule

Week	Session	Date	Day	Topic of the Class	Readings in Kamm
Week 1	1	16-Feb	Tue	Introduction: aims of the course	Pp 1-11
Week 2	2	23-Feb	Tue	Early Rome	
	3	25-Feb	Thu	Etruscans	
Week 3	4	02-Mar	Tue	Republican Rome and Empire	Pp 12-36
	5	04-Mar	Thu	Emperor and Elites	Pp 37-73
Week 4	6	09-Mar	Tue	Everyday Life 1	Pp 101-30
	7	11-Mar	Thu	Everyday Life 2	
Week 5	8	16-Mar	Tue	Architecture	Pp 135-47
	9	18-Mar	Thu	Towns and Cities	
Week 6	10	23-Mar	Tue	Pompeii and Herculaneum	
	11	25-Mar	Thu	The emperors - Nero	
Week 7	12	30-Mar	Tue	Vespasian and Siege of Jerusalem	
	13	01-Apr	Thu	Burial and Roman North Africa	
Week 8	14	06-Apr	Tue	Mid-Term Examination	
	15	08-Apr	Thu	Rome	
Week 9	16	13-Apr	Tue	Provinces	
	17	15-Apr	Thu	Bread and Circuses	Pp 130-33
Week 10	18	20-Apr	Tue	Religion	Pp 74-96
	19	22-Apr	Thu	Death and Burial	
Week 11	20	27-Apr	Tue	Army	Pp 172-80
	21	29-Apr	Thu	<i>Presentation - Provinces 1</i>	

Week 12	22	04-May	Tue	Villas and Countryside	
	23	06-May	Thu	<i>Presentation - Provinces 2</i>	
Week 13	24	11-May	Tue	Art	Pp 135-38
	25	13-May	Thu	<i>Presentation - Provinces 3</i>	
Week 14	26	18-May	Tue	Late Roman Empire and Constantinople	Pp 190-99
	27	20-May	Thu	<i>Presentation - Provinces 4</i>	
Week 15	28	25-May	Tue	Christianity	Pp 98-100
	29	27-May	Thu	Barbarians & Fall of the Western Empire	

5. Course Policy

Students are expected to be on time for class. Latecomers may be counted as absent. Regular class attendance is required and repeated absence may lead to the expulsion of the student from the course: if a student misses more than 4 sessions in the first 10 weeks of the semester they will be asked to withdraw from the class. Make-up exams will only be given to students with a valid excuse. Any signs of plagiarism or the breaking of the Student Code of Conduct will have consequences. All AUB academic regulations will be followed, as in the Appendix of the Student Handbook 2008-2009.