

HIST 302-01: The Roman Republic MW 11-12:20 Craig-Lee 104 Rhode Island College
Dr. Gregory Golden Gaige 246 Spring 2010
Email: ggolden@ric.edu
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30-2pm, or by appointment

Course Description

The development of Rome is explored from its eighth-century B.C. founding, to the end of the Roman Republic in the first-century B.C., with emphasis on constitutional development, imperial expansion, and changing economic and social conditions. The society and culture of the Romans will also receive significant attention.

Grading and Requirements

Course grades will be based upon the following elements:

25% Midterm Examination (**March 10th**)-focusing on the first half of the semester.

30% Research Paper (**April 28th**)-Paper topics and preliminary bibliographies must be approved within the first month of the semester. Details will be forthcoming.

35% Final Exam (comprehensive and cumulative, with an emphasis on the second half)

10% Class Participation

Attendance is important in order to learn everything that will be covered in this course. 4 absences will be permitted to allow for illness, emergencies and the like. For every further unexcused absence, your final course grade will be lowered one step (e.g., from B to B-). Not attending can also effect your class participation, and therefore lower that factor in your final course grade.

Required Texts

Textbook: Christopher S. Mackay, *Ancient Rome: A Military and Political History* 0521809185 (Cambridge University Press 2004) = AR

Reader: Kenneth J. Atchity, ed. *The Classical Roman Reader* 0195127404 (Oxford University Press 1997) = CRR

Additional readings may be handed out in class or posted on the Blackboard course page.

On Reserve: J. Shelton, *As the Romans Did: A Sourcebook in Roman Social History* (Oxford University Press 1988)

Readings and Lectures: All assignments should be read for the date listed

Jan 25 Introduction to the Course

Jan 27 The Foundation of Rome, Myth and History: AR 5-14; CRR 138-44.

Feb 1 Regal Rome and the foundation of the Republic: AR 15-26

Feb 3 The Roman Republic and its early "constitution": AR 26-31

Feb 8 The structure of Roman Society, the orders: AR 32-39; Shelton Ch.1

Feb 10 Early conquests: Roman expansion in Latium and Italy: AR 40-55

Feb 15 The Roman Economy: Agriculture CRR 19-25; 38-43; Shelton Ch.7 p.154-162

Feb 17 Rome in the Larger Mediterranean World: The First Punic War: AR 59-65

Feb 22 The Second Punic War: AR 65-75; Polybius on Cannae
(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/polybius-cannae.html>)

Feb 24 The end of the Punic Wars; Polybius on the Third Punic War
(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/polybius-punic3.html>)
Latin Literature of the Republic, Drama and Epic: CRR 3-18

Mar 1 Rome enters the Hellenistic World: AR 76-81

Mar 3 Rome against the Antigonids and Seleucids: AR 81-88

Mar 8 Law and Religion: Shelton Ch.15 p.359-386; Twelve Tables
(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/12tables.html>)

Mar 10 Midterm Examination

Mar 15-Mar 17 **SPRING RECESS–College Closed**

Mar 22 Family Structure: Shelton Ch. 2, 3

Mar 24 The Roman Army: CRR 350-356; Shelton Ch. 11 p.243-252

Mar 29 Women in the Roman Republic: Shelton Ch. 13

Mar 31 Conquest of Spain; effects of conquests on Roman society: AR 89-99

Apr 5 Reform, reaction, and riot–the Gracchi: AR 103-114

Apr 7 Military blunders and the rise of the soldiers: AR 115-120

Apr 12 The Wheels Come Off–The First End of the Roman Republic: AR 121-129

Apr 14 The Sullan Regime–Reform and Reversal: AR 130-142; CRR 49-57

Apr 19 Leisure and entertainment: Shelton Ch. 14; Literature Pt.2–Oratory and Lyric: CRR 49-57; 80-81

Apr 21 The rise of the dynasts: AR 143-151; CRR 62-71

Apr 26 The crisis of 50/49BC and Caesar’s *coup d’état*: AR 151-158

Apr 28 The Assassination of Caesar and the Final End of the Republic: AR 159-163

PAPER DUE

May 3 The Triumvirate and the transition to the Empire: AR 163-169

May 5 Why did the Roman Republic “fall?” : AR 170-176

Final Exam: Date to be announced