

CLA 2120: The Grandeur that was Rome (3 credits)

Spring 2015, M 8-10 (3-6pm)

Professor Jennifer Rea

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Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives:

The purpose of this course is to explain the origins of Roman literature, culture and society and also to study why ancient Rome remains relevant in our society today.

Students Will Learn To:

- ✓ Define the various genres of Roman literature
- ✓ Assess the thematic connections between Roman literature and modern literature
- ✓ Critically evaluate the relationship between the ancients' hopes and fears for the future and our modern societal concerns
- ✓ Gain an appreciation for Roman literature's influence on our modern understanding of history, civilization and progress
- ✓ Interpret why the Roman ethos has been stereotyped and glorified in the modern world

Assigned Readings:

Lucretius, *De Rerum Natura*

Suetonius, *The Twelve Caesars*

All other readings will be available on websites (posted below in the syllabus)

Course website on CANVAS: The e-learning support services homepage contains the CANVAS system entry link. The course site provides more detailed information on the assigned readings, announcements, and access to lecture outlines and power points. You may also check your course grade on CANVAS.

Course Grading: Your final grade will be based on how well you do on **three equally weighted exams** which will each be worth 1/3 of your final grade. In addition, during the course of the semester you will be given **two opportunities to participate in an extra credit "minute paper"** where you will write an answer to a question based on the day's lecture and each essay you complete will have the ability to raise your final grade one full point. You must be present to participate and hand in your essay at the end of the class period. Regular attendance and active participation in class discussion is expected. You should therefore plan to be present every week and be prepared to discuss the assigned readings. It is extremely difficult to be involved in the learning process unless you participate fully in class activities. Thus, your participation in class discussion is especially critical. You cannot make an effective contribution to the class if you come to class unprepared, are chronically late, or fail to attend class.

Classroom Policy:

Laptops and other mobile electronic devices are permitted in the classroom only for the purpose of note-taking. Use of mobile phones, electronic devices and computers is prohibited during class for any other reason and students who violate this policy will immediately be dismissed from the class. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated and students will have one full percentage point deducted from their final grade each time they are dismissed from class.

Late Assignments: You will be allowed to hand in or make up work late only for excused absences, such as required student participation in a university-sponsored event (you must submit official documentation to the professor from the appropriate faculty or staff member before the event); religious holidays (notify the professor within the first two weeks of class); medical emergencies (with documentation from a health care provider); family emergencies (with valid written documentation). Regarding medical and family emergencies, it is your responsibility to notify me as soon as possible that you will need accommodations. Students with a valid excuse have **one week** after a missed assignment (or one week after recovering from an illness) to hand in the work.

Grading Scale:

A = 90 or above	C = 70-73
A- = 87-89	C- = 67-69
B+ = 84-86	D+ = 64-66
B = 80-83	D = 60-63
B- = 77-79	D- = 57-59
C+ = 74-76	E = 56 or below

Grading Scale with GPA Equivalencies

A = 4.0
A- = 3.67
B+ = 3.33
B = 3.0
B- = 2.67
C+ = 2.33
C = 2.0
C- = 1.67
D+ = 1.33
D = 1.0
D- = 0.67
E = 0.0

- A **C-** grade will **not** qualify for major, minor, Gen Ed, Gordon Rule or College Basic Distribution credit. UF does not consider C- to be a passing grade.

This course is in compliance with all UF policies regarding attendance, special needs and academic honesty. For details, see <http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx> (attendance); <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/> (special needs); <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide/studentrights.php> (academic honesty).

ADA Requirements:

If you have any disability or special concern, it is your responsibility to notify me at the start of the semester so that your needs may be accommodated. You will also need to give me a letter from the Dean of Students Office indicating that you need academic accommodations *at the start of the semester*.

Counseling and Mental Health Services at UF:

Students who have difficulty completing the course or who have need of counseling should contact the UF Counseling and Wellness Center at (352) 392-1575 or www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc

Students will be expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online and students will be given specific instructions as to when the online link will be available. Generally the evaluations are offered online during the last 2-3 weeks of the semester.

COURSE SCHEDULE

UNIT 1: INTRO TO ROMAN LIFE AND LITERATURE

M January 12 Course Introduction – Rome’s Legendary Past

M January 19 (MLK Holiday – No Class)

M January 26 Plautus *Aulularia*

Web Source: <http://www.forumromanum.org/literature/aululariaeng.html>

M February 2 Lucretius *De Rerum Natura* Books 1-2

M February 9 Exam #1

UNIT 2: ROMAN REPUBLIC TO EMPIRE

M February 16 Lucretius *De Rerum Natura* 3 and 6

M February 23 Cicero, *First Oration Against Catiline*

Web Source: <http://www.bartleby.com/268/2/11.html>

M March 2 (Spring Break – No Class)

M March 9 Terence *Adelphoe*

Web Source: <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.02.0112>

M March 16 Exam #2

M March 23 Suetonius, *The Twelve Caesars*, Part I

Reading: Julius Caesar-Augustus

WHY ROME REMAINS RELEVANT TODAY

M March 30 Suetonius, *The Twelve Caesars*, Part II

Tiberius-Caligula

Reading:

M April 6 Tacitus and Suetonius

Tacitus, *Annales*, Claudius and Nero + Suetonius, *The Twelve Caesars*, Nero

Web Source: <http://mcadams.posc.mu.edu/txt/ah/tacitus/tacitusannals12.html>

Web Source: http://www.johndclare.net/AncientHistory/Agrippina_Sources10.html

M April 15

Reading: Reading: Seneca (Thyestes)

Web Source: <http://www.theoi.com/Text/SenecaThyestes.html>

M April 20 Exam 3