

CX110-15 Roman Culture and Society

22/23

Department

Classics & Ancient History

Level

Undergraduate Level 1

Module leader

Zahra Newby

Credit value

15

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

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.

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; Week 6 reading week Week 7 Patronage Week 8 Death & Burial Week 9 Death and Burial, Week 10: Roman religions The exact topics may vary from year to year. Usually, there will be 9 lectures + 3 seminars. Academic study skills will be embedded in each lecture. In some years a museum trip may be arranged for week 6, shared with other modules in the Department.

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.
- - Show 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

Study

Study time

Type	Required	Optional
Lectures	9 sessions of 2 hours (12%)	
Seminars	3 sessions of 1 hour (2%)	
Tutorials	1 session of 30 minutes (0%)	
External visits	(0%)	1 session of 2 hours
Private study	68 hours 30 minutes (45%)	
Assessment	60 hours (40%)	
Total	150 hours	

Private study description

Reading and independent research required for the module, in preparation for seminars, assessed coursework and skills portfolio

Costs

Category	Description	Funded by	Cost to student
Field trips, placements and study abroad	museum field trip	Student	£30.00

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A

Assessment component	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Skills portfolio	50%	30 hours	Yes (extension)
A skills portfolio testing the academic research skills acquiring during the module: self-evaluation,			

Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
sample of lecture notes, extract key points from a secondary chapter, website evaluation, keyword search: how to use databases, using objects, using a commentary, plagiarism exercise, footnote exercise, bibliography exercise; essay plan.		

Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component

Assessed Essay	50%	30 hours	Yes (extension)
A 2,500-word essay.			

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.

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of UCXA-Q820 Undergraduate Classical Civilisation
- Year 1 of UCXA-Q821 Undergraduate Classical Civilisation with Study in Europe

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 1 of UCXA-VV16 Undergraduate Ancient History and Classical Archaeology
- Year 1 of UCXA-VV17 Undergraduate Ancient History and Classical Archaeology (Part-Time)
- Year 1 of UCXA-Q82P Undergraduate Classical Civilisation

This module is Optional for:

- Year 1 of UCXA-VV16 Undergraduate Ancient History and Classical Archaeology
- Year 1 of UCXA-VV18 Undergraduate Ancient History and Classical Archaeology with Study in Europe

This module is Core option list A for:

- Year 1 of UCXA-Q800 BA in Classics
- Year 1 of UCXA-Q802 Undergraduate Classics (Latin) with Study in Europe

This module is Core option list B for:

- Year 1 of UCXA-QQ37 Undergraduate Classics and English