Classics 20: Discovering the Romans
2018 Summer Session A
MWF, 10-11:50am, Bunche Hall 3143

Instructor: Chris Bingley
cbingley@ucla.edu
Office Hours: MW 12-1pm, Dodd 2

Course Summary:
This course is an introduction to ancient Roman culture from its very beginnings (c. 800 B.C.E.) to the High Empire (3rd century C.E.). This course examines key historical moments and cultural trends during this period, including military conquest, government, religion, philosophy, ethnicity, and gender/sexuality. We will be looking at a variety of literary sources from the ancient Roman world in order to investigate these issues. Students will gain a firm grounding in how to read and analyze primary sources and, by the end of the course, have acquired considerable knowledge of this significant ancient culture.

GE Foundation Areas: Arts and Humanities (Literary and Cultural Analysis) OR Society and Culture (Historical Analysis).
**Required Texts** (Please be sure to get the exact translation and edition, because translations can vary widely):

- Plautus, *Four Comedies* (Oxford World’s Classics)
- Ovid, *Art of Love* (trans. Rolfe Humphries)

*All other assigned primary and secondary source readings will be available online through the course website (CCLE).*

**Assignments and Grading:**

**Participation (20%)**
In class, you should be asking questions of me and your classmates, presenting your own interpretations – whether they are half-formed impressions or well-thought-out arguments – and actively listening and responding to what your classmates have to say. Students are expected not only to be present in class, but also to contribute regularly to the class discussion.

**Response Papers (2) (20%)**
- Two 3-to-5-page essays that analyze one or more primary sources; prompts/guidelines to be distributed in weeks 2 and 4.
- Optional coin project in lieu of second paper – guidelines in week 4.

**Quiz (2) (20%)**
Two short quizzes on material from previous readings and lectures, including key term identification and passage response.

**Final Exam (40%)**
Rules & Regulations:
- Readings should be done before the class meeting for which they are assigned.
- Please make every effort to attend class as absences will seriously impede your understanding of course material and affect your participation grade.
- Late work will be accepted only with prior permission.

Contact:
I am available by email and in person during my office hours. If you are unable to come during my scheduled office hours, I am happy to meet by appointment.

Course Schedule:

Week 1 – Origins and Myths of Rome
Monday, June 25th – Course Introduction: What is Ancient Rome?

Wednesday, June 27th – The Foundation of Rome
- Livy, *Rise of Rome* Preface and 1.1-21 (pgs. 3-27)
- *The Romans*, pgs. 1-21

Friday, June 29th – The Kings of Rome and the Early Republic
- Livy, *Rise of Rome* 1.22-60 (pgs. 27-70), 3.44-51 (pgs. 185-92), and 3.57-8 (pgs. 200-1)

Week 2 – Republican Rome
Monday, July 2nd – The Expansion of Rome
- Virgil, *Aeneid* Books 1, 2, and 4
- *The Romans*, pgs. 22-42

Wednesday, July 4th – Holiday (no class)

Friday, July 6th – The Roman Military and the Punic Wars
- Quiz #1
- Plautus, *Braggart Soldier* (pgs. 1-74)
- *The Romans*, pgs. 220-31

Week 3 – Augustan Culture
Monday, July 9th – The Roman Revolution
- Suetonius, *The Deified Julius Caesar* (pgs. 3-43)
- *The Romans*, pgs. 50-74
Wednesday, July 11th – The Augustan Principate
- Suetonius, *The Deified Augustus* § 51-101 (pgs. 70-97)
- *The Romans*, pgs. 74-80

Friday, July 13th – Augustan Reforms and Literary Culture
- **Paper 1 Due**
- Ovid, *Art of Love*, Book 1 (pgs. 105-29)
- Catullus, Horace (selections online)

**Week 4 – Society and Class**

Monday, July 16th – Wealth and Poverty
- Suetonius, *Nero* (pgs. 195-227)
- *The Romans*, pgs. 87-9, 145-62

Wednesday, July 18th – Slavery and Freedmen
- Petronius, *Cena Trimalchionis* (online)
- *The Romans*, pgs. 162-72

Friday, July 20th – Roman Philosophy
- **Quiz #2**
- Seneca, letters (selections online)

**Week 5 – Religion and Spectacle**

Monday, July 23rd – Religious Belief and Practice
- Apuleius, *Golden Ass* Intro (pgs. ix-xvi) and Books 1-2 (pgs. 1-45)
- *The Romans*, pgs. 121-42

Wednesday, July 25th – Roman Entertainment, Festivals, and Games
- Apuleius, *Golden Ass* 3.21-29 (pgs. 59-65) and 10.30-11.30 (pgs. 242-72)
- *The Romans*, pgs. 172-6

Friday, July 27th – Mystery Cults, Christianity, and Judaism
- Pliny the Younger, *Letters* 10.96 and 97 (online)
- *The Passion of St. Perpetua and Felicity* (online)
- *The Romans*, pgs. 142-4
Week 6 – The End of Rome?
Monday, July 30th – The Third-Century Crisis and Constantine
  ➢ **Paper 2 due**
  ➢ Eusebius, *Life of Constantine* 1.24-31 (online)
  ➢ Lactantius, *On the Deaths of the Persecutors* § 43-4 (online)
  ➢ *The Romans*, pgs. 106-20

Wednesday, August 1st – Pompeii and Review
  ➢ Pliny the Younger, *Letter* 6.16 (online)
  ➢ *The Romans*, pgs. 177-96

Friday, August 3rd – FINAL EXAM (in class)

**Academic Integrity**
Please look over the following information from the Dean of Students concerning plagiarism and academic integrity. *Any instances of academic dishonesty will be dealt with as severely as possible.*

If you have any questions or doubts about specific cases of documentation or citation, please ask me.