

HISTORY 207: THE ROMAN WORLD AND ROMAN BRITAIN

Instructor: Professor Jones
Office: Pettengill 102 (786-6072)

Winter 2008

This course serves as an introduction to the social and political history of the Roman Empire. Our study will include the high politics of the imperial court and also the cabbages filling the bellies of Romano-British peasants. Roman Britain provides a particular provincial illustration of general Roman imperial themes. Our approach will combine lecture, discussion and film and focus heavily on primary documents in translation.

Required Reading

Jo-Ann Shelton, As the Romans Did (2nd ed.)
Chester G. Starr, The Roman Empire
Apuleius, The Golden Ass (trans. Jack Lindsay)
Rosemary Sutcliff, The Eagle of the Ninth
S. Ireland, Roman Britain: A Sourcebook (2nd ed.)
Peter Salway, A History of Roman Britain (1997 ed.)

Course Grade

Midterm	30%
Final	30%
Short Assignments	30%
Instructor's Discretion,	10%

Syllabus and Readings

(Readings should be completed before the class meeting for which they are listed)

THE ROMANS: STRUCTURES OF EVERYDAY LIFE

Jan. 8	Introduction to the Course	(Starr 3-8)
10	Traditional Values; Family and Society	(Shelton xxiii-36, 79-122, 359-91)
15	The Sexes	(Shelton 37-58, 288-306)
17	Roman Slavery	(Shelton 163-202)

THE PRINCIPATE

- 22 Roman Imperialism (Shelton 134-147, 203-236)
- 24 Julio-Claudians (Starr 9-67; Shelton 307-358)
- 29 The Roman Army (Starr 86-89; 109-131; Shelton 243-267; Ireland 248-251)

ROMAN BRITAIN

- 31 The Celtic World (Salway 3-17, 20-52; Ireland 1-36, 176-189, 218-219)
- Feb. 5 How to Conquer a Province: The Claudian Invasion (Salway 55-75; Ireland 37-50)
- 7 Resistance and Revolt: Boudicca (Salway 76-90; Ireland 51-72; begin Sutcliff)
- 12 Administration and Romanization (Salway 91-126, 359-385; Starr 68-85; Shelton 268-287, 307-358; Ireland 189-192, 215-218, 228-256)

14 Midterm

Winter Recess

- 26 The Frontiers (Salway 127-154; Ireland 73-100; complete Sutcliff)
- 28 Roman Towns (Salway 386-442; Starr 91-108; Shelton 59-78, 123-133)
- Mar. 4 Roman Countryside (Salway 443-486; Shelton 148-162; Ireland 219-228)

WORLD OF THE ROMAN NOVEL

- 6 Pax Romana; Roman Law (Shelton 236-242; begin Apuleius)
- 11 Culture of the Novel (continue Apuleius)
- 13 Religion, Magic and Superstition (Salway 487-549; Shelton 386-404, 417-430; Ireland 173-204)
- 18 The Golden Ass (complete Apuleius)

THE LATER ROMAN EMPIRE

- 20 The Third Century: Crisis and Recovery (Starr 132-161; Salway 157-232; Ireland 101-135)
- 25 The Fourth Century: The Constantinian Dynasty (Starr 162-167; Shelton 404-417; Salway 233-304; Ireland 136-148)
- Apr. 1 How to Lose a Province (and an Empire) (Salway 307-355; Ireland 149-170; Starr 167-181)
- 3 Decline and Fall