Course title: Rome Wasn't Built in a Day: The Art, Architecture, and History of the Ancient City

Course code: HIST 3003 ROIT

Programs offering course: Rome Open Campus Block

Open Campus Track: Art and Architecture

Language of instruction: English

U.S. semester credits: 3.00

Contact hours: 45.00

Term: Spring Block I 2021

Course Description

This course will examine the art, architecture and history of ancient Rome, from the foundation of the city in the 8th century BCE to the end of the Western Roman Empire around 476 CE. Today, more than 1500 years after the collapse of that empire, there still remain numerous examples of stunning political, religious and civic architecture in the former imperial capital. Among the magnificent buildings and archaeological remains that the participants of this course will visit are the Roman Forum, the Field of Mars, Emperor Nero's palace (the Golden House), the Colosseum and more. The course will look at the political history of ancient Rome primarily by reading and interpreting pieces of art and architecture, be they connected to major political events or turning points, display imperial power and its geopolitical ambitions, or document the rise of new social forces. Finally, as we trace the rise and fall of imperial Rome, we will regularly draw parallels to today's empires and how they make use of art and architecture for their purposes.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Outline the history of Rome through the centuries
- Assess the historical and cultural significance of the city of Rome for Western civilization
- Estimate how the architectural and urban planning feats of ancient Rome reflected, influenced, or lagged behind the empire’s views of itself and its political decision-making processes
- Demonstrate the ability to research, analyze and interpret art and architecture in their aesthetic as well as sociopolitical dimensions
- Understand the role of legends and myths in shaping the city’s image
- Combine what they learn about the development of imperial Rome to the history of other empires and imperial cities

Course Prerequisites

None.

Methods of Instruction

This course will combine lectures, PowerPoint presentations, class debates, walking tours, and conversations with guest speakers.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Quizzes (4x) 15%
2. Research Paper 30%
3. Final Exam 35%
4. Participation 20%
TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements
Quizzes (4x)

Students will take 4 quizzes (15 mins each) throughout the course. Each quiz, based on the topics discussed during classes, will include true and false, multiple choice and images identifications.

Research Paper

Topics for research will be chosen from a list provided by the professor in week 2. Once the topic has been selected, the student will be required to write a short paper (3 to 4 pages). The professor will provide extensive and precise guidelines.

Final Exam

Students will take a final exam at the end of the course. The exam (true and false, multiple choice, images identification and short essays) will cover all topics discussed and analyzed in class.

Participation

Participation is valued as meaningful contribution in the digital and tangible classroom, utilizing the resources and materials presented to students as part of the course. Meaningful contribution requires students to be prepared in advance of each class session and to have regular attendance. Students must clearly demonstrate they have engaged with the materials as directed, for example, through classroom discussions, online discussion boards, peer-to-peer feedback (after presentations), interaction with guest speakers, and attentiveness on co-curricular and outside-of-classroom activities.

Attendance

Regular class attendance is required throughout the program, and all absences will result in a lower participation grade for any affected CIEE course. Due to the intensive schedules for Open Campus and Short Term programs, absences that constitute more than 10% of the total course will result in a written warning.

Students who transfer from one CIEE class to another during the add/drop period will not be considered absent from the first session(s) of their new class, provided they were marked present for the first session(s) of their original class. Otherwise, the absence(s) from the original class carry over to the new class and count against the grade in that class.

For CIEE classes, excessively tardy (over 15 minutes late) students must be marked absent.

Attendance policies also apply to any required co-curricular class excursion or event, as well as to any required field placement. Students may not miss placement/work hours at an internship or service learning site unless approved in advance by the Academic Director and placement supervisor. All students must complete all of the requisite 100 minimum work hours on site at the internship or service learning placement to be eligible for academic credit.

Students who miss class for personal travel, including unforeseen delays that arise as a result of personal travel, will be marked as absent. No make-up or re-sit opportunity will be provided.

Attendance policies also apply to any required class excursion, with the exception that some class excursions cannot accommodate any tardiness, and students risk being marked as absent if they fail to be present at the appointed time.

Absences for classes will lead to the following penalties:
N.B. Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, and local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.

**Weekly Schedule**

**Week 1**

**Class: 1.1 The Eternal City: an introduction Introduction**

This class will serve as an introduction to the study of ancient Rome. Syllabus will be presented and reviewed, with emphasis on assessment methods and course requirements.

*Readings:*

- Class notes
- Claridge: 3-6; 31-36 37-59
- Aicher: XXII-XIX; 2-13
- Cornell: 48-80

**Week 2**

**Class: 2.1 From the kings to the Republic The origins of Rome**

Site trip: Roman Forum and Palatine.

Students will learn about the origins of the city and the architecture, politics, society and religion of early Rome.

*Readings:*

- Class notes
- Claridge: 60-92
- Aicher: 72-110
- Coarelli: 42-47

**Class: 2.2 From Monarchy to the Republic**

This class will be focused on the political and social transformation of Rome during the Republican age (6th-1st c. BCE)

*Readings:*

- Class notes
- Course Pack: Early Rome
- Claridge: 6-9;
- Potter: 43-56
Class: 2.3 Republican Rome

Site trip: Capitoline Museums and Forum Boarium.

Students will learn about the Roman Republic visiting and analyzing the artefacts housed in the first public museum in the world. Students will also explore the surroundings of the Capitoline hill.

Readings:
- Class notes
- Claridge: 229-241; 247-255; 378-385
- Aicher: 42-54

Week 3

Class: 3.1 From late Republic to Augustus Late Republic and the Roman generals

Site visit: Largo Argentina and the Ghetto.

The last phase of the Roman Republican history will be analyzed through the architecture of the 1st c. BCE. Students will learn how public building construction was used to foster the political careers of mighty Roman army generals.

Readings:
- Class notes
- Claridge: 215-220
- Aicher: 222-229
- Coarelli: 266-285

Class: 3.2 Julius Caesar and Augustus

This class will analyze the crucial age of Julius Caesar and Augustus. Students will learn how a new political entity, that in the long run will change the ancient world forever, was born: the Roman Empire.

Readings:
- Class notes
- Claridge: 914
- Course Pack: Julius Caesar and Augustus

Week 4

Class: 4.1 The rise of the Empire Augustan urbanism: the Field of Mars

Site visit: Ara Pacis and its surroundings

Students will explore a sector of the ancient city of Rome, the Campus Martius (Field of Mars) which was thoroughly transformed by Augustus and remodeled in order to represent the new political course of the Empire.

Readings:
- Class notes
- Claridge: 174-192
- Aicher: 240-251

Class: 4.2 Early Roman Emperors

In this class students will learn about the dynasties of the Roman Emperors and the impacts that they had on the city of Rome and on the ancient world.

Readings:
- Class notes
- Claridge: 14-20
Week 4
Class: 4.3 Nero

Site visit: Domus Aurea (the Golden House)

Students will have the unique opportunity to visit the Imperial palace built by the emperor Nero, probably the most controversial of the Roman Emperors.

Readings:
- Class notes
- Claridge: 266-270; 288-293
- Aicher: 176-178
- Coarelli: 180-190

Week 5
Class: 5.1 The Imperial Capital; The Flavians

Site visit: the Colosseum.

This class will be focused on the building program of the Flavian dynasty and on the most famous ancient building in Rome: the Colosseum.

Readings:
- Class notes
- Claridge: 276-284
- Aicher: 178-184
- Connelly: 190-217

Class: 5.2 Later Roman Emperors

The 2nd c. CE marks the peak of the Roman Empire, but it is also the beginning of the slow process to the end of the power of Rome. Students will learn about the society, economy and politics of this crucial stage in ancient history.

Readings:
- Class notes
- Claridge: 20-30
- Course Pack: Roman Emperors

Class: 5.3 The heyday of the Roman Empire

Site visit: The Imperial Forums and the Trajan markets.

The beginning of the 2nd c. CE marks the peak of the Roman Empire. Students will explore the grand public spaces with which Rome was provided at that time.

Readings:
- Class notes
- Claridge: 146-173
- Aicher: 188-213

Week 6
Class: 6.1 The fall of Rome; The Campus Martius in the 2nd and 3rd c. CE

Site visit: The Pantheon and its surroundings.

Students will learn about the last long-lasting dynasty of the Roman Empire: the Antonines. The trip to the Campus Martius will provide students with an insight of the changes witnessed by Rome in this period.

Readings:
Class: 6.2  Review Class

Students will have the opportunity to review all the topics discussed during the course.

Class: 6.3  Final Exam

**Course Materials**

**Readings**


**Course Pack**


Potter T.W., Roman Italy, British Museum press, London 1987 (selected chapters)


Further reading materials will be assigned on a week-by-week basis.

Professor will provide a complete list of complementary readings, media sources and articles published in national and international media in order to stimulate class debates and activities.