

**CLAS/FA 134B**  
**The Art and Archaeology of Ancient Rome**  
**Course Syllabus with Readings**

Brandeis University, Spring 2008  
Tues. and Fri., 3:10 – 4:30 p.m., Block P, Pollack (Fine Arts) 1

Instructor: Professor Ann Olga Koloski-Ostrow  
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Office Hours: Tuesdays and Fridays 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. and by appointment  
in Rabb 128, my office.

This course satisfies requirements for both creative arts (CA) and humanities (HUM).

**If you are a student with a documented disability on record at Brandeis University and wish to have a reasonable accommodation made for you in this class, please see me immediately.**

**Required Texts:**

1. Fred S. Kleiner, *A History of Roman Art* (Thomson Wadsworth 2007) (ISBN: 0-534-63846-5, paper) (price: unavailable) abbreviation: Kleiner
2. JoAnn Shelton, *As the Romans Did* (Oxford Univ. Press 1988 or latest) (ISBN: 0-19-508974-X) (price: ca. \$43.95) abbreviation: Shelton

**Required and POSTED on LATTE:**

3. Paul MacKendrick, *The Mute Stones Speak* (W.W. Norton & Co. 1983 or latest) (ISBN: 0-393-30119-2) (price: \$14.95) abbreviation: MacKendrick
4. Frank Sear, *Roman Architecture* (Cornell Univ. Press, 1992) (ISBN: 0-8014-9245-9) out of print, but on reserve (price: ca. \$24.00) abbreviation: Sear

**Recommended Texts:**

5. J. J. Pollitt, *The Art of Rome: c. 753 BC – AD 337* (Cambridge Univ. Press 1983) (ISBN: not available) (price: ca. \$28.25) abbreviation: Pollitt

Most required and recommended texts are also on RESERVE (indicated with R below) in the library along with other suggested reading material for the course. Check LATTE, as well. The readings from MacKendrick and Sear are posted there.

Course Description:

This survey course is designed to familiarize students with the art and architecture of ancient Rome, from the founding of the city to the end of the Empire. We consider monumental and domestic architecture, wall painting, mosaics, sculpture, occasional coins and epigraphic evidence, as well as maps and ancient sources. In addition to ancient Rome itself, Pompeii, Herculaneum, and Ostia, various cities in the provinces are also examined in some detail in order to provide understanding of the original contexts for these media. We want to know how ancient art and objects of daily life were used, viewed, and appreciated by their original patrons and owners as well as how to recognize and date them. If you take the course seriously, you will time travel to ancient Rome, and that is an aerobic exercise, I promise.

Course Requirements:

1. You should be present (in mind and body) and participate as actively as you can during lectures, discussions, and any out-of-class activities or fieldtrips. Questions are always welcome and encouraged. Class attendance will be taken on a regular basis, orally at the beginning of the term so that your professor can get to know you, and then by sign-in sheets distributed at the beginning of every class. Please note that it quickly becomes apparent who is present and who is not, especially from the class sign-in sheets, but it is important that you come to class.
2. You must complete all assigned readings (from required texts and from books and articles posted on LATTE). Your appreciation and understanding of lectures and discussions will be greatly enhanced if you complete reading assignments by their due date. This syllabus contains assignments from your required and recommended texts (and from various books on the reserve reading or items posted from time to time on LATTE) for the semester. Since my lectures are original creations, you are advised \*not\* to miss them. Many points made in them cannot be found in the required or reserve reading.
3. You will also take one short map quiz (on geography, possibly with some terminology). The map quiz is announced in advance (scheduled for Tuesday, February 5, 2008) so that you have time to prepare yourselves. Study guides will be provided and posted on LATTE. This quiz is not given to cause you unnecessary stress or anxiety. Rather it will assure your professor and you that you are not lost (literally and figuratively). Just as it is crucial that you learn to recognize for all time certain important objects, plans, and architectural remains as one of the main objectives of the course, you should have a good sense of the topography and geography we shall travel together, and a sense of some archaeological terminology and chronology. When you make your next trip to the Mediterranean world (or your first trip) and to the ancient sites for yourself, you will be grateful for this exercise. Sorry, *no* make-up quiz (unless you have a medical or other truly valid excuse issued in advance, if possible).
4. You will take one midterm slide exam on Friday, March 7, 2008. (Sorry, *no* make-up midterm exam is available.) If you must miss the midterm altogether for MEDICAL reasons or for some other VALID excuse, approved by your professor,

preferably in ADVANCE, you may write a research paper [5-7 typed, double-spaced pages] to make up the omission.

An optional research paper may also be completed by those of you with a grade lower than "B-" on the midterm slide exam. In this latter case, however, the grade you receive on the research paper will be averaged with the grade you received on your midterm. The research paper's grade, in other words, will \*not\* replace your entire exam with a new grade. Still, this option should produce a more satisfactory midterm grade, if taken seriously.

