

CX110-30 Roman Culture and Society

20/21

Department

Classics & Ancient History

Level

Undergraduate Level 1

Module leader

Alison Cooley

Credit value

30

Module duration

23 weeks

Assessment

50% coursework, 50% exam

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module introduces students to the study of Roman Culture and Society at university level. No prior knowledge is assumed. The module covers the Roman world from the late first century BC to the early third century AD, exploring the impact on Roman society of the emergence of sole rulers and dynastic powers, and the gradual opening up of society to provincials.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

The module considers questions such as: How did cultural change occur, and to what extent was there resistance in the provinces to adopting a Roman way of life? How did people in the provinces know that they were living in the Roman empire? To what extent can we widen our picture of society beyond the sphere of the élite, who dominate our literary sources? These issues will be explored through a whole range of source material (literature, archaeology, coins, inscriptions, art, and architecture) and students will be encouraged to form their own views on both the usefulness and drawbacks of painting a picture of Roman culture and society from them.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Autumn Term Week 1 The City of Rome Week 2 Trade and Economy Week 3 Food and Drink Week 4 Family and familia Week 5 Citizens, Freed & Slaves Seminar: Archaeology & the Roman Economy Week 6 Week 6 Museum visit Week 7 Patronage Week 8 Death & Burial Week 9 Literacy Seminar: Gladiatorial Games Week 10 Roman Army Spring Term Week 1 Return of Essays Week 2 Historiography Week 3 Art & Architecture Week 4 Art & Architecture Seminar: Portraits Week 5 Literature Week 6 Literature Week 7 Literature Seminar: Virgil's Aeneid Week 8 Roman Religion or Religions of Rome? Week 9 Imperialism + Romanization Week 10 Case-study of a Province Seminar: Tacitus Summer Term Week 1 Return of Essays Week 2 Trip to a site / museum Week 3 Revision The exact topics may vary from year to year. The museum visit for Week 6 is a feature for 2019 cohort only, with IATL funding. Usually, there will be 10 lectures + 3 seminars during the autumn term. Academic study skills will be embedded in each lecture during the autumn term.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- - Develop a broad knowledge of Roman Culture and Society from the late first century BC to early third century AD, laying the foundations for further study.
- - Understanding of the different sources available for the study of Roman Culture and Society, and the methodologies to approach these
- - Cultivation of key research skills necessary for the study of Classics and Ancient History
- - Development of critical thinking skills and analytical skills

Indicative reading list

- TalisAspire – includes a shortened bibliography for the module
- Lecture handouts and Powerpoint presentations are on Moodle.
- Scanned course extracts for this module are available. See the module web page for further details.

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

Subject specific skills

- Develop a broad knowledge of Roman culture and society from the late first century BC to early third century AD, laying the foundations for further study.
- Understanding of the different sources available for the study of Roman culture and society, and the methodologies to approach these
- Cultivation of key research skills necessary for the study of Classics and Ancient History
- Development of critical thinking skills and analytical skills

Transferable skills

- Critical Thinking
 - Problem Solving
 - Active Lifelong Learning
 - Communication
 - Information Literacy
 - ICT Literacy
 - Professionalism
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Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	21 sessions of 2 hours (14%)
Seminars	6 sessions of 1 hour (2%)
Tutorials	2 sessions of 15 minutes (0%)
External visits	1 session of 2 hours (1%)
Private study	249 hours 30 minutes (83%)
Total	300 hours

Private study description

Reading and independent research required for the module, in preparation for seminars, assessed coursework and exams.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

Assessment group C1

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
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Assessment component			
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	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
First Essay A 2,500-word essay.	25%		Yes (extension)

Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component

Second Essay A 2,500-word essay.	25%		Yes (extension)
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Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component

Online Examination A 2-hour exam (2 gobbets and 2 essays).	50%		No
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- Online examination: No Answerbook required

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Feedback on the coursework will be provided via written feedback published on Tabula and via one-to-one personal feedback sessions offered to the students. Exam feedback will be available to students via their personal tutors, according to departmental policy.

[Past exam papers for CX110](#)

Availability

Post-requisite modules

If you pass this module, you can take:

- CX275-15 Stories of Objects (carry-credit and Monash)

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of UCXA-Q800 BA in Classics
- Year 1 of UCXA-VV16 Undergraduate Ancient History and Classical Archaeology
- Year 1 of UCXA-Q820 Undergraduate Classical Civilisation
- Year 1 of UCXA-Q821 Undergraduate Classical Civilisation with Study in Europe
- Year 1 of UCXA-Q801 Undergraduate Classics (Ancient Greek) with Study in Europe
- Year 1 of UCXA-Q802 Undergraduate Classics (Latin) with Study in Europe
- UPDA-Y305 Undergraduate Humanities
 - Year 7 of Y305 Humanities
 - Year 8 of Y305 Humanities

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 1 of UCXA-VV17 Undergraduate Ancient History and Classical Archaeology (Part-Time)
- Year 1 of UCXA-VV18 Undergraduate Ancient History and Classical Archaeology with Study in Europe
- Year 1 of UCXA-Q82P Undergraduate Classical Civilisation
- Year 1 of UCXA-QQ37 Undergraduate Classics and English
- UPDA-Y305 Undergraduate Humanities
 - Year 1 of Y305 Humanities
 - Year 2 of Y305 Humanities
 - Year 3 of Y305 Humanities
 - Year 4 of Y305 Humanities

This module is Option list B for:

- Year 1 of UITA-RQ38 Undergraduate Italian and Classics