

## CLASSICS 219: THE ROMAN EMPIRE

### 2004 Syllabus

Welcome to CLA/HIS 219: The Roman Empire. All of the course material (and more) is available on the web site at:

<http://www.princeton.edu/~champlin/cla219/cla219.htm>

#### TEXTBOOKS

**N.B.:** All of these *should* be on reserve at Firestone.

The following books are required for purchase, and are available at **Micawber Books, 110-114 Nassau Street.**

- Ward, A. M., F. M. Heichelheim, & C.A. Yeo. A History of the Roman People 4th edn. (Prentice Hall, 2003) = **WARD**

**NB: Be sure you purchase the 4<sup>TH</sup> EDITION.**

- Lewis, N. & M. Reinhold. Roman Civilization. Selected Readings Volume II: The Empire 3rd edn. (Columbia U.P., 1990) = **L&R**

**NB: Be sure you purchase the 3<sup>RD</sup> EDITION**

**L & R readings will normally be referred to by their numbered sections.**

- Apuleius, The Golden Ass, trans. P.G. Walsh (Oxford U.P., 1994)
- Virgil, The Aeneid of Virgil, trans. A. Mandelbaum (Bantam, 1981)

Important readings will be found in the following:

- P. Brown, The World of Late Antiquity (Norton, 1989) = **Brown**
- N. Lewis & M. Reinhold, Roman Civilization. Selected Readings Volume I: The Republic and the Augustan Age 3rd edn. (Columbia U.P., 1990) = **L&R I**
- Juvenal, The Satires, trans. N. Rudd (Oxford U.P., 1992)
- Lives of the Later Caesars, trans. A. Birley (Penguin, 1976)
- Pliny, The Letters of the Younger Pliny, trans. B. Radice (Penguin, 1963)
- Suetonius, The Twelve Caesars, trans. R. Graves (Penguin, rev. edn. 1979)
- Tacitus, The Annals of Imperial Rome, trans. M. Grant (Penguin, rev. edn. 1971)

There will be two ways of gaining access to these works:

1. All of them are on reserve in the Reserve Reading Room in Firestone Library. OR
2. **With the exception of Brown and L & R I**, the assigned sections of all of them are available on the Classics 219 Homepage. Click on the **E-Texts** link on the home page or click on the appropriate precept and then on the text required. (Note: the translations used on the homepage will normally not be the same as those in Firestone, and are often older and not as good.)

## ASSIGNMENTS

Rarely more than 100 pages of assigned readings in primary source materials and modern interpretations each week.

Frequent brief preceptorial quizzes, normally requiring identification of significant historical items from the lectures and readings of that week. Two of these quizzes, however, will be map quizzes (dates noted below).

## GRADING

Preceptorial attendance <b>and</b> participation	30%
Preceptorial quizzes and papers	20%
Midterm Examination	20%
Final Examination	30%

There are no prerequisite courses, and no knowledge of Greek or Latin is assumed. P/D/F and Audit options are possible. Auditors may **not** attend precepts. There is no grading curve.

## PRECEPTORIALS

I will post precept sign-up sheets at my office in the Department of Classics, 151 East Pyne, sometime early in the week of February 2<sup>nd</sup>, and will inform everyone registered in the course by email when they're ready. In any event, they will be up by 9 AM, Wed. Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>.

Please sign up for one of the precepts listed there.

**Remember to note the day, time, and place.**

**N.B.: the course is large and precepts will be large too. Once the places for a given precept have been filled, it is CLOSED. Do not even THINK of entering your name somewhere on the sheet for that precept, or UNIMAGINABLY DREADFUL things will happen to you. You MUST select another session and register in it. \*If all else fails, email me and I will put you on a waitlist, but you must attend a precept in second week regardless\*.**

Please: prepare adequately to participate intelligently in precepts. Readings, questions to think about, and other information will be available for each precept on the web one week before.

## SOPHOMORE PRECEPT

I will run a precept open to any sophomore who has some curiosity and is willing to put in a bit of extra effort. You need have no experience of classics or the ancient world. **The precept is open to sophomores only.**

There will be a modest amount of extra reading each week (I'll aim for about 30 pages), representing the best of modern scholarship on a subject connected with the precept topic of the week. I will expect that everyone in the precept has read it, and I will expect a higher level of group participation. In return, there will be no extra credit, just fun and the enormous thrill of having the professor as your preceptor.

The precept will meet Fridays at 9:00 AM.

## LECTURES & PRECEPTS

wk. 1	Feb 2 Feb 4	Lecture 1 Lecture 2 No Precept. Read Virgil's <u>Aeneid</u> , at least Books 1-4 [pages 1-104 in the Mandelbaum translation; any translation will do, but I prefer this one]. And be familiar with the contents of <b>L&amp;R I</b> , Introduction, pp. 1-49.	The Rise of Rome Hannibal's Revenge
wk. 2	Feb 9 Feb 11	Lecture 3 Lecture 4 Precept 1	First Citizen Restoration The Deeds of Augustus
wk. 3	Feb 16 Feb 18	Lecture 5 Lecture 6 Precept 2	From Brick to Marble The Limits of Empire Arms and the Man
wk. 4	Feb 23 Feb 25	Lecture 7 Lecture 8 Precept 3	The Emperor at Work The Haves I, Claudius
wk. 5	March 1 March 3	Lecture 9 Lecture 10 Precept 4	The Have-Nots Social Order Slavery
			1st paper due
wk 6	March 8 March 10	Lecture 11 MIDTERM EXAM No Precept *NB* Reading in <b>Ward</b> TBA	Men and Dynasties
SPRING RECESS	March 13-21		
wk. 7	March 22	Lecture 12	A Double-Edged Sword

