

## HI 307: The Roman World



Spring Semester 2009

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Tuesday/Thursday 11:00-12:15.  
1361 Chemistry

## Course Description

The emphasis in this lecture course will be on the social, economic and cultural history of Rome. Evidence from the second and first century BC will be included for discussion, but the main focus will be on the more abundant material from the first and second century AD, the period known as the Principate. The first part of the course – week 3 to 5 – will focus on the Roman Empire, and will analyze how it was ruled and how it worked. The second part – week 6 to 12 – will focus on the people inhabiting the Roman Empire, their religious attitudes and their social behavior and codes of conduct. From week 12 to week 14 the focus will be on the Roman economy. Weekly reading requirements are compulsory and must be completed before the Tuesday Class. For the discussion sections additional readings will be required, consisting either of primary sources in translation or the opinions and arguments of modern scholars.

### **Textbooks:**

Peter Garnsey/Richard Saller, *The Roman Empire: Economy, Society and Culture*, Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press 1987 (pb.). ISBN 9780520060678.

Jo-Ann Shelton, *As The Romans Did: A Sourcebook in Roman Social History*, New York: Oxford University Press 1998 (pb.). ISBN 019508974x.

### **Attendance, Exams and Grades**

Attendance at all classes is mandatory. There will be two midterm exams and one final exam. The midterm exams will be sit-in exams and will be held on the Thursday in the week for which they are programmed. They will count for 40% towards your final grade; the final exam will count for 50%. The remaining 10% is based on regular attendance, class discussion and general participation.

Students taking this class for Honors credit will receive a separate syllabus outlining the requirements for their program.
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<b>IMPORTANT DATES:</b>
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<b>Midterm 1: 2/19.</b>
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<b>Midterm 2: 4/2.</b>
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<b>Final exam: 5/15.</b>
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Week 1: Introduction.

1/20 and 1/22

Introduction to the course; how to read a source.

Week 2: The Political Background.

1/27 and 1/29

The political history of Rome; comparative history.

Week 3: Empire and Emperor 2/3 and 2/5

Readings: Garnsey/Saller pp. 5-19; Shelton, pp. 226-229; 235-6.

Week 4: Government without Bureaucracy.

2/10 and 2/12

Readings: Garnsey/Saller pp. 20-40; Shelton, pp. 230-232; 268-275.

Week 5: The Culture of the Roman Empire (City vs. Countryside; Greek vs. Roman).

2/17

Readings: Garnsey/Saller pp. 178-196.

**First midterm exam.**

**2/19**

Week 6: Becoming Roman/Resistance and Revolt in the Roman Empire.

2/24 and 2/26

Readings: Garnsey/Saller pp. 178-196; Shelton, pp. 284-288.

Week 7: Worship.

3/3 and 3/5

Readings: Garnsey/Saller pp. 163-78.

Week 8: Roman Families.

3/10 and 3/12

Readings: Garnsey/Saller pp. 126-147.

Week 9: Roman women and children.

3/24 and 3/26

Readings: Garnsey/Saller pp. 126-147.

Week 10: Social Relations (Patronage and Friendship).

3/31

Readings: Garnsey/Saller pp. 148-159.

**Second midterm exam.**

**4/2**

Week 11: Social Hierarchy and Social Mobility.

4/7 and 4/9

Readings: Garnsey/Saller pp. 107-25.

Week 12: An Underdeveloped Economy

4/14 and 4/16

Readings: Garnsey/Saller pp. 43-64.

Week 13: The Ownership of Land and the Mentality of the Upper Classes.

4/21 and 4/23

Readings: Garnsey/Saller pp. 64-82.

Week 14: Supplying the Roman Empire.

4/28 and 4/30

Readings: Garnsey/Saller pp. 83-103.

Week 15: Conclusion.

5/5 and 5/7