

CCI 512
The Archaeology of Roman Daily Life

Spring 2011
M, 5:30-8:20

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Office Hours: Mon. & Wed.: 12-1, and by appointment

Course Description:

The popularity of the HBO series, *Rome*, is a testament to our enduring fascination with the daily lives of the ancient Romans. In this course, we will take a more scholarly approach to the evidence for these daily lives: exploring not only the activities of each day, but also the momentous occasions, both public and private, of each year. Although the focus will be on the archaeological evidence (presented mainly in lectures), we will also utilize the literary and epigraphic sources for their daily activities (presented largely in homework assignments). This course is also Speaking Intensive, so you will be given many opportunities to share your impressions of the evidence as well as the results of your own research.

Student Learning Objectives:

At the completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a general knowledge and appreciation for the society and culture of the Romans.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the archaeological and literary evidence for the daily lives of the inhabitants of the Roman Empire.
3. Develop an appreciation and understanding of the multiple interpretations of archaeological evidence.
4. Develop effective oral communication skills.

Texts:

1. Greene, Kevin, *The Archaeology of the Roman Economy* (UC Press, 1986)
2. Shelton, Jo-Ann, *As the Romans Did; A Sourcebook in Roman Social History*, 2nd edition (Oxford, 1998)
3. Numerous articles, available on the Blackboard site at PDFs

Requirements (Undergraduate):

15% Participation in the general discussion
10% Participation in Community Garden project
30% "Teach the class" (twice for 10 minutes each time)
20% Weekly Reflections
25% Research paper on topic related to Roman daily life

Requirements (Graduate/Honors):

15% Participation in the general discussion
10% Participation in Community Garden project
30% "Teach the class" (twice for 20 minutes each time)

20% Weekly Reflections

25% Research paper on topic related to Roman daily life

Participation

Sitting silently is not an option. **Your active participation is expected, and will be recorded.** Please note that more than one unexcused absence will result in a failure for this component of your grade. Text messaging during class will result in you being marked absent. (SLO 1-4)

Presentations

Twice during the semester, you will give a 10 minute (or 20 minute, if you are a graduate student or wish to obtain honors credit) lecture on specific topic related to Roman daily life. Each student will give one lecture in the first half of the semester (before Spring Break), and one lecture in the second half. The topics will be assigned randomly on the first day of class. The guidelines for this assignment will also be distributed at that time. Since several of the presentations are scheduled for January 31, which turns out to be the second day of class, you will be contacted by email if you need to begin research on your topic. (SLO 1-4)

Research Assignment

You will write a 10-12 page research paper, double-spaced, with one-inch margins. In this paper, you will analyze the evidence for some aspect of Roman daily life. There are two ways of completing this assignment: 1) Write in more depth about one of the topics which you presented orally in class. Please note that you may not just submit the notes from your oral presentation, but rather must argue for the importance of your topic for our understanding of Roman daily life. 2) Compare and contrast the ancient Roman house with a modern American house, taking into consideration such topics as plan, accessibility, furniture, and decoration. (SLO 1-3)

Community Garden project

UNCG is starting a community garden on campus (on McIver Street, across the street from the parking deck), and we are the proud owners of a garden plot where we will grow plants that would have been typical of a Roman peristyle garden. At the beginning of the semester, we'll do the research together on what we should plant (and what will realistically grow in our non-Mediterranean climate). I will ask that each of you commit to working five hours in the garden, and these hours will count towards 10% of your grade. A sign-up sheet will be available on February 7, and we will decide at that time how to divide the tasks. If all goes well, we will make a potluck meal with our harvest on May 2. (SLO 1-2)

Weekly reflections

In order to motivate you to read the weekly assignments carefully and critically, and to remain active and engaged for the presentations on different aspects of Roman daily life, we will start class each week with “weekly reflections” during which you will respond (in writing) to two questions presented in class. One of these questions will be drawn from the material presented in the previous class, and the other will draw on the reading assignment for the current class. This is a graded assignment, and the students are expected to formulate a clear argument for each response, backed up with evidence from the presentations and/or assigned texts. The length of each response will be no more than

two paragraphs, and should take about 15 minutes. Please note that there are no make-ups, and only one response will be dropped. If you are late to class, you run the risk of missing the reading response or having far less time to complete it (late students must turn in the response at the same time as the rest of the students). (SLO 1-3)

Schedule:

January 10: Cancelled due to weather

January 17: Holiday for Martin Luther King, Jr.

January 24: Introduction to course; Life in early Rome

1. "The Lecture Class," <http://teaching.uchicago.edu/tutorial/lecture.shtml>
2. Henry Gleitman, "Lecturing: Using a Much Maligned Method of Teaching," <http://teaching.uchicago.edu/tutorial/gleitman.shtml>
3. Tory Haring-Smith, "Teaching by Lecture," <http://teaching.uchicago.edu/tutorial/smith.shtml>
4. Greene, *Archaeology of the Roman Economy*, 67-87

January 31: Houses, Villas, Apartments

1. Shelton, *As the Romans Did*, Chapter IV: 59-65; 71-78;
2. John Stambaugh, "Households and Housing," in *The Ancient Roman City* (Baltimore and London: Johns Hopkins, 1988), 157-178.
3. Penelope M. Allison, "Domestic Spaces and Activities," in *The World of Pompeii*, eds. J.J. Dobbins and P.W. Foss (Routledge, 2007), 269-278.
4. Joanne Berry, "Instrumentum Domesticum – A Case Study," in *The World of Pompeii*, eds. J.J. Dobbins and P.W. Foss (Routledge, 2007), 292-301.

