



On-Campus Course Syllabus
HUM 201a
The Roman World
Fall 2019

Class Information

Day and Time: Thursday 1:30 – 400pm

Room Number: E201

Contact Information

Instructor Name: Kirk Spencer

Instructor Email: kspencer@criswell.edu

Instructor Phone: 469.834.5211 (Please Text First)

Instructor Office Hours: Monday 10:00-12:00, Tuesday 9:00-11:00

Course Description and Prerequisites

An exploration of the politics, art, literature, and history of the Roman Republic and Empire. The various influences of earlier Greek culture and the rise of Christianity within Roman life will be illuminated.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

- A. Demonstrate a working knowledge of major geographic features, periods and personalities of Roman history within the larger framework of European history.
- B. Recognize and evaluate culturally significant works of art and architecture revealed by archeology within different periods of Roman History and discuss their significance within the changing ideas and events of that era.
- C. Integrate facts about the everyday life of ancient Roman civilization into a reasoned interpretation of New Testament passages.

Required Textbooks

Spencer, Kirk L., The Word Made Flesh: An Orientation In The Roman World. Unpublished Manuscript, 2007

Spencer, Kirk L., Voices From the Past: Literary Interludes From the Roman World. Unpublished Manuscript, 2007

Course Requirements and Assignments

A. Exams

Six Tests will be given over the reading assignments. The average of these test will determine **60%** of the course grade. Each test should be considered as a comprehensive. This means that there may be material on the test

from previous sections of the manuscript. However, any questions asked will be taken directly from previous tests. The last of these tests will be a comprehensive final exam made up entirely of questions taken directly from the previous tests.

B. Reading

As you read through and study the textbook, mark-up the text in whatever system you want (underlining, drawing boxes, stars, brackets etc.) and also annotate the text by writing notes, ideas and comments in the margins. You may say “the text was so boring or incomprehensible that I had nothing to write...” Annotating is writing what you are thinking as you read the text—so there is always something to write. For instance in these boring or confusing sections you could write: “This is soooo boring! It is the most boring thing I have ever read. I should never read this section ever again!!!” Or if it is confusing you could write: “This is so incomprehensible, how could anyone understand it!” Mark-up and annotation is especially important in the literary interlude and literary interview portions of the manuscripts which deal with primary texts because very few exam questions will come from these sections. Marking up and annotating a text will document that you have read all of the material. Let me put it another way: I want to give you an easy grade for simply reading the manuscript. As you mark-up and annotate the text, you are attempting to convince me that you have done a close reading of the text in preparation for the exams. At the end of the semester, I will collect your manuscript and look through them to determine how thoroughly you have read the material based upon your mark-up and annotations. I will assign a letter grade which will determine **5%** of your final grade. This is an assignment designed to help you pull up your class average. However, if you do not apply effort, then it will backfire and will pull down your class average. Be sure to write your name and box number on the outside of the front page of the manuscript to make it easier to return.

C. Projects

Two maps and one timeline project will be given at the beginning of the semester. Each of these projects will determine 10% of your final grade. Together they will total **30%** of the course grade.

D. Participation

The remaining **5%** of the course grade will reflect your participation and discussion in class. Participation is based primarily on your attendance (loss of 4 pts for each unexcused absence). The participation grade will also be based on the amount and quality of questions asked and comments made in during classroom discussions.

Course/Classroom Policies and Information

Online Exam Protocol

Manuscript and Lecture Content Tests

These will be timed tests with multiple choice and matching questions. The student should take the exam as quickly as possible from memory. With the time remaining, after the exam is completed, you can check and change any answers by searching the manuscript and notes you have taken. While you can use the manuscript and your notes in this search.

Here is a list of activities which will be considered cheating:

- Talking to someone about the exam to give or get information about the content of the exam.

- Using the course manuscripts or lecture notes to find the answer to a question before you have completed the entire exam. (Although these sources can be used to find answers in an “open-book” format after you have completed the entire exam and still have remaining time.)
- Using any other source material other than the course manuscripts and lecture notes to look up answers while taking the exam.
- Letting someone else take the exam for you.
- Taking the exam for someone else.

