History 5010: Studies in Ancient History, May 2018 (8W1)

Ancient & Medieval History in Rome

Instructors:
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The best way to contact me is via email. Put “Italy program” somewhere in the subject line.

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Course Description.
This graduate class entails an intensive study program to Rome, and is linked to a section of HIST 4262 in southern Italy; together, the whole travel portion runs from May 13/14 – June 2, 2018, with some meetings before travel commences. It offers a rich overview to the history and culture of the city of Rome, from antiquity to the present, via personal encounters with the monuments, art, and topography of the city. The itinerary and academic plan are oriented towards ancient and medieval interests, but there is scope for students to explore interests in later eras, especially the Renaissance, the nineteenth-century Risorgimento (unification of Italy), the fascist period, and modern Italy (indeed, the physical nature of Rome as it exists now insists on considering different histories together).

Relevant previous coursework is recommended but not required. Knowledge of Latin or Italian is not required. This class entails preparatory work during Spring 2018, and the completion of long papers (described below) during the first five-week Summer 2018 term. The travel portion does not extend beyond Maymester (3Wk1), and students can be back in Denton in time for Summer 5Wk1 classes.

Course Goals.
*To gain a thorough grounding in the fields of archaeology, history and art history from the perspective of a single historical site;
*To understand the historical impact of Rome, focusing especially on the Etruscans, ancient Rome, early Christianity, the Middle Ages, and the Italian Renaissance;
*To do guided research on relevant subjects of interest to each student, chosen in consultation with the faculty; to communicate this knowledge in oral presentations and a twenty-page research paper;
*To experience Roman space and discover how complex layers of history are intermingled within a modern urban setting

Textbooks:
2. Blue Guide: Rome

We will provide you with further readings and handouts. Moreover, each student will conduct independent research before and after the program. Each student will need to bring the Blue Guide to Italy, as well as a durable notebook for the journal requirement (see below).

How your grade will be determined:
Early test, covering Christopher Hibbert’s book, and geography: 10%
On-site report(s): 20% of your final grade
Participation: 20%
Journal: 10%  Final papers (course review, written site report, 20-page research paper): 40%

**Final grades** will be evaluated as follows, based on percent-averages of your grades:

100-90=A (excellent)  89-80=B (good)  79-70=C (mediocre)  69-60=D (poor)  >60=F (fail)

*Note: we do not inflate graduate grades. An “A” is given to work that is above and beyond ordinary quality.*

**Further details:**

**Early test** (10%): During our first few days in Italy, you will take a test covering Christopher Hibbert’s *Rome: The Biography of a City*. The test questions are targeted towards major figures, events, and “big picture” developments; there is roughly one question per book chapter. There is a study guide and we will prep you further in upcoming meetings. Reading Hibbert’s work before we arrive in Rome is vital in creating shared knowledge among the group. There may also be questions covering the major geographical features of modern Rome.

**On-site report** (20%): *BEFORE* departure, the instructors will help each graduate student to choose one or two significant sites from the daily schedule below, and conduct independent research for an oral report at the site. Grad students will report either on one major site, or two minor ones. Each student will need to show Drs. Fuhrmann and De Santis a presentation outline and produce any necessary handouts by the time we depart from the U.S. The co-instructors will provide further guidance for on-site reports at the Spring 2018 organizational meetings. NOTE: It is impossible to report on certain sites, such as the Vatican excavations.

**Journal** (10%): During the course of the travel portion of class, you will see scores of different sites. Consequently, it is imperative that you keep a journal to keep track of the various places we visit. Otherwise, it will be extremely difficult to complete the final paper portion of your grade. The journal is due with the rest of your papers by July 7, and can be returned to you after grades are posted.

**Participation** (20%). The program is intensive and, for the most part, runs twelve hours a day, every day. You are expected to participate in all group activities, make appropriate comments in discussion, and maintain proper comportment. In general, you should be engaged, occasionally ask or answer questions, and follow the golden rule: treat us and your classmates as you would want to be treated. And please be mindful that we will be academic ambassadors of our country and our state.

**Final paper(s)** (40%, due July 7): The final paper project will be a multi-part work, which will consist of three parts:

1. Final site report: incorporate first-hand impressions into a written version of your field report. What did you learn or realize about your site when you were actually there, that you found particularly striking or surprising? Furthermore, in what ways did the other sites we visited provide enlightening context for your site? What other sites were particularly relevant to yours? You will need to provide a full bibliography for this part of your paper. (7-10 pp.)

2. A well documented research paper, which investigates some aspect of Roman/Italian culture or history. Topics and guidelines will be discussed at pre-program meetings and individual consultations. (20-25 pp.)

