



UNSW Course Outline

ARTS3283 Roman Emperors: From Augustus to Nero - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : ARTS3283

Year : 2024

Term : Term 1

Teaching Period : T1

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

Academic Unit : School of Humanities and Languages

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Undergraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

The course explores the history of Rome's first dynasty and how it managed the transition from republic to monarchy. *The Roman Emperors* considers how the new order was created and how it developed its legitimacy. You will examine the lives of Augustus, Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius and

Nero, and such extraordinary imperial women as Livia, Julia and Agrippina the Elder. As well as engaging with the work of leading historians, you will read the salacious and gossip-filled *Lives* of Suetonius in order to assess the merits of biography as an historical source, and analyse modern media representations of the dynasty, including Robert Graves' *I Claudius*.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Critically employ historical research methods to locate, evaluate and contextualise diverse forms of evidence.
CLO2 : Exhibit initiative and self-direction in the study of history to continuously acquire knowledge and skills.
CLO3 : Critically and creatively apply historical knowledge and skills in order to engage proactively with complex social or scholarly problems.
CLO4 : Act ethically, respectfully and responsibly.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Critically employ historical research methods to locate, evaluate and contextualise diverse forms of evidence.	• Test
CLO2 : Exhibit initiative and self-direction in the study of history to continuously acquire knowledge and skills.	• Research essay
CLO3 : Critically and creatively apply historical knowledge and skills in order to engage proactively with complex social or scholarly problems.	• Presentation • Research essay • Test
CLO4 : Act ethically, respectfully and responsibly.	• Research essay • Test

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Additional Course Information

This course examines the transition of the Roman state from republican to monarchical government. It covers the period 31 BC – 70 AD, which includes the reigns of Caesar Augustus, the Julio-Claudians – Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius, Nero – and the first Flavian emperor, Vespasian. Also treated will be new aspects of Roman political life such as court culture and the role of non-traditional actors such as powerful freedmen and, especially, powerful women

including Livia, Messalina, and Agrippina the Elder. This course examines the transition of the Roman state from republican to monarchical government. It covers the period 31 BC – 70 AD, which includes the reigns of Caesar Augustus, the Julio-Claudians – Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius, Nero – and the first Flavian emperor, Vespasian. Also treated will be new aspects of Roman political life such as court culture and the role of non-traditional actors such as powerful freedmen and, especially, powerful women including Livia, Messalina, and Agrippina the Elder.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Research essay Assessment Format: Individual	50%	Due Date: 21/04/2024 11:59 PM
Test Assessment Format: Individual	20%	Due Date: 17/04/2024 09:00 AM
Presentation Assessment Format: Individual	30%	Due Date: Not Applicable

Assessment Details

Research essay

Assessment Overview

3500 word essay. The case studies presented in class will serve as a guide for choosing an issue to address in the essay. Written feedback will be provided. This is the final assessment for attendance purposes.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL02 : Exhibit initiative and self-direction in the study of history to continuously acquire knowledge and skills.
- CL03 : Critically and creatively apply historical knowledge and skills in order to engage proactively with complex social or scholarly problems.
- CL04 : Act ethically, respectfully and responsibly.

Detailed Assessment Description

11.59pm, Sunday 21 April 2024

Assessment Length

3000-3500 words maximum.

Assessment information

The essay must be based on extensive research that includes the use of primary sources and secondary sources. A minimum of 12 monographs (specialized works on a given theme or topic) must be used. Textbooks and other basic materials will be useful but they are not to be included in the count.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Test

Assessment Overview

50-minute in-class test that assesses general understandings of the nature of the political revolution covered in the course.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Critically employ historical research methods to locate, evaluate and contextualise diverse forms of evidence.
- CL03 : Critically and creatively apply historical knowledge and skills in order to engage proactively with complex social or scholarly problems.
- CL04 : Act ethically, respectfully and responsibly.

Detailed Assessment Description

9am, Wed 17 April 2024 (i.e. the beginning of the final class)

Assessment Length

1000 words

Assessment information

The test runs for an hour and it is based on the issues covered in the lectures. A writing booklet will be provided, but you must bring at least one pen. You will be asked to answer four questions on broad issues. Your test paper does not require footnotes or quotes.

Presentation

Assessment Overview

Each student will complete one in-class presentation over the course of the term. The presentation will be strictly no longer than 10 minutes in length. The presentation will be assessed on the quality of its content, and the amount of research that went into its preparation.

Each student will supply a guide to the presentation, between 750-1000 words, for each fellow student. It will stipulate the main points and include a bibliography.

