

# LUKEION ROMAN HISTORY COURSE SYLLABUS

THE LUKEION PROJECT WWW.LUKEION.ORG

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CLASS PAGE: <http://www.quia.com/pages/abarr/romanhistory>



**The importance of knowing something about the Romans can't be understated. Simply put, Roman civilization is the basis of our modern world. Much of our law, language, political science, reason & logic, engineering, government, society and ideas of civic duty come from the Romans. No other ancient culture, other than ancient Greece, will help you understand the modern world better.**

**But all that "important stuff" aside, the Romans were real people, with real faults and real value as individuals. The interdisciplinary approach that we will use to study them this semester will help you understand a bit of the big picture as well as the nitty-gritty basics of living in the Roman world.**

## COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Just like in other college-prep courses and indeed at college, I will not chase you to complete course requirements or email you when you are late handing in something as assigned. On the other hand, I am more than happy to answer any questions you may have or clarify any assignment for you. Just email me and I will make sure you are back on track.

Students will be expected to (1) become familiar with the readings and (2) conversant with what is presented in class. Since the reading can be dry without any background information, I recommend students complete the reading AFTER the session each week. The live weekly sessions are foundational to understanding the reading rather than visa versa.

Students