	March 24	Lecture 13 Precept 5	Empire and City Control	1st map quiz
wk. 8	March 29 March 31	Lecture 14 Lecture 15 Precept 6	Civilization Showtime! City Life	2nd paper due
wk. 9	April 5 April 7	Lecture 16 Lecture 17 Precept 7	Centrifuge Barbarians The Golden Ass	2nd map quiz
wk. 10	April 12 April 14	Lecture 18 Lecture 19 Precept 8	Belief Christianity Persecution	
wk. 11	April 19 April 21	Lecture 20 Lecture 21 Precept 9	The Age of Anxiety The New Empire Death and Renewal	3rd paper due
wk. 12	April 26 April 28 Precept 10	Lecture 22 Lecture 23 Christianity Triumphant	Church and Emperor Decline and Fall?	

## SOME THINGS WORTH KNOWING.....

**Primary Sources:** The major sources for this period are literary works, particularly histories and biographies, but also letters, novels, and poems, written by Greek and Latin authors. You should try to get an acquaintance with the major writers (the nature and scope of their works, and their biases), and with ancillary types of evidence, particularly inscriptions and papyri. For a general introduction read **L&R I**, pp. 1-49.

**\*NB\*:** whenever you meet a new source, check **L&R I**'s "Introduction: the Sources", which covers authors (pp. 10-37), laws (pp. 37-44), inscriptions, papyri and coins (pp. 44-49). **It will be assumed that you are familiar with these.**

**Names of Persons and Institutions:** Consult the Oxford Classical Dictionary [Firestone Reference Room: (DR) DE5 09 or Firestone Online Reference] for any item about which you are uncertain.

Also check the Glossaries in: **L&R I**, pp. 647-650, and **L&R** pp. 641-644.

**\*NB\*:** The important Roman Emperors and the dates of their reigns are listed in: Max Cary and H.H. Scullard, A History of the Roman People Down to the Reign of Constantine, 3rd edn., 1975, at p.571. There are several copies of this book on reserve in the Firestone Reserve Reading Room, at 2958. 242. 11 1975. You will be expected to know the names and dates of emperors from Augustus to Severus Alexander for the midterm exam, and from Augustus to Constantine for the final exam. This is not just for Trivial Pursuit -- they are very useful chronological signposts to help you get your bearings over almost four centuries of history.

**Chronology:** You are **strongly** advised to draft your own chart or time-line of the dates you think are the most important ones, from both lectures and readings. Every date you'll ever need can be found in Cary & Scullard at pp. 559-566.

**Geography:** It is **crucial** to know **where** things happened in history. Note the useful maps at **Ward**, pp. 12, 79, 92, 272, 282; **Brown**, pp. 208ff.; Lives of the Later Caesars, pp. 323ff.; Pliny, pp. 312f.; Suetonius, pp. 342ff.; Tacitus, pp. 418ff.

Every place you could possibly need to know about can be found in two volumes in the Firestone Reference Room: N.G.L. Hammond, Atlas of the Greek and Roman World in Antiquity (1981) [(DR) G1033 .A84 1981f]; and R.J.A. Talbert, Atlas of Classical History (1985) [(DR) G1033 .A833 1985], a selection from is posted for you on the course web site.

You should know and be able to locate **at least** the following. They are listed more or less clockwise around the empire, and with rough modern equivalents:

Italy: Rome, Mediolanum (or Mediolanium: Milan), Neapolis (Naples), Pompeii; Tiber River

Spain/Portugal: Hispania Tarraconensis, Lusitania, Baetica;  
Gades (Cadiz), Corduba (Cordova)

France: Narbonensis, Aquitania, Lugdunensis;  
Massilia (Marseilles), Nemausus (Nîmes), Lugdunum (Lyons);  
Rhône River

Britain: Britannia; Londinium (London), Eburacum (York); Hadrian's Wall

Germany/Austria/Hungary: Belgica, Germania Inferior, Germania Superior, Rhaetia, Noricum,  
Pannonia;  
Colonia Agrippinensis (Cologne), Moguntiacum (Mainz), Carnuntum,  
Aquincum, Sirmium  
Rhine River, Danube River

Balkans: Dalmatia/Illyricum, Upper Moesia, Lower Moesia, Dacia, Thrace, Macedonia,  
Achaia/Achaea;  
Athens, Corinth, Byzantium/Constantinople (Istanbul)

Asia Minor: Asia, Bithynia-Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Cilicia;  
Pergamum, Smyrna, Ephesus, Tarsus, Samosata;

Near East: Syria, Judaea, Arabia;  
Antioch, Dura, Jerusalem, Caesarea

North Africa: Egypt, Cyrene, Africa, Numidia, Mauretania;  
Alexandria, Cyrene, Lepcis Magna, Carthage, Lambaesis;  
Nile River

Mediterranean: Corsica, Sardinia, Sicily, Crete, Cyprus; Aegean Sea, Adriatic Sea

Outside: Armenia, Parthia, Mesopotamia; Ctesiphon, Babylon, Artaxata;  
North Sea, Black Sea (Pontus Euxinus), Red Sea; Euphrates River, Tigris  
River

**\*NB\***: The first map quiz will cover roughly the western half of the empire, from Italy through the Balkans inclusive; the second map quiz will cover everything else, from Asia Minor through to "Outside".

Questions? Contact

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Office Hours: MW 3:30 – 4:20, or by appointment