TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO REVISION

21:510:256 Roman Civilization (Fall 2016)

Course Time and Location: Mon. 2:30pm-3:50pm, Wed. 1:00pm-2:20pm; Conklin 352
Instructor: G.D. Farney (Office = Conklin 312, 973-353-3897; gfarney@rutgers.edu)
Office Hours: Mondays 1:30pm to 2:30pm, Wednesdays 12:00pm to 1:00pm, and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND LEARNING OUTCOMES:

This course addresses the civilization and history of the Roman people from their emergence in the early Iron Age down to the beginning of the Byzantine empire (ca. 700 BC – AD 600). Special attention will be paid to the political and military history of the Romans; social and cultural aspects of Roman society (slavery, sexuality, imperialism; absorption of non-Roman people); the emergence of Christianity; and the conquest and “Romanization” of Europe and the Mediterranean world.

Readings from ancient sources in translation include formal history (Livy, Sallust, Plutarch, Suetonius, Tacitus, Ammianus Marcellinus, Procopius), political manifesto and speech (Augustus, Cicero), poetry (Vergil, Juvenal) and early Christian writings. We shall also consult a number of digital images throughout the course. Each week students will read some of this primary source material (20 to 50 pages) along a modern historical narrative (Potter) to supplement this. Students will learn to read primary sources closely and analyze them in their historical context.

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS:

GRADING SYSTEM:

Grades will be assigned as a percentage. My grade scale is as follows: A = 100% to 92%; B+ = 91% to 87%; B = 86% to 81%; C+ = 80% to 76%; C = 75% to 70%; D = 69% to 60%; F = 59% and below.

Six Essay Quizzes: 30%
Two Examinations: 60%
In Class Discussion: 10%
Extra-Credit Geography Quizzes: special

1. There will be six essay quizzes. They will target the ancient source reading material, and you will receive instructions about what to expect from them about a week before each quiz. I shall drop the lowest of the 6 grades you receive.
2. Students will write two examinations, a midterm and a final exam. They will consist of identifications (3 to 5 sentences on a person/place/date, etc.) and essays.
3. Either during or at the end of every class, we shall set aside some time for discussion of the material covered that day. There will also be two days in the semester devoted solely to the discussion of two primary sources assigned for reading. I shall grade you on the frequency and quality of your participation in discussion for this aspect of your grade.
4. There will be an extra-credit geography quiz early in the semester. This optional quiz is intended to help you understand the history of the period better by making sure you know where the cities, regions, bodies of water, etc., are in the ancient Mediterranean world. Your quiz can potentially give you a higher score on the midterm examination. A score of 100% will give +4% on the exam, 90% will give +3%, 80% will give +2% and 70+% will give +1%. A list of sites to be identified for the quiz is on the last page of this syllabus.

OTHER FACTORS AFFECTING YOUR GRADE:

Attendance: Since class attendance and participation is essential to this course—given that much of the material you will be responsible for will only come from lectures, visual presentations and in-class discussion—absences should be kept to a minimum. Accordingly, the maximum number of unexcused absences allowed is two, beyond which there will be a grade penalty of -3% of the total grade for the course for each day past two. As per the policy of the Newark College of Arts and Sciences, any student who misses more than eight courses, excused or not, will receive a “no grade” for their work in the class. There will also be a grade penalty for persistent lateness.

Use of unapproved electronic devices is prohibited during class (this includes computers, phones, iPods, etc.). If I see you using such a device during class, I will mark you as absent for the day.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled. Participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus’s disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form. For more information please contact Kate Torres at .973.353.5375 or in the Office of Disability Services in Robeson Campus Center 219 or by contacting odsnewark@rutgers.edu.
COURSE MATERIALS:

BLACKBOARD: This course is listed on Blackboard on the Rutgers-Newark website. Through Blackboard, you will be able to access, among other things, a copy of the syllabus and readings not in the book listed above. I will also post announcements from time to time there.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE: (Assignments are to be completed by class-time on the date they are listed; “Readings” are to be found on the course’s Blackboard site)

Wed 7 Sept: Introduction to the Course
Potter, p. 9-18

Mon 12 Sept: Early Rome
Reading: Livy on early Rome
Potter, p. 19-47

Wed 14 Sept: The Foundation of the Republic and the Conquest of Italy
Extra-Credit Geography Quiz (see last page)
Potter, p. 47-65

