Catalog Description: A graduate-level survey of ancient Roman culture. Emphasis on social and private life, religion, historiography, literature, philosophy, drama, art, and architecture.

The course is designed to offer both a broad overview of Roman culture, from the founding of the city to the rise of the Christian era over one thousand years later, and focused study of the pivotal Augustan period, when the political system was transformed from “republic” to “empire” and when many important and enduring features of Roman culture were established. We read extensively both primary sources and scholarship and consider many works of art, architecture, and other forms of material culture.

Learning Objectives

Students who successfully complete HRS 214 will be able to:
- Describe distinctively Roman values and ideals and the ways in which these were expressed in social and private life, religion, historiography, literature, philosophy, drama, art, and architecture.
- Describe the historical development of these forms of cultural expression.
- Describe in detail cultural forms of expression manifested during the Augustan period, and assess their relationship with political and social phenomena.
- Identify the characteristics of ancient Roman culture that have had an enduring influence on Western civilization.
- Demonstrate an ability to take a multidisciplinary approach to the study of ancient Roman culture.
- Demonstrate an ability to identify, locate, and make effective use of primary and secondary source materials relating to ancient Roman culture.
- Critically evaluate scholarly arguments relating to the subject matter of the course.

Texts

Required
- Peter Jones and Keith Sidwell, eds., *The World of Rome: An Introduction to Roman Culture*
- Karl Galinsky, *Augustan Culture*
- Jo-Ann Shelton, ed., *As the Romans Did: A Sourcebook in Roman Social History*, 2nd ed.
- Paul Zanker, *The Power of Images in the Age of Augustus*

Standard reference works (not required for course)
Requirements and Grading

In addition to the completion of all reading assignments (underlined in the Schedule and Assignments below) by the dates assigned, formal requirements and their correlative grade percentages consist of the following:

- Regular attendance and fruitful contribution to class discussions (25%)
- Four short (app. 600 word) papers in response to assigned readings (20%)
- Oral presentation and written term paper (app. 20 pp.) (55%)

Grades for assignments and for the course will be based on the following (e.g., 92% and above is an A):

- A 92+, A- 88, B+ 84, B 78, B- 74, C+ 70, C 64, C- 60, D+ 56, D 50, D- 46, F below 46

Note: If you have a disability and require accommodations, you need to provide disability documentation to SSWD, Lassen Hall 1008; 278-6955. Please discuss your accommodation needs with the instructor after class or during office hours early in the semester.

Schedule and Assignments (reading assignments are underlined and are to be completed by date listed)

January 27

Introductions. Overview of political history

February 3

Overview of political history (cont.)
As the Romans Did (ARD), 1-3 (“The Roman Ideal”)
ARD, 4-11 (“Class Structure”)
Peruse ARD, 440-451 (Appendix 1: Sources)
Peruse ARD, 453-456 (Appendix 3: Important Dates and Events)
World of Rome (WR), 1-48 (ch. 1: The idea of Rome [753-31 BC])
WR, 49-82 (ch. 2: Rome’s new kings [31 BC – AD 476])
Peruse WR, 328-330 (Appendix 1: Roman emperors)
WR, 83-111 (ch. 3: Princeps and imperator);
Augustan Culture (AC), 3-41 (ch. I: A Principal Concept: Auctoritas)
AC, 42-79 (ch. II: The Restoration of the Res publica)

February 10

The Aeneid and Augustan literature
AC, 80-140 (ch. III: Ideas, Ideals, and Values)
AC, 225-287 (ch. V: Augustan Literature)
Virgil, Aeneid Books I-VI; also peruse the Glossary (419-442)

February 17

The Aeneid (cont.)
Virgil, Aeneid Books VII-XII; also read the Postscript (403-417)
Response 1 due

February 24

Governance and law. The Provinces and beyond
WR, 112-139 (ch. 4: Governing Rome)
ARD, 203-242 (ch. X: Government and Politics)
ARD, 243-267 (ch. XI: The Roman Army)
ARD, 268-287 (ch. XII: The Provinces)
Tacitus, The Agricola and the Germania (including the Introduction)

March 3

Society and economy
WR, 140-180 (ch. 5: The life of the city)
ARD, 59-78 (ch. IV: Housing and City Life)
ARD, 11-15 (“Patronage”)
ARD, 163-185 (ch. VIII: Slaves)
March 10  Families and domestic life. Leisure and education

ARD, 186-202 (ch. IX: Freedmen and Freedwomen)
WR, 181-207 (ch. 6: Production and consumption)
Peruse ARD, 452 (Appendix 2: Roman Money)
ARD, 123-162 (ch. VII: Occupations)

Response2 due

March 17  Religion and philosophy

WR, 208-234 (ch. 7: The Roman family)
ARD, 16-36 (ch. II: Families)
ARD, 37-58 (ch. III: Marriage)
ARD, 288-306 (ch. XIII: Women in Roman Society)
ARD, 79-99 (ch. V: Domestic and Personal Concerns)
ARD, 307-358 (ch. XIV: Leisure and Entertainment)
ARD, 100-122 (ch. VI: Education)

April 7  Religion and philosophy (cont.). Drama, satire, and other literary forms

ARD, 391-430 (concluding portion of ch. XV: Religion and Philosophy)
WR, 262-286 (ch. 9: Roman literature)
Review AC, 225-287 (ch. V: Augustan Literature)
Peruse WR, 331-346 (Appendix 2: Latin and Greek writers)
Selected Roman literary works (available via SacCT)

Response3 due

April 14  Art and architecture

WR, 287-316 (ch. 10: Roman art and architecture)
AC, 141-224 (ch. IV: Art and Architecture)
The Power of Images in the Age of Augustus, v-vii (Preface) and 1-100 (chs. 1-3)

April 21  Art and architecture (cont.). Tradition and innovation in Augustan culture

AC, 332-375 (ch. VII: Central Characteristics)
The Power of Images in the Age of Augustus, 101-263 (chs. 4-6)

April 28  Tradition and innovation in Augustan culture (cont.)
The Power of Images in the Age of Augustus, 265-339 (chs. 7-8 and Conclusion)

May 5  The enduring influence of Augustus and the Roman empire

AC, 376-389 (ch. VIII: Epilogue: Auctor Perpetuus)
ARD, 431 (Vergil and T. S. Eliot)
WR, 317-327 (Epilogue: The ghosts of Rome)
Student presentations

May 12  Conclusions
Student presentations (cont.)

May 19  Term paper due