3. A general review of the program: what you found most interesting, ways the program could be improved, etc. (2-3 pp.)

**NOTE:** This is a Summer 8-Week 1 course; your work must be turned in no later than the end of that term, i.e. July 7, 2018. An “I” grade (“incomplete”) for this class will be assigned only in appropriate, pre-arranged circumstances. Travel for this course takes place during the 3-Week “Maymester term, and you should be able
Meetings in March, April, May 2018: About four organizational group meetings will be scheduled to provide general overview, travel guidelines, and introduction to UNT Study Abroad Center services. The professors will also be available by appointment for individual consultation.

May 11: Outlines for on-site reports due (email to both co-teachers, and bring two paper copies). By this date, each student will have the option of taking the exam on Christopher Hibbert’s book *Rome: A Biography of the City* (in the History Help Center).

Concise tentative itinerary:
N.B. All itineraries in Italy are tentative; there can (and most likely will) be some changes. Unforeseeable circumstances may compel us to move things around after we arrive.

Sunday May 13: Departure from America. See syllabus for HIST 4262: The Roads of Roman Italy; the travel portion for that class runs from our arrival in s. Italy on Monday May 14 through May 22.

DAY 1, Wednesday, May 23. Arrival in Rome from Naples via train; taxi from station to accommodations in Rome:
Villa Riarì, in the Trastevere (“trans-Tiber”) neighborhood.
Address: Via dei Riari 43, 00165 Roma, Italia (ph: 011 39 06/6861296 or 68806122 ; Fax: 011 39 06/68307975).

Trastevere, Tiber Island, Forum Boarium, et al.

Modest dress recommended (shoulders and knees covered.)
Early lunch: Porchetta at Sta. Maria della Scala
St. Maria in Trastevere (Near the Centro; one of the oldest Christian churches in Rome)
San Francesco a Ripa (Bernini sculpture and relics of St. Francis of Assisi)
St. Cecilia (incl. excavated passages under the church--a glimpse of daily life in ancient Rome)
San Crisogono: excavations of medieval church underneath the modern one
Tiber Island and Rome’s oldest bridges: ancient hospital district; relics of the apostle Bartholomew
Cloaca Maxima “Great Drain/Sewer,” 500s BC: Rome’s first great engineering project
Synagogue and Jewish ghetto: Rome’s medieval Jewish neighborhood (& unique culinary tradition)
Portico of Octavia & Theater of Marcellus (ruins of sites dedicated to Octavian Augustus’ family)
Bocca della Verità (Mouth of Truth) & Sta. Maria in Cosmedin early med. Greek Catholic church
San Nicola in Carcere: excavation under the church, which is built on the site of pagan temples.
Forum Boarium (the first forum) and the important, intact republican-era pagan temples
Arch of the Money Changers (AD 204, with politically-defaced depictions of imperial brothers)
San Giorgio in Velabro (site of Remus’ murder, St. George’s relics, 13th-cent. fresco, Cola di
Rienzo’s announcement of his revolution in 1347, and a senseless mafia bombing in 1993

Dinner: Jewish Roman cuisine at Ba Ghetto (somewhat expensive; cheaper options will be available)

Possible later visits to the **Circus Maximus**, Palazzo Farnese, San Pietro in Montorio/Tempietto, or the monument of Giuseppe Garibaldi on the Janiculum Hill. We may also find a chance to see more of the Aventine Hill area: Cavalieri di Malta “key hole,” ruins of the **Temple of Diana. Porta S. Paolo** (ancient city wall and gates), the Pyramidi and “**English Cemetery.**” **Monte Testaccio**, a hill built entirely from the remains of second-century amphorae that stored Spanish olive oil. The total walking itinerary, if we did this in one day, is over five miles (8 km).

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**DAY 2: Thu. May 24: Palaces, plazas, and the Pantheon.**

Palazzo Farnese and **Campo dei Fiori**: market, Giordano Bruno monument
Piazza Navona: large piazza that retains the shape of Domitian’s ancient circus; fountains by Bernini
“Pasquino” talking statue: ruined statue that “speaks” vs. corrupt men, a local tradition since 1500s
San Agostino (tomb of Monica, Augustine’s mother); **San Luigi dei Francesi**: Caravaggio paintings
The church of **Sant’Ivo**: a masterpiece of the architect Boromini
Pantheon: best preserved ancient building in Rome; contains the tomb of Raphael and Italian kings
Sta. Maria sopra **Minerva**: Fra Angelico, Catherine of Siena; sculptures by Michelangelo and Bernini.
**Ignatius Loyola church**: trompe l’oeil ceiling frescoes
**Column of Marcus Aurelius**: second-cent. AD imitation of the Column of Trajan
**Trevi Fountain**: A16th-century fountain designed by Nicola Salvi, immortalized in film by Fellini