Written feedback and mark will be provided.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO3 : Critically and creatively apply historical knowledge and skills in order to engage proactively with complex social or scholarly problems.

Detailed Assessment Description

At the beginning of the tutorial class corresponding to the chosen presentation topic.

Assessment information

This assessment comes in two parts. The first is the presentation. Each student is required to give an oral presentation. You will be asked to nominate your three favourite topics and you will be then allocated one of them. Your presentation will then reflect on the questions on the topic provided by the convenor in the tutorial guide. You will speak for 5 minutes before the class and answer any questions from your audience. You will only be marked on substance: that means you do not need to worry about your speaking voice, delivery or the quality of your PPT (if you choose to use one). This assignment is worth 20 out of 30. The second part is a handout that requires you to appraise a primary document (e.g. a passage from Tacitus or Suetonius, an epigraph) that relates to your presentation topic. This is worth 10 out of 30. More detail about this assignment will be discussed in the first class.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

General Assessment Information

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 12 February - 18 February	Lecture	Lecture 1 Introduction to the course. Overview of the political system and history of the Roman Republic. Tutorial 1 Housekeeping. Discussion of assessments. Institutions, procedures and political culture of the Roman Republic
Week 2 : 19 February - 25 February	Lecture	Lecture 2 - Julius & Young Caesar Evaluation of the sources The end of Julius Caesar. The Rise of Young Caesar. Tutorial 2 Caesar and Antony
Week 3 : 26 February - 3 March	Lecture	Lecture 3 - Augustus The Roman Revolution. Augustan Age Tutorial 3 Res Gestae
Week 4 : 4 March - 10 March	Lecture	Lecture 4 - Tiberius Succession of Tiberius Germanicus Tutorial 4 Livia. A serial killer?
Week 5 : 11 March - 17 March	Lecture	Lecture 5 - Tiberius Rise of Sejanus Emperor in Absentia Tutorial 5 Tiberius
Week 6 : 18 March - 24 March	Lecture	Flexibility Week - NO CLASSES
Week 7 : 25 March - 31 March	Lecture	Lecture 6 - Caligula Divine Youth Divine Carnage Tutorial 6 Caligula
Week 8 : 1 April - 7 April	Lecture	Lecture 7 - Claudius Claudian Court Life Messalina & Agrippina Tutorial 7 Claudius, Messalina, Agrippina
Week 9 : 8 April - 14 April	Lecture	Lecture 8 - Nero Nero What an Artist Tutorial 8 Nero
Week 10 : 15 April - 21 April	Lecture	Lecture 9 - Vespasian The Long Year (of Four Emperors) Vespasian Tutorial 9 Vespasian

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

Loeb editions of all primary texts available through the library web site

Dio Cassius, *Roman History*

Suetonius, *The Twelve Caesars*

Tacitus, *Annals*

Recommended Resources

H.H. Scullard, *From the Gracchi to Nero*, Routledge, any edition - old but very useful

Peter Garnsey and Richard Saller, *The Roman Empire*, Bloomsbury, 2nd ed - Analyses the empire from many angles

J.S. Richardson, *Augustan Rome 44 BC to AD 14*, Edinburgh University Press, - a new detailed account of Augustus

Colin Wells, *The Roman Empire*, Fontana, 2nd edition - a general history

A. Barrett, *Lives of the Caesars*, Wiley Blackwell - extremely good and updated biographies

Werner Eck, *The Age of Augustus*, Wiley Blackwell, highly recommended for Augustus

Tom Holland, *Dynasty*, Doubleday - a lively account that does not read like a textbook

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Billy Kennedy					No	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding

online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided).

Please see: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines> for essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Dean's List;
- review of results;
- credit transfer;
- cross-institutional study and exchange;
- examination information;
- enrolment information;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;

And other essential academic information.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- Copying: Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.
- Collusion: Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.
- Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the

"secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

- Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

The UNSW Academic Skills support offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items. UNSW Library has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW, but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Use of AI for assessments

As AI applications continue to develop, and technology rapidly progresses around us, we remain committed to our values around academic integrity at UNSW. Where the use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, has been permitted by your course convener, they must be properly credited and your submissions must be substantially your own work.

In cases where the use of AI has been prohibited, please respect this and be aware that where unauthorised use is detected, penalties will apply.

[Use of AI for assessments | UNSW Current Students](#)

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au

Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin, you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support, you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone, you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, alternative submission details will be stated on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per calendar day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five calendar days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request [Special Consideration](#) as early as possible before the deadline. Support with [Time Management is available here](#).

School Contact Information

School of Humanities & Languages

Email: hal@unsw.edu.au

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, Room 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm