ITAL 490      Instructor:  Michelina Ginobbi
Topics in Italian Studies    Office:            FDH, room 503
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                               Office hours: Monday      1:00-2:00 p.m.
                               Wednesday 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Spring 2013
Plan of Work

Jan 21  ◙ Martin Luther King Jr. Day Recess

Jan 28  ● Introduction to the course-Ancient Rome and its History

Feb 4   ● History into Myth - T. Livius and Tacitus

Feb 11  ● The Rebirth of the Myth of Rome in the Early Renaissance

Feb 18  ◙ Washington’s Birthday Recess

Feb 25  ● The Myth of Rome in the Late Renaissance

March 4 ● Roman Myth in the Baroque and Neoclassical Age

March 11 ● The Myth of Rome from “the Age of Reason” through 19th Century
           Rome and the American Enlightenment

March 18 ● Imperial Visions: Hitler and Mussolini

March 25 ◙ Spring Break

April 1  ● Imperial Projections: Ancient Rome in Modern Popular Culture
          Imperial Rome in American Cinema after 1945

April 8  ● Spartacus as Domestic Economist

April 15 ► Class Presentation

April 22 ► Class Presentation
April 29  ● “I, Claudius”: Projection and Imperial Soap Opera
   Brooklyn-on-the-Tiber: Roman Comedy on Broadway and in Film

May 6  ● Living Like Romans in Las Vegas

May 13  ► Final Paper (3:10 p.m.)
Course Description

Combining ancient history and cultural studies, this course will provide an account of how Rome has shaped our identity and how she projects her past into our present. The investigation will span different fields—politics, sociology, arts, and media—and it will show that, from Broadway to Hollywood to Caesars Palace, Rome is still with us.

Course Format

The course will have a lecture format, supported by students’ in class presentations and discussion of relevant material. Students will be required to select a specific topic of their choice among those listed in the syllabus, to research it throughout the course, and to present their findings in class towards the end of the semester. The course format also includes a final paper. The course will be taught in English.

Grading Distribution

Research paper 40%
Class presentation 40%
Attendance 20%

Grading scale

A=100-93  A-=92-90  B+=89-88  B=87-84
B-=83-80  C+=79-78  C=77-74  C-=73-70
D+=69-68  D=67-64  D-=63-60  F=59-0

Final exam. The final exam will consist of a research paper on one of the topics listed in the syllabus. Details of the paper must be arranged with the instructor.

Class presentation. Students are expected to give an-in class presentation on one of the topics listed below. Choice of the topic and date of presentation must be arranged with the instructor.

TITUS LIVIUS; TACITUS; ROMULUS; LUcretia AND TARQUINIUS; LUCIUS JUNIUS BRUTUS (the first Brutus); HANNIBAL; SCIPIO AFRICANUS; SPARTACUS; CICERO; JULIUS CAESAR; MARK ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA; OCTAVIANUS AUGUSTUS; NERO; MARCUS AURELIUS; ST. AUGUSTINE; PETRARCH; MACHIAVELLI; SHAKESPEARE; MICHELANGELO; JACQUES-LOUIS DAVID; GEORGE WASHINGTON
**Attendance.** Attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to come in class regularly, and to participate in all class activities. They are allowed ONE absence. Each additional absence, JUSTIFIED OR UNJUSTIFIED, will result in the loss of 2% from their 20% class participation.

**Textbooks**

Required:


Peter Bondanella *The Eternal City* (the University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill & London, 1987) (on reserve)

Recommended:

G.I.F. Tingay-J. Badcock *These Were the Romans* (Dufour Editions, second edition)
Margaret Malamud *Ancient Rome and Modern America* ( Wiley – Blackwell)

**General Class Policies**

During class students are expected to:

- Behave in a manner consonant with an academic environment and respectful of other students;
- Avoid using cell phones or any other electronic devices that are not pertinent to class instruction.

Students who engage in a disruptive behavior in class sessions may be asked to leave the classroom.

**UNLV Policies and Statements**

**Academic misconduct** – “Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Academic misconduct policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV’s function as an educational institution.”

An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism: “Using the words or ideas of another, from the internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources.” See the “Student Academic Misconduct Policy” (approved December 9, 2005, located at:  

[http://studentconduct.unlv.edu/misconduct/policy.html](http://studentconduct.unlv.edu/misconduct/policy.html)
Consensual Relationships – UNLV prohibits romantic or sexual relationships between members of the university community when one of the individuals involved has direct professional influence or direct authority over the other. For further information, see:

http://hr.unlv.edu/Policy/consensual.html

Copyright Policy – The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. YOU ARE INDIVIDUALLY AND SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR VIOLATIONS OF COPYRIGHT AND FAIR USE LAWS. THE UNIVERSITY WILL NEITHER PROTECT NOR DEFEND YOU NOR ASSUME ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYEE OR STUDENT VIOLATIONS OF COPYRIGHT AND FAIR USE LAWS. Violations of copyright laws could subject action under University policies. To help you familiarize yourself with copyright and fair use policies, the University encourages you to visit its copyright web page at:

http://provost.unlv.edu/copyright/statements.html

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) determines accommodations that are “reasonable” in promoting the equal access of a student reporting a disability to the general UNLV learning experience. In so doing, the DRC also balances instructor and departmental interests in maintaining curricular standards so as to best achieve a fair evaluation standard amongst students being assisted. In order for the DRC to be effective it must be considered in the dialog between the faculty and the student who is requesting accommodations. For this reason faculty should only provide students course adjustment after having received an “Academic Accommodation Plan.” If faculty members have any questions regarding the DRC, they should call a DRC counselor.

UNLV complies with the provisions set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The DRC is located in the Student Services Complex (SSC-A), Room 143, phone (702) 895-0866, fax (702) 895-0651. For additional information, please visit: http://drc.unlv.edu/.

Religious Holidays Policy – Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor no later than the end of the first two weeks of classes, February 1, 2013, of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. This policy shall not apply in the event that administering the test or examination at an alternate time would impose an undue hardship on the instructor or the university that could not reasonably been avoided. For additional information, please visit: http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=4&navoid=164.

Incomplete Grades - The grade of I – Incomplete – can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed all course work up to the withdrawal date of that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student’s control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last
part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. A student who receives an I is responsible for making up whatever work was lacking at the end of the semester. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.

► **Tutoring** – The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring and academic assistance for all UNLV students taking UNLV courses. Students are encouraged to stop by the ASC to learn more about subjects offered, tutoring times and other academic resources. The ASC is located across from the Student Services Complex, #22 on the current UNLV map. Students may learn more about tutoring services by calling (702) 895-3177 or visiting the tutoring web site at: [http://academicsuccess.unlv.edu/tutoring/](http://academicsuccess.unlv.edu/tutoring/)

► **Writing Center** – One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 895-3908. The student’s Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: [http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/](http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/)

► **Rebelmail** – By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students’ Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV’s official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students’ e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always @unlv.nevada.edu.

► **Final Examinations** – The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur at the time and on the day specified in the final exam schedule. See the schedule at: [http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars](http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars)