

**History of Rome: The Empire (C C 325; HIS 321)
Spring 2019**

Instructor: Professor Rabun Taylor, rmtaylor@austin.utexas.edu

Office hours: WAG 14b, M 1-4

Teaching Assistant: Josh Renfro, jsrenfro@utexas.edu

Office hours: WAG 121, Th 11-2

Lecture sessions: MW 10-11, WAG 201

Sections:

Thurs 9-10 (Unique # 33270, 38860): PAR 210

Thurs 10-11 (Unique # 33280, 38870): PAR 210

Fri 9-10 (Unique # 33275, 38865): GAR 1.134

Fri 10-11 (Unique # 33285, 38875): GAR 1.134

This course flies the **Global Cultures flag**. It also fulfills the **Cultural Expression, Human Experience, & Thought Course area requirement**.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory; prompt arrival is requested. **Quizzes will be given at the start of class. No accommodation can be made if you arrive late.** Please silence cell phones *before* entering the classroom. If you find yourself unable to attend class, let me know of the conflict as soon as you can via email.

Electronic devices: **No electronic devices may be used in class unless you get clearance with an instructor.** You'll be required to take notes by hand unless you have a disability that requires another format. Writing longhand on an electronic tablet is OK, but that's the only standard exception. Occasionally I may ask the class to look something up online during a discussion, but otherwise this rule is firm. There is a **large visual component** to this course. Many students have difficulty initially processing projected images and spoken words simultaneously, but they soon get the hang of it. If you feel you need help learning how to take notes efficiently, visit the Sanger Learning Center in Jester A332: <https://ugs.utexas.edu/slc>

Participation: This course has section meetings, which will be dominated by discussion and group activities. You will be required to participate in these activities in full. Also, you must write an online response to readings or other assignments when we request it. Your participation in class and in online discussion boards will be noted and graded as part of the Attendance & Participation rubric (see grading breakdown below). There is no formal writing component in this course, but your informal writing—that is, your online responses in the discussion boards—will be assessed as part of your participation grade. There may be some impromptu writing exercises in the section meetings, and these two will constitute part of your participation grade.

Readings: Readings fall into two categories. Every week there will be **foundational readings**: chapters from one of the two main textbooks (M=Mackay, *Ancient Rome*; G&S=Garnsey and Saller, *The Roman Empire*, to be bought at the bookstore or online) and/or from other secondary sources (available on Canvas under Files > Readings). These are listed at the beginning of each weekly unit in the calendar below. They are to be read before the first lecture of the week (usually Mondays, except when exams fall on Mondays). My lectures will assume you have read the text already, and **you will take an online quiz**

on the contents of the readings before the first lecture each week, starting with week 3 (Monday, Feb. 4). There will also be **section readings** for the section meetings, drawn from ancient and modern sources and sometimes supplemented by images. The before-class quizzes will not cover these. They should also be read/viewed before your weekly section meeting, and you will often be asked to discuss them on your Canvas discussion board before the meeting as well. **Before-class quizzes will cover only the weekly foundational readings.** Exams will cover both sets of readings as well as the lectures. IMPORTANT: Note that you must take the quiz **before** the first lecture of the week). **Some reading assignments and thematic material may be revised or refined over the semester, but I'll give you adequate notice.**

Quizzes: There will be two types of quiz in this course: **before-class quizzes** and **in-class quizzes**. On before-class quizzes, see **Readings** above. In-class quizzes will be somewhat more substantial, and will consist mostly or entirely of material that you can study in advance on Canvas; they are scheduled into the calendar below **on Wednesdays**. Quizzes of this kind will focus on categories of information (e.g., maps, terms, etc.) **I may need to move some quiz dates or change their themes; if I do, I'll give adequate notice.**

Exams: You will have three 50-minute in-class exams. **There is no exam scheduled for Finals Week.** Your first two exams will be on **February 25 and April 8**, both Mondays, during a regular class session. Your third exam will be in the final week, either on Wednesday of during your section meeting. Since the exams draw liberally upon visual and material culture, they may include a visual component, requiring you to identify and discuss projected images. **We'll ask you to bring THREE blue books on the first exam date. We'll collect all but one to distribute for later exams.**

Email: **Please do not contact us through Canvas.** Also, don't respond directly to our regular Canvas-based announcements. (These go straight into my spam folder through no fault of my own!). Instead, **please use our utexas.edu email accounts listed at the top of this syllabus.**

Grading

Attendance & participation	20%
Before-class quizzes (lowest 3 dropped)	15% (10 x 1.5%)
In-class quizzes	20% (5 x 4%)
3 midterm exams	45% (3 x 15%)

We won't grade on a curve for this course. All grading, except on short quizzes, will be done on a 100-point scale: A = 90-100, B = 80-90, etc. Your final grade will be on a plus / minus scale based on your cumulative numerical score. In the final calculations, we will bump up a grade if the numeric score falls just short of the next letter grade. **We will not negotiate grades except in the event of a calculating error.**

POLICIES

CAMPUS CARRY:

I (Rabun Taylor) do not allow any kind of firearms in my office.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

