

CLT 3510: The Ancient World in Film (MWF 6<sup>th</sup> period, 4 credits)

Contact Information:

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or by appointment in Dauer 217

Communications: Students are requested to use Canvas Mail to contact the instructor whenever possible. Emails sent through Outlook should include CLT 3510 in the subject line. Students can expect responses within 24-48 hours but not between 4:55pm-8:30am or on weekends. However, students are encouraged to contact the instructor on their own schedule. Students are expected to check Canvas Mail and Announcements regularly and to respond, when needed, within a reasonable time.

Your Graduate Teaching Assistant can help you if you have specific questions regarding lectures, class assignments, or concept clarification within the material covered in class. You should discuss broader course-related topics such as quiz or exam makeups, grades, letters of recommendation, etc., with your professor. Your professor is also happy to answer questions about the course content.

Course Objectives/Goals: By the end of this course, students will be able to

1. Learn to critically evaluate original and unique aspects of Greek and Roman history and mythology.
2. Assess thematic connections between ancient Greek and Roman culture and modern culture.
3. Identify tropes and stereotypes of the ancient world that appear in modern films.
4. Students will hone their critical thinking and expression skills through in-class writing and class discussions.

Weekly Schedule of Topics and Assignments (All Readings are in Canvas):

**Week 1 (Jan 13):** Introduction to course & *Quo Vadis*

**Readings:** "Quo Vadis" (*From Big Screen Rome* by Monica Cyrino) & *Quo Vadis* Scenes

**Week 2 (Jan 20):** *Troy* (2004) Dir. Wolfgang Petersen *Quiz 1 (Jan 24)*

**Readings:** Homer, *Iliad* Books 3, 22 and 24

**Week 3 (Jan 27):** *The 300* (2006) Dir. Zach Snyder; *Quiz 2 (Jan 31)*

**Readings:** Diodorus 11.1-11; Herodotus, *Histories* 7.173-239

**Week 4 (Feb 3):** *Julius Caesar* (1953) Dir. Joseph L. Mankiewicz; *Quiz 3 (Feb 7)*  
**Readings:** *Julius Caesar* by William Shakespeare & *Julius Caesar* scenes

**Week 5 (Feb 10):** *Ben-Hur* (1959) Dir. William Wyler *Quiz 4 (Feb 14)*  
**Readings:** John 19: 17-37 & Pliny, *Letters* 10.96-97

**Week 6 (Feb 17):** *Spartacus* (1960) Dir. Stanley Kubrick; **Exam 1 (Feb 21)**  
**Readings:** Plutarch, *Life of Crassus* 8-11

**Week 7 (Feb 24):**; *Gladiator* (2000) Dir. Ridley Scott; *Quiz 5 (Feb 28)*  
**Readings:** Cassius Dio, *Commodus* (Epitome of Book LXXIII)

**Week 8 (Mar 3):** *The Hunger Games* (2012) Dir. Gary Ross; *Quiz 6 (Mar 3)*  
**Readings:** Excerpts from *Parallel Lives*, "The Life of Theseus" by Plutarch & Catullus 64.76-82

**Week 9 (Mar 10):** *Pan's Labyrinth* (2006) Dir. Guillermo del Toro; *Quiz 7 (Mar 7)*  
**Readings:** Excerpts from "The Homeric Hymn to Demeter"

*Spring Break = March 17-21*

**Week 11 (Mar 24):** *Prometheus* (2012) Dir. Ridley Scott; **Exam 2 (March 28)**  
**Readings:** Ovid, *Metamorphoses*, 1.76-86 & Hesiod, *Theogony* 625-33

**Week 12 (Mar 31):** *Snowpiercer* (2017) Dir. Bong Joon-ho; *Quiz 8 (Apr 4)*  
**Readings:** Vergil, *Aeneid* IV.179-197; VI.752-853; XII.887-952

**Week 13 (Apr 7):** *Cleopatra* (1963) Dir. Joseph L. Mankiewicz; *Quiz 9 (Apr 11)*  
**Readings:** "Cleopatra" (from *Big Screen Rome* by Monica Cyrino)

**Week 14 (Apr 14):** *Wonder Woman* (2017) Dir. Patty Jenkins *Quiz 10 (Apr 18)*  
**Readings:** ["The Truth about the Amazons"](#)

**Week 15 (Apr 21): Review and Exam 3 on Wednesday, April 25**

The fourth credit of this course is reserved for watching the films outside of class. All films, with the exception of *Quo Vadis*, are available for viewing through Library West. *Quo Vadis* is available for free to watch on Tubi. If you do not have access to streaming services, you can check out the library's media viewing booths, the take-home DVD player, or use a DVD/Blu-ray drive in-library to view the films.

Evaluation:

3 Exams (70%); 10 Quizzes (20%); lowest quiz grade dropped; Attendance and Class Participation (10%). There will be weekly quizzes on Canvas. Quizzes and exams will be based on the week's readings and film, so make sure you have done both.

### Grading Scale:

≥93%	A	≥70%	C-
≥90%	A-	≥67%	D+
≥87%	B+	≥63%	D
≥83%	B	≥60%	D-
≥80%	B-	< 60%	E
≥77%	C+		
≥73%	C		

Grades are rounded to the nearest whole number (e.g., 89.4% = 89% and 89.5% = 90%).

“Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>”

### Classroom Etiquette:

1. No distracting behavior – when others are talking, please be quiet.
2. It is ok to disagree with your colleagues but be respectful.
3. Devices may be used for notetaking only.
4. AI is not to be used for any assignments or exams.

Class Attendance & Make Up Policy: Attendance will be taken daily. Makeups are only given due to excused absences. For all planned absences, a student in a situation that allows an excused absence from a class, or any required class activity must inform the instructor as early as possible prior to the class. For all unplanned absences because of accidents or emergency situations, students should contact their instructor as soon as conditions permit. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

Accommodations: Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodation should connect with the Disability Resource Center. Click [here](#) to get started with the Disability Resource Center. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Textbooks: All readings are available through Canvas; there are no required textbooks.

Course Evaluation: Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Honesty Policy: UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. [See the UF Conduct Code website for more information.](#) If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

In-Class Recording: Please see [this website](#) for UF’s recording policy.

### Campus Resources:

#### Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit the [Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the [Student Health Care Center website](#).

University Police Department: Visit [UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the [UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

GatorWell Health Promotion Services: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the [GatorWell website](#) or call 352-273-4450.

#### Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

[Career Connections Center](#): Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

[Library Support](#): Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

[Teaching Center](#): Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

[Writing Studio](#): 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. Daytime (9:30am-3:30pm): 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138 | Evening (5:00pm-7:00pm): 1545 W University Avenue (Library West, Rm. 339). Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Academic Complaints: Office of the Ombuds; Visit the [Complaint Portal webpage](#) for more information.

Enrollment Management Complaints (Registrar, Financial Aid, Admissions): View the [Student Complaint Procedure webpage](#) for more information.

#### **Additional Resources:**

[Field and Fork Food Pantry](#): If you or anyone you know is experiencing food insecurity, the Pantry is an on-campus resource committed to helping UF faculty, staff and students.

[Aid-A-Gator](#): The University of Florida can provide funding to students experiencing unanticipated expenses due to an emergency situation. This financial assistance is intended as a funding bridge for UF students to cover education-related expenses. Funds from Aid-a-Gator are intended to be a grant, not a loan, to help our students in need to cover costs related to unanticipated travel, additional technology requirements, or other needs related to an emergency situation.