Class Attendance

Students are responsible for enrolling in courses for which they anticipate being able to attend every class session on the day and time appearing on course schedules, and then making every effort to do so. When unavoidable situations result in absence or tardiness, students are responsible for acquiring any information missed. Professors are not obliged to allow students to make up missed work. Per their independent discretion, individual professors may determine how attendance affects students’ ability to meet course learning objectives and whether attendance affects course grades.

Grade Weight

Tests	60%
Reading	5%
Nation Map Project	10%
City Map Project	10%
Time Line Project	10%
Class Participation	5%
Total	100%

Grading Scale

A	97-100	4.0 grade points per semester hour
A-	93-96	3.7 grade points per semester hour
B+	91-92	3.3 grade points per semester hour
B	88-90	3.0 grade points per semester hour
B-	86-87	2.7 grade points per semester hour
C+	83-85	2.3 grade points per semester hour
C	80-82	2.0 grade points per semester hour
C-	78-79	1.7 grade points per semester hour
D+	75-77	1.3 grade points per semester hour
D	72-74	1.0 grade point per semester hour
D-	70-71	0.7 grade points per semester hour
F	0-69	0.0 grade points per semester hour

Incomplete Grades

Students requesting a grade of Incomplete (I) must understand that incomplete grades may be given only upon approval of the faculty member involved. An “I” may be assigned only when a student is currently passing a course and in

situations involving extended illness, serious injury, death in the family, or employment or government reassignment, not student neglect.

Students are responsible for contacting their professors prior to the end of the semester, plus filing the appropriate completed and approved academic request form with the Registrar's Office. The "I" must be removed (by completing the remaining course requirements) no later than 60 calendar days after the grade was assigned, or the "I" will become an "F."

Academic Honesty

Absolute truth is an essential belief and basis of behavior for those who believe in a God who cannot lie and forbids falsehood. Academic honesty is the application of the principle of truth in the classroom setting. Academic honesty includes the basic premise that all work submitted by students must be their own and any ideas derived or copied from elsewhere must be carefully documented.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- cheating of any kind,
- submitting, without proper approval, work originally prepared by the student for another course,
- plagiarism, which is the submitting of work prepared by someone else as if it were his own, and
- failing to credit sources properly in written work.

Institutional Email Policy

All official college email communications to students enrolled in this course will be sent exclusively to students' institutional email accounts. Students are expected to check their student email accounts regularly and to respond in an appropriate and timely manner to all communications from faculty and administrative departments.

Students are permitted to setup automatic forwarding of emails from their student email accounts to one or more personal email accounts. The student is responsible to setup and maintain email forwarding without assistance from college staff. If a student chooses to use this forwarding option, he/she will continue to be responsible for responding appropriately to all communications from faculty and administrative departments of the college. Criswell College bears no responsibility for the use of emails that have been forwarded from student email accounts to other email accounts.

Disabilities

In order to ensure full class participation, any student with a disabling condition requiring special accommodations (e.g., tape recorders, special adaptive equipment, special note-taking or test-taking needs) is strongly encouraged to contact the instructor at the beginning of the course, or if a student has a learning disability, please inform the professor so assistance can be provided.

Intellectual Property Rights

Unless otherwise specifically instructed in writing by the professor, students must neither materially nor digitally reproduce materials from any course offered by Criswell College for or with the significant possibility of distribution.

Resources and Support

Blackboard and CAMS: Criswell College uses Blackboard as its web-based learning tool and CAMS for student data.

Students needing assistance with either of these resources should contact the Campus Software Manager at cbutler@criswell.edu.

Student Services: The Student Services Office exists to foster and encourage success in all areas of life—physical, intellectual, spiritual, social, and emotional. Students are encouraged to reach out for assistance by contacting the office at 214.818.1332 or studentservices@criswell.edu. Pastoral and certified counseling services are also available to Criswell students. Appointments are scheduled through the Dean of Students Jeff Campbell, at jcampbell@criswell.edu.