5. You will also complete an object-based writing project (which includes a written and drawn object description). A full explanation will be forthcoming. This work will require a sustained effort to be done well, and is due Tuesday, , 2008, the last day of our class. You will have opportunities to consult with your professor. You will lose one grade step for every day that your project is late (A+ to A to A- to B+-unless you have a medical or other truly valid excuse, presented IN ADVANCE, if at all possible). This assignment is instead of a final exam.

Course Requirements with Approximate Grade Determination:

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|---|-------|
| 1) Class attendance, participation and completion of reading assignments, prospectus for final paper. | (20%) |
| 2) Map/Terminology quiz (Tues., Feb. 5)   | (20%) |
| 3) Midterm Exam (Fri., March 7)   | (30%) |
| 4) Object Project Assignment with Drawing, 5-6 pages (Tues., April 29, Brandeis Friday)               | (30%) |

Nota Bene: The optional research paper can be worth 30% for the midterm ONLY if you have special permission from your professor to use it to replace the midterm exam. If written to improve a poor midterm grade, the paper's grade will be averaged with your midterm grade to produce your new midterm grade.

Total: (100%)

Academic Honesty (last, but hardly least!):

You are expected to be honest in all of your academic work. Brandeis University policy on academic honesty is contained in your *Student Handbook* in section 5 under "Rights and Responsibilities." Instances of cheating, plagiarism, or other alleged dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Campus Life for possible referral to the Student Judicial System. The adjudication process is also outlined in your *Handbook*. Potential consequences of academic dishonesty include (in addition to an "E" on the assignment) failure in the course, disciplinary probation, and suspension from the University. A record of any offense will remain in a student's disciplinary file in the Office of Student Affairs throughout his or her career at Brandeis. Please know that I take this code very seriously. If you have any questions about my expectations, please ask me.

Lecture topics for the entire semester are listed by date below, along with due dates for assignments, field trips, special events, and special lectures. Assigned readings are included.

Please contact me if you have questions about the readings.

### JANUARY

- Tuesday, January 15      What is Roman art, and why study it?  
**Required:** Buy books.  
**Recommended:** Kleiner preface; xvii-xviii; R&R 7-23 (Intro.).
- Friday, January 18      Roman Topography and Chronology; Who were the Romans? How do we know them?  
**Required:** Kleiner 1-15 (ch. I); Sear 10-28 (ch. 1), 29-48 (ch. 2) (R and LATTE).  
**Recommended:** MacKendrick 1-27 (ch. 1) (R and LATTE); Pollitt 3-57 (ch. 1); Ramage and Ramage 24-45 (ch 1).
- Tuesday, January 22      Roman Forerunners: Villanovans, Etruscans, and Greeks (1000-200 B.C.E.)  
**Required:** Kleiner review 1-15 (ch. I); Sear review 10-28 (ch. 1), 29-48 (ch. 2) (R and LATTE); **Recommended:** MacKendrick 28-70 (ch. 2) (R and LATTE); Ramage and Ramage 48-55 (rest of ch 1); rev. Pollitt 3-57 (ch. 1); McKay, A.G. *Vergil's Italy* (Bath, 1970) 147-193 (R); Salmon, E.T. "Rome and the Latins," *Phoenix* VII.3 (1953) 93-104; Salmon, E.T. *Samnium and the Samnites* (Cambridge, 1967) (R); Paget, R. F. *Central Italy: An Archaeological Guide* (London, 1973).
- Friday, January 25      Italian Prehistory in Rome; Introduction to the early Roman Forum and the Republican Townscape.  
**Required:** Kleiner 18-29 (ch. II); Sear, review 29-48 (ch. 2) (R and LATTE); Shelton chs. II, III, IV, XI (R).  
**Recommended:** MacKendrick 71-112 (ch. 3), 113-140 (ch. 4) (R and LATTE); Ramage and Ramage 56-81 (ch. 2); Dudley, *Urbs Roma*, 3-9 (Site of Rome), 34 (Servian Wall), 43-47 (Tiber) (R).
- Tuesday, January 29      More on the Roman Republic and its Monuments  
**Required:** Kleiner 31-45 (ch. III) and 47-59 (ch. IV).  
**Recommended:** MacKendrick 113-140 (ch. 4) (R and LATTE); Ramage and Ramage 82-95 (rest of ch. 2); Nash, *Pictorial Dictionary* 1 & 2, (individual monuments of Forum Romanum) (ch. 5) (R).
- FEBRUARY**
- Friday, February 1      Hellenistic Rome; Julius Caesar and the End of Republican Rome  
**Required:** Kleiner review 47-59 (ch. IV); Sear 69-85 (ch. 4) (R and LATTE); Shelton chs. VII, IX, X, XIII (R); MacKendrick 141-177 (ch. 5) (R and LATTE).