The University of Texas at Austin provides, upon request, appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact SSD at 471-6259, or go to <http://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/>

Keep in mind that this course is heavily oriented toward visual information.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS:

If you need to miss a class or other required class activity for the observance of a religious holiday, you must notify us at least 14 days in advance so we can make alternative arrangements for your absence. The University's Religious Days Policy is online:
<http://catalog.utexas.edu/general-information/academic-policies-and-procedures/attendance/>

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY:

Scholastic dishonesty on any graded assignment will result in a failing grade for the course. Scholastic dishonesty includes any kind of cheating or collaboration on tests, or submitting work that is not either your own or accurately attributed to its source. For more information, contact Student Judicial Services at 471-2841, or go to:
<https://utexas.collegiatelink.net/organization/StudentJudicialServices/about>

UT HONOR CODE:

The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

BEHAVIORAL CONCERNS:

If you are worried about the way someone is acting, you may use the Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL) to discuss your concerns by phone. This service is provided through a partnership among the Office of the Dean of Students, the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC), the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and The University of Texas Police Department (UTPD). Call 512-232-5050 or visit:
<https://operations.utexas.edu/units/csas/bcal.php>

CALENDAR

Week 1 (Jan. 23-25): Republic to Empire

No readings this week

Week 2 (Jan. 28-Feb. 1): The rise of Augustus

Foundational reading: M11

◆ **Wednesday, Jan. 30: In-class quiz #1: map of Roman provinces and cities**

Section reading: Zanker, "Rival Images" (Canvas)

Week 3 (Feb. 4-8): The reign of Augustus

Foundational reading: M13, 18

Section reading: Dio Cassius' *Roman History*, book 52: Democracy or monarchy? The debate between Agrippa and Maecenas (Canvas)

Week 4 (Feb. 11-15): From the Julio-Claudians to the Flavians

Foundational reading: M14

◆ **Wednesday, Feb. 13: In-class quiz #2: map of the city of Rome**

Section reading: Suetonius, *Life of Claudius* (Canvas)

Week 5 (Feb. 18-22): From the Flavians to Trajan

Foundational reading: M15

Section reading: Selections from Josephus, *The Jewish War*; Cohen, "The Credibility of Josephus" (Canvas)

Week 6 (Feb. 25-Mar. 1): Hadrian through the Antonines

◆ **Monday: EXAM #1**

Foundational reading: M16

Section reading: K. Harper, "Apollo's Revenge" (ch. 3 in *The Fate of Rome*) (Canvas)

Week 7 (Mar. 4-8): Severans and the Third-century crisis

Foundational reading: M17, 19

Section reading: W. Liebeschuetz, "Was There a Crisis of the Third Century?"; S. Lusnia, "Urban Planning and Sculptural Display in Severan Rome: The Septizodium and Its Role in Dynastic Politics."

Week 8 (Mar. 11-15): Diocletian and Constantine

Foundational reading (for Wednesday): M21, 22

◆ **Wednesday, Feb. 25: In-class quiz #3: names and terms**

◆ **No section meeting this week**

SPRING BREAK

Week 9 (Mar. 25-29): Rise of the Christian Empire and fall of the West

Foundational reading: M23, 24

◆ **Wednesday: In-class quiz #4: review of the emperors**

Section reading: Peter Brown, "Religion" (Canvas)

Week 10 (Apr. 1-5): Families, patronage, and social relations

Foundational reading: G&S 9-10

Section reading: Juvenal, *Satires* Book 9; excerpt from Taylor, "Two Pathic Subcultures in Ancient Rome" (Canvas)

Week 11 (Apr. 8-12): Intellectual life

◆ **Monday: EXAM #2**

Foundational reading: A. A. Long, "Roman Philosophy"; E. Rawson, "Roman Rulers and the Philosophical Life" (Canvas)

Section reading: O. Brendel, "Observations on the Allegory of the Pompeian Death's-Head Mosaic" (Canvas)

Week 12 (Apr. 15-19): Slavery

Foundational reading: Bradley, *Slavery and Society at Rome*, chs. 2, 5

Section readings: Wiedemann, *Greek and Roman Slavery*, ch. 5; Trimble, "The Zoninus Collar and the Archaeology of Roman Slavery" (both on Canvas)

Week 13 (Apr. 22-26): Economy 1: Primitive or advanced?

Foundational reading: G&S 5; Wilson, "Machines, Power, and the Ancient Economy" (Canvas)

◆ **Wednesday: In-class quiz #5: technologies & economic terms**

Section reading: Chapter 3 from E. Mayer, *The Ancient Middle Classes* (Canvas)

Week 14 (Apr. 29-May 3): Economy 2: Supply, trade, and technology

Foundational reading: G&S 7; Lo Cascio, "State and Coinage in the Late Republic and Early Empire" (Canvas)

◆ **Sections: meet at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, SRH Unit 2 (room TBA)**

Week 15 (May 6-10): Religion

Foundational reading: G&S 11

◆ **Wednesday (or during section, depending on our progress): EXAM #3**