Mon 19 Sept: The First Punic War and the Second Punic War
Potter, p. 65-86
Reading: Plutarch, *Life of Fabius Maximus*

Wed 21 Sept: The Conquest of the Mediterranean
Potter, p. 86-104

Mon 26 Sept: Changes in Republican Roman Society in the Second Century BC
Quiz #1
Reading: Plutarch, *Life of Cato the Elder*

Wed 28 Sept and Mon 3 Oct: NO CLASS

Wed 5 Oct: The Gracchi and the Beginning of Political Conflict
Potter, p. 106-116

Mon 10 Oct: Marius
Potter, p. 117-124
Reading: Excerpt from Sallust, *Jugurthine War*

Wed 12 Oct: Rome and the Provinces
Quiz #2
Reading: Cicero, *Pro Flacco* (read for discussion; NOTE this reading is divided into 3 parts on Blackboard)

Mon 17 Oct: Sulla
Potter, p. 135-147

Wed 19 Oct: Pompey and Caesar I
Potter, p. 150-168
Reading: Sources on the Rebellion of Spartacus

Mon 24 Oct: Pompey and Caesar II; End of the Republic
Reading: Excerpt from Sallust, *Conspiracy of Catiline*
Wed 26 Oct: The Triumviral Period (44 - 31 BC)
Quiz #3
Potter, p. 168-178
Reading: Vergil, Aeneid 6

Mon 31 Oct: MIDTERM EXAMINATION

Wed 2 Nov: Roman Women and Roman Slavery
Reading: Various sources on women and slavery
Reading: Juvenal, Satire 6

Mon 7 Nov: The First Emperor, Augustus
Potter, p. 178-193
Reading: Res Gestae Augusti

Wed 9 Nov: Tiberius and Caligula
Potter, p. 193-201
Reading: Suetonius, Life of Gaius (Caligula)

Mon 14 Nov: Claudius and Nero
Quiz #4
Potter, p. 201-203
Reading: Excerpt from Tacitus, Annals on Fire of Rome and Christians

Wed 16 Nov: The Flavian Emperors
Potter, p. 204-217
Reading: Pliny the Younger on the eruption of Vesuvius

Mon 21 Nov: The Antonine Emperors
Potter, p. 217-258

Wed 23 Nov: NO CLASS (Thanksgiving Break)

Mon 28 Nov: The Severan Emperors and the Third Century Crisis
Potter, p. 258-283

Wed 30 Nov: Romans and Non-Romans
Quiz#5
Reading: Tacitus on the Jews (Excerpt from the Histories) and Germans (the Germania)
Reading: Ammianus Marcellinus on the Gauls and the Huns

Mon 5 Dec: Traditional Pagan Religion, Christianity & Other Religions
Reading: Various sources on religion

Wed 7 Dec: Diocletian and Constantine
Potter, p. 284-305

Mon 12 Dec: The Fall of the Western Empire
Potter, p. 305-320

Wed 14 Dec: The Rise of the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire
Quiz #6
Potter, p. 321-354
Reading: Procopius on Justinian

FINAL EXAMINATION: Monday, 19 December, 3:00pm to 4:30pm
Roman History Extra-Credit Map Quiz

The quiz will be on Wed. Sept. 14. You should be able to find all of these features on maps in your Potter textbook or on the internet.

**Cities:**
- Rome
- Naples
- Brundisium
- Tarentum
- Carthage
- Syracuse
- Alexandria
- Corinth
- Athens
- Jerusalem

**Mountains:**
- Alps
- Apennines

**Bodies of Water:**
- Tiber River
- Rubicon River
- Po River
- Adriatic Sea
- Rhine River
- Danube River
- Elbe River
- Nile River
- Black Sea

**Regions and Islands:**
- Latium
- Etruria
- Campania
- Corsica
- Sardinia
- Sicily
- Illyria
- Numidia
- Gallia (Gaul)
- Egypt
- Asia
- Macedonia
- Kingdom of Parthia
- Pontus
- Armenia
- Germania (Germany)
- Crete
- Samnium
- Cyprus