**Recommended:** Ramage and Ramage review 56-95 (ch. 2); Pollitt 58-98 (rest of ch. 1).

**Tuesday, February 5**

Brick into Marble, or Augustan Rome I: Gods, Temples & Other Architecture

**Map/Terminology quiz**

**Required:** Kleiner 61-77 (ch. V); MacKendrick 178-215 (ch. 6) (R and LATTE); Shelton chs. IV, V, VIII, XIV (R).

**Recommended:** Ramage and Ramage 96-131 (ch. 3); Pollitt 99-139 (ch. 2).

Friday, February 8

Augustan Rome II: Sculpture, Portraiture, the Minor Arts (Glass) and the Pax Augusta

**Required:** Kleiner 79-87 (ch. VI) and 89-101 (ch. VII); Sear 49-68 (ch. 3) (R and LATTE).

**Recommended:** Dudley, *Urbs Roma*, 9-17 (Republic), 51-119 (Capitol and Roman Forum) (R); Nash, *Pic. Dic.* 1, 63-73 (Ara Pacis), 310-315 (House of Augustus), 401-410 (Forum of Augustus), 446-449 (Forum Romanum) (R); Ramage and Ramage 132-152 (ch. 4).

Tuesday, February 12

The Julio-Claudians I: Tiberius through Gaius (Caligula)

**Required:** Kleiner 103-108 (ch. VIII); Sear 69-102 (chs. 4-5) (R and LATTE); Pollitt, 99-136; MacKendrick 216-43 (ch 7, Hypocrite, Madman...) (R and LATTE);

**Recommended:** Boëthius and Ward- Perkins, *Etruscan and Roman Architecture*, chapters relevant Tiberius through Gaius (Caligula) (R); review Ramage and Ramage 132-153 (ch. 4).

Friday, February 15

The Julio-Claudians II: Claudius to Nero

**Required:** Kleiner 109-119 (rest of ch. VIII); review Sear 69-102 (chs. 4-5) (R and LATTE); review MacKendrick 216-43 (ch 7, Hypocrite, Madman...) (R and LATTE).

**Recommended:** Pollitt, 136-150; Boëthius and Ward-Perkins, *Etruscan and Roman Architecture*, chapters relevant Claudius to Nero (R); review Ramage and Ramage 132-153 (ch. 4).

**Saturday, February 16 – Sunday, February 24, no classes (Mid-Term Recess)**

Tuesday, February 26

Vesuvian Cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum  
Background, History, and Excavation of a  
Laboratory of Roman Life

- Required:** review Kleiner 18-29 (ch. II) and 31-45 (ch. III); MacKendrick 244-81 (ch. 8, Victims of Vesuvius) (R and LATTE); Etienne, *Pompeii The Day a City Died* (selections in LATTE).
- Recommended:** see Reserve books on Pompeii.
- Friday, February 29 Vesuvian Cities: Public Life
- Required:** Kleiner 139-151 (ch. X); review MacKendrick 244-81 (ch. 8, Victims of Vesuvius) (R and LATTE); Shelton chs. IV, VII, XIV, XV R; Sear ch 6, 103-118 (R and LATTE).
- Recommended:** Mau/Kelsey, *Pompeii: Its Life and Art*, 1-44 (R); Ward-Perkins, *Etruscan and Roman Architecture*, ch. on Pompeii (R); Grant, *Cities of Vesuvius*, 89-220 (chs. 4-8, Epilogue) (R); browse reserves for other things of interest.
- MARCH**
- Tuesday, March 4 Vesuvian Cities: Private Life
- Required:** review Kleiner 139-151 (ch. X); review MacKendrick 244-81 (ch 8, Victims of Vesuvius) (R and LATTE); Shelton chs. V, VIII, XIII (R); review Sear 103-118 (ch 6) (R and LATTE).
- Recommended:** see above, last lecture; Grant, *Eros at Pompeii* (R); Grant, *Cities of Vesuvius* 15-24, 25-44, 45-88 (chs. 1, 2, 3) (R); Etienne, *Pompeii The Day a City Died* (selections in LATTE); Mau/Kelsey, *Pompeii: Life and Art*, 245-279 (The Pompeian House) (R).
- Friday, March 7** **Midterm Exam** (no make-ups, please, unless extreme circumstances discussed in advance if at all possible) You should have read all REQUIRED readings well before the exam.
- Tuesday, March 11 Finish Private Life/ View Pompeii Video
- Required:** review readings from last lecture before the midterm, especially Kleiner 139-151 (ch. X).
- Recommended:** review readings from last lecture before the midterm.
- Friday, March 14 Roman Villas Architecture and Decoration
- Required:** review Shelton chs. VIII and XIV (R).
- Recommended:** Jashemski, *Gardens of Pompeii* vol. 1, especially chs. 1 and 16; Mau/Kelsey, *Pompeii: Its Life and Art*, 45-60, 221-226 (R); Etienne, *Pompeii The Day a City Died* (sections in LATTE); review Ramage and Ramage on Augustus and Julio-Claudians 96-153 (chs. 3, 4).