February 7: The Roman Garden

1. Wilhemina Jashemski, "Gardens," in *The World of Pompeii*, eds. J.J. Dobbins and P.W. Foss (Routledge, 2007), 487-498.
2. John Henderson, "With Palladius, A year in the garden" *Hortus, the Roman Book of Gardening* (Routledge, 2004), 103-123.

February 14: Dress and Adornment

1. Shelton, Chapter XIII: 305-306
2. Kelly Olson, "The Clothing of Women," *Dress and the Roman Woman* (Routledge, 2008), 10-57.

February 21: Working for a living

1. Shelton, Chapter VII: 123-162; Chapter XIII: 303-305.
2. Felix Pirson, "Shops and Industries," in *The World of Pompeii*, eds. J.J. Dobbins and P.W. Foss (Routledge, 2007), 457-473.

February 28: Death in Daily Life

1. Shelton, Chapter II: 25-29; Chapter V: 85-98; Chapter XIII: 290-91, 301-303.
2. Valerie M. Hope, "Contempt and Respect, The Treatment of the Corpse in Ancient Rome," in *Death and Disease in the Ancient City*, eds. V.M. Hope and E. Marshall (Routledge, 2000), 104-127.
3. John Bodell, "Dealing with the Dead: Undertakers, executioners and potter's fields in ancient Rome," in *Death and Disease in the Ancient City*, eds. V.M. Hope and E. Marshall (Routledge, 2000), 128-151.

March 7: Spring Break

March 14: Diet and Dishes

1. Shelton, Chapter V: 79-85
2. Greene, *Archaeology of the Roman Economy*: 156-167

3. Greg S. Aldrete and David J. Mattingly, "Feeding the City: The Organization, Operation, and Scale of the Supply System for Rome," in *Life, Death, and Entertainment in the Roman Empire*, eds. D.S. Potter and D.J. Mattingly (Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press, 1999), 171-204.
4. Ardle Mac Mahon, "The Taberna Counters of Pompeii and Herculaneum," in *Roman Working Lives and Urban Living*, eds. Mac Mahon and Price (Oxbow Books, 2005), 70-87.

March 21: Roman Economy

1. Greene, *Archaeology of the Roman Economy*, Chapters 2, 3, 5, 6

March 28: Guest Speaker: Annalisa Marzano

1. Assignment to be determined.

April 4: The Fabric of the City: Neighborhoods, Amenities & Hazards

1. Shelton, Chapter IV: 65-71
2. Stephen L. Dyson, "Neighborhoods, Pathways, and the Rituals of an Imperial City," *Rome: A Living Portrait of an Ancient City* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins, 2010), 214-240.

April 11: Baths and Bathing

1. Shelton, Chapter XIV: 309-314
2. Fikret Yegul, "Origins and Development of Roman Baths and Bathing," *Bathing in the Roman World* (Cambridge, 2010), 40-79.
3. Fikret Yegul, "Architecture of Roman Baths," *Bathing in the Roman World* (Cambridge, 2010), 101-132.

April 18: Entertainment

1. Shelton, Chapter XIV: 329-357
2. Hazel Dodge, "Amusing the Masses: Buildings for Entertainment and Leisure in the Roman World," in *Life, Death, and Entertainment in the Roman Empire*, eds. D.S. Potter and D.J. Mattingly (Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press, 1999), 205-255.

April 25: Life in Rome in Late Antiquity

1. Shelton, Chapter XV: 406-416
2. To be determined

May 2: Banquet (Research paper due)

Schedule for CCI 512 Garden project

Wednesday, April 13 – check garden, water if needed (1 hour)

Thursday, April 14: plant rosemary? (1 hour)

Friday, April 15 – check garden, water if needed (1 hour)

Weekend – April 16/17 – check garden, water if needed (1 hour)

Monday, April 18 – check garden, water if needed (1 hour)

Wednesday, April 20 – check garden, water if needed (1 hour)

Thursday or Friday, April 21-22: check garden; water (1 hour)

Monday, April 25: check garden/water (1 hour)

Wednesday, April 27: check garden/water (1 hour)

Friday, April 29: check garden/water (1 hour)

Weekend, April 30: check garden/water (1 hour)

Monday, May 2: check garden/water (1 hour)

Wednesday, April 3: check garden/weed/water (2 hours)

Schedule for CCI 512 Garden project

Wednesday, February 23: Garden workshop, 5-6:30, Graham 313 (2 hours)

Thursday/Friday, February 24 -25: prepare soil in garden (2 hours)

Monday, February 28: Plant seeds with Dr. Heyn, 5:00-6:00 (1 hour)

Wednesday, March 2 – water seeds in Dr. Heyn’s office (1 hour)

Friday, March 4 – water seeds in Dr. Heyn’s office (1 hour)

Tuesday, March 22 or 24: plant seedlings and seeds in garden (2 hours)

Tuesday, March 29: check garden; water (1 hour)

Friday, April 1: check garden/water (1 hour)

Tuesday, April 5: check garden/water (1 hour)

Friday, April 8: check garden/water (1 hour)

Tuesday, April 12: check garden/water (1 hour)

Friday, April 15: check garden/water (1 hour)

Tuesday, April 19: check garden/weed/water (2 hours)

Tuesday, April 26: check garden/weed/water (2 hours)

Friday, April 29: check garden/weed/water (2 hours)