Palazzo Valentini: ancient Roman houses, newly excavated and open to the public by appointment
**Column of Trajan**: illustrates Trajan’s conquest of Dacia. Also, Trajan’s multi-story market.
**Il Vittoriano**, King Victor Emmanuel II monument: early 20th c. nationalistic monument oft derided as the “Wedding Cake” or “Mussolini’s typewriter.” Houses the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.
**Piazza Venezia** and **San Marco**: site of Mussolini’s tirades and another “talking statue”
**Il Gesù**: template for New-World “Jesuit Style”; tomb of Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuit order
**Area Sacra di Largo Argentina**: remains of four Republican temples, near site of Caesar’s murder

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**DAY 3: Fri. May 25: Vatican City**

Modest dress essential!!! (shoulders and knees covered.)
St. Peter’s basilica: Home of the Catholic Church; site of Peter’s martyrdom; Michelangelo’s Pietà
Special tour of the excavations under St. Peter’s: Pagan columbarium and Peter’s probable tomb
Vatican Museums: Raphael’s School of Athens, Michelangelo’s Sistine Chapel, ancient Lacoön, etc.
Castel St. Angelo: Hadrian’s 2nd-cent. mausoleum, converted to the popes’ fortress and treasury
Ponte Sant’Angelo: Designed by Bernini as one of his last projects

Optional morning program: Ara Pacis and Mausoleum of Augustus

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DAY 4: Saturday, May 26: The Circus Maximus, the Aventine Hill, the Pyramid, and ancient Rome’s great trash heap.

Today we will see Rome’s great ancient race track the Circus Maximus, and explore the Aventine Hill area:
Pyramid of Cestius: unusual first-century tomb (special permission to enter it pending!)
Protestant cemetery: Keats and Shelley lie here
Monte Testaccio: huge mound of early-imperial trash: broken jugs (amphorae)
War memorial to the Italian Resistance and victims of Nazi genocide
Santa Sabina: Saint Dominic and Thomas Aquinas lived here. The 5th-cent. wooden door contains the earliest known depiction of the crucifixion.
Knights of Malta “Keyhole”: clear view of St Peter’s basilica
Santa Prisca: built on top off a Mithraeum (Persian cult site, pending permission)
Apuleius restaurant on the ruins of Diana’s temple: Ruins of this important temple are incorporated into this restaurant’s interior. Here Gaius Gracchus made his last stand in 121 BC

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DAY 5: Sun. May 27: Medieval churches, Spanish Steps, and the Milvian Bridge

The morning is free. Students (certainly including non-Catholics) will be able to attend mass at St. Peter’s if they wish, and see Pope Francis at noon if he is in town. Dress modestly for the whole day. Dr. Fuhrmann may organize an optional visit to San Lorenzo and the underground basilica of Porta Maggiore.

Afternoon: This day includes sites around Termini station:
Santa Maria Maggiore: 14th-cent. Romanesque bell tower; medieval mosaics; Michelangelo chapel
Santa Prassede: important medieval mosaics, and Bernini’s earliest work
Santa Pudenziana: a church built into a 2d-cent. bathhouse, one of the oldest Christian sites in Rome

Evening: trip north to see the Spanish Steps, Piazza del Popolo, and the Milvian Bridge where Constantine reshaped world history by winning a battle there in 312, leading to the conversion of the
Roman Empire to Christianity.

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DAY 6: Mon. May 28: Colosseum, Palatine, the Roman Forum

Colosseum: largest Roman amphitheater, and icon of Rome
Arch of Constantine: the senate’s (perhaps reluctant) tribute to Constantine’s 312 victory at the Milvian Bridge; vaguely addresses the new imperial religion; example of late antique architecture
Palatine Hill: first hill to be settled; later the center of the emperors’ residences (hence “palace”) Special access to the Severan arcades which are usually closed; view of the Circus Maximus

Arch of Titus: Commemorates Rome’s victory over Jewish rebels in 70AD, shows plundering of the Jewish Temple
Forum Romanum: Caesar’s pyre, Vestal Virgins, senate house, Rostrum, arch of Septimius Severus.