- Sunday, March 16**      **Required Fieldtrip: Boston Museum of Fine Arts**  
Workshop on Object Projects; details TBA.  
(If you are not able to make this fieldtrip, you can arrange to go on your own with a sheet provided by Prof. AOK-O.)
- Tuesday, March 18      The Flavian Emperors  
**Required:** Kleiner 121-137 (ch. IX); Sear 134-153 (ch. 7) (R and LATTE); MacKendrick 282-313 (ch 9) (R and LATTE).  
**Recommended:** Pollitt 150-165; Ramage and Ramage 154-185 (ch 5); Boëthius and Ward-Perkins, *Etruscan and Roman Architecture*, ch. on Flavian architecture (R).
- Friday, March 21**      **Good Friday, no class.**
- Tuesday, March 25      Trajan  
**Required:** Kleiner 153-169 (ch. XI); Sear 154-165 (ch. 8) (R and LATTE); MacKendrick 314-241 (ch. 10) (R and LATTE)  
**Recommended:** Boëthius and Ward-Perkins, *Etruscan and Roman Architecture*, ch. on Trajan (R); Ramage and Ramage 186-205 (ch. 6).
- Friday, March 28      Ostia: the Port Town of Rome  
**One-Page Prospectus for Object Project Due**  
**Required:** review Kleiner 153-169 (ch. XI) and read 203-215 (ch. XIV); Sear 118-133 (ch. 6) (R and LATTE).  
**Recommended:** Boëthius and Ward-Perkins, *Etruscan and Roman Architecture*, chapters relevant to Ostia (R); Meiggs, *Roman Ostia* (R); review Ramage and Ramage 186-205 (ch. 6).
- APRIL**
- Tuesday, April 1      Hadrian, the Revival of Classical Greek Art, Rome, and his Villa at Tivoli  
**Required:** Kleiner 171-185 (ch. XII); Sear 165-184 (ch. 8) (R and LATTE); MacKendrick 342-373 (ch. 11) (R and LATTE);  
**Recommended:** Boëthius and Ward-Perkins, *Etruscan and Roman Architecture*, chapter relevant to Hadrian (R); Boatwright, *Hadrian and the City of Rome*; Ramage and Ramage 206-233 (ch. 7); Pollitt 165-186.

- Friday, April 4 Roman Towns in the Provinces (East, West, and North Africa)  
**Required:** Kleiner 247-261 (ch. XVII); Sear 185-209 (ch. 9), 210-230 (ch. 10), and 231-254 (ch. 11) (R and LATTE).  
**Recommended:** Boëthius and Ward-Perkins, *Etruscan and Roman Architecture*, chapter relevant to Eastern, Western, and North African provinces (R); review Pollitt 165-186.
- Tuesday, April 8 The Antonines and Severans: Triumphal Arches, Public Works, and Sculpture  
**Required:** Kleiner 187-201 (ch. XIII), 217-229 (ch. XV), and 231-245 (ch. XVI); MacKendrick 374-419 (ch 12, Antonines through Constantine, 138-377 C.E.) (R and LATTE).  
**Recommended:** Boëthius and Ward-Perkins, *Etruscan and Roman Architecture*, chapter relevant to period (R); Pollitt 189-201; Ramage and Ramage 234-257, 258-283 (chs. 8, 9).
- Friday, April 11 The Soldier Emperors/ Crisis of the Third Century; The Tetrarchs  
**Required:** Kleiner 263-277 (ch. XVIII) and 278-289 (ch. XIX); review Sear 255-276 (ch 12) (R and LATTE).  
**Recommended:** MacKendrick 420-445 (ch. 13) (R and LATTE); Boëthius and Ward-Perkins, *Etruscan and Roman Architecture*, chapter relevant to period (R); Pollitt 201-213; Ramage and Ramage 284-295, 296-311 (chs. 10, 11).
- Tuesday, April 15 Constantine; a New Rome  
**Required:** Kleiner 290-306 (ch. XX).  
**Recommended:** Boëthius and Ward-Perkins, *Etruscan and Roman Architecture*, chapter relevant to period (R); review Pollitt 201-213; Ramage and Ramage 312-335 (ch 12).
- Friday, April 18 Retrospective of the Course
- Saturday, April 19 to Sunday, April 27, Passover/Spring Break, no classes.**
- Tuesday, April 29 Course Wrap-up  
Tips on Traveling to Rome  
**Object Projects Due on Tuesday, April 29, a Brandeis Friday.**