Wallace Library: Students can access academic resources and obtain research assistance by visiting the Wallace Library, which is located on campus. For more information, students can email the Wallace Library at library@criswell.edu or call 214.818.1348.

Writing Center: Students are encouraged to consult with writing tutors to improve and enhance their skills and confidence by practicing techniques of clear and effective writing. To consult with a tutor, students can visit the Writing Center located on the first floor near the Computer Lab, or they can schedule an appointment by emailing writingcenter@criswell.edu or calling 214.818.1373.

Course Outline/Calendar

Weekly Session

Assignment

Week 1 (August 19-23)

Introduction

Greek Mythology: Europa-Theseus

Study City and Nation Map

Week 2 (August 26 – August 30)

Greek Mythology: Paris-Odysseus

Mycenaean's and Schliemann

Study Timeline

CITY AND NATION TEST

Week 3 (September 2-6)

Minoan's Santorini & Akrotiri

Indo-European Migrations

Study TimeLine

Week 4 (September 9-13)

Greek City States

Athens Acropolis

Read "The Greeks" (WMF pp.1-36)

TIMELINE TEST

Week 5 (September 16-20)
Alexander
Etruscans: Gold & Graves

Study “The Greeks” (WMF pp.1-36)

Week 6 (September 23-27)
Etruscans: Tombs
The Early Roman Republic

Read “Roman Republic” (WMF pp.35-114)

GREEK TEST

Week 7 (September 30-October 4)
The Punic Wars
Marius’ Reforms

Study “Roman Republic” (WMF pp.35-114)

Week 8 (October 7-11)
Pompey and Caesar
Antony and Cleopatra

Read “Augustan Age” (WMF pp.115-175)

ROMAN REPUBLIC TEST

Week 9 (October 14-18)
The Augustan Age
Roman Life: Forum and Coliseum

Read Virgil’s “Aeneid” (VftP pp.3-19)
Read “Lucretius” (VftP pp.20-30)
Study “Augustan Age” (WMF pp.115-175)

Week 10 (October 21-25)
Roman Life: Aqueducts, Baths & Toilets
Roman Life: Pompeii & Herculaneum

Read “Roman Empire” (WMF pp.176-228)

AUGUSTAN AGE EXAM

Week 11 (October 28-November 1)
Life of Paul: 1st Missionary Journey
Life of Paul: 2nd & 3rd Journey

Read Ovid’s “Metamorphoses” (VftP pp.31-49)

Study "Roman Empire" (WMF pp.176-228)

Week 12 (November 4-8)

The Decline of the Roman Empire

Read Interviews with Cicero (VftP pp.58-67)

Read Marcus Aurelius Interview (VftP pp.69-71)

Study "Roman Empire" (WMF pp.176-241)

ROMAN EMPIRE EXAM

Week 13 (November 11-15)

The Rise of Christianity

Read "Rise of Christianity" (WMF pp.242-291)

Ovid's "Art of Love" Interview (VftP pp72-90)

Week 14 (November 18-22)

Christianity in Human Terms

Read Ovid's "Tristia" Interview (VftP pp.91-99)

Study "Rise of Christianity" (WMF pp.229-291)

Prepare for Final

November 25-29

Thanksgiving Break

No Class

Week 15 (December 2-6)

Constantine

Prepare for Final

RISE OF CHRISTIANITY EXAM

Week 16 (December 9-13)

COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM

Submit Marked-Up Manuscript Text

Submit Extra Credential Sheet

EXTRA CREDENTIALS

I encourage students to take the learning experience beyond the walls of the classroom. I call the extra work “extra credentials” rather than extra credit. Any learning experience related in some way to the Greek or Roman culture will do. This can include such activities as:

- Visiting museums,
- Watching good feature length historical film,
- Reading a good historical novel,
- Attending expert lectures or society meetings on other campuses
- Participating (and organizing) toga/tunic parties with costumes, historical movies and period refreshments.

If the student participates in these learning experiences they should keep record of what they have done and a very brief description of what they have learned. This can be recorded in whatever format the student chooses. Turn in this list to me at the end of the semester.