Church of Cosma and Damiano: ancient Christian church, mosaics, still-viewable ex-pagan temple (if open)

Tullianum, or Mamertine Prison: holding cell or execution site for Rome’s enemies (Jugurtha, Vercingetorix, Catilinarian conspirators, and many Christians, probably incl. Apostles Peter and Paul)

Scalae Gemoniae: “Stairs of Mourning” where bodies of deposed rulers were exposed and abused

Optional day-end program:
Michelangelo’s Piazza del Campidoglio: also, Marcus Aurelius statue
Capitoline Museums: she-wolf, colossal head of Constantine, Dying Gaul; base of early Jupiter temple
Ara Coeli: Site of temple of Juno Moneta, the Roman mint. Later, the meeting place of the Medieval Commune of Rome, site of Helena’s relics, and the place where Edward Gibbon got a big idea
Cola di Rienzi statue: stormy Italian nationalist of the 14th century died here
Ancient insula apartment block

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DAY 7: Tue. May 29: Free day
This is more of an “open day”; we may put something here if earlier plans get messed up.
Optional (deeply historical and intensive) tour of the National Museum System of Rome. We’ll take public transport in the morning to the main train station (Termini), and start by seeing Bernini’s most famous statue (St. Teresa in Ecstasy, above) in the Sta. Maria della Vittoria church. Then . . .

Piazza Repubblica & St. Maria degli Angeli: Diocletian’s huge baths, turned into a church by Michelangelo
Palazzo Massimo alle Terme: houses an immense amount of ancient Roman art, coins, and (attention Latin students) important inscriptions
Then we will head back towards our neighborhood to the Cripta Balbi, which includes a medieval cement factory in what was an ancient Roman theater
If there is somehow more time, we will also visit the final branch of the National Museum System in Rome, Palazzo Altemps, which houses a mix of ancient and Renaissance art.

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DAY 8, Wed. May 30: Day trip out of Rome to Tivoli
• Hadrian’s Villa: The 2nd-century emperor’s rather well preserved garden and country retreat, great Roman architectural remains. A UNESCO World Heritage site.
• Villa d’Este: Drawing inspiration from the nearby Villa of Hadrian, this Renaissance Villa was built to house one of the grandsons of Pope Alexander VI, and it includes an amazing garden and many fountains. Another UNESCO World Heritage site!

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Day 9 – Thu. May 31: Appian Way and south Rome
Today we operate in two groups: one on bikes, the other on foot, depending on your comfort level. Both itineraries are excellent! This day will cap our study of the Appian Way.
Museum of Rome’s Walls: you’ll get to walk in, on, and through these massive ancient structures
Arch of Drusus and Porta Sebastiano  Appian Way, still in use after 2200+ years
Tomb of Cecilia Metella  Catacombs of San Callisto
Villa and Racetrack of Maxentius (best preserved Circus)
Aqueduct Park: ancient Rome’s water supply  Our guides will get us special access into various other sites.  Optional: Baths of Caracalla; Fosse Ardeatina (WWII memorial of Nazi massacre)

Day 10: Fri. June 1: San Clemente, and maybe the southern suburbs

San Clemente - Amazing triple-layer site, with a very early Medieval church underground (where you’ll see the first recorded instance of the Italian language in a fresco) and beneath that, a pre-Christian Mithraeum (center for the worship of the eastern god Mithras).

Augustinian monastery of Santi Quattro Coronati

This is all of the required itinerary for this day. In addition to this, we will offer an optional trip to Rome’s southern suburb EUR, rich in fascist architecture and the interesting Museum of Roman Civilization. Also:

- Basilica of St. Paul outside the Walls: Enormous church built on the burial site of the Apostle Paul, with portraits of all the Popes
- Montemartini: Part of the art collection of the Musei Capitolini that couldn’t fit. Highlights include the Esquiline Venus, one of the most erotic statues to hail from antiquity.

Day 11: Sat. June 2: Final day (program ends). Free day

Usual rules apply on free days. We may have to move something here if earlier plans get messed up. The program officially ends today, and the professors can help students make arrangements to get to the airport. Be advised that today is Italy’s “July 4th,” i.e. their national holiday. Parts of Rome will be shut down for military parades. But students are encouraged to arrange possible side trips and stay longer in Italy. We can help you plan.

July 6: all papers due. The professors will be in contact with students before then to provide guidance.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: If you cheat or commit any other act of academic dishonesty, you fail the course, or worse. Your papers must be individual endeavors (though I encourage you to use the Writing Lab). We are particularly determined to prevent WEB PLAGIARISM. If you cut and paste from the web on for any class assignment, and fail to credit your source, we will do everything in our power to have you expelled from the university. See www.unt.edu/csrr/academic_dishonesty.htm for more information.  ADA STATEMENT: We fully intend to comply with the American Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. However, students with special needs must do two things: first, they must successfully apply for services with UNT’s Office of Disability Accommodations (http://www.unt.edu/oda/); second, they must take initiative in communicating with us so that we can help provide the necessary accommodations.

*** The instructors reserve the right to alter this syllabus, which is still in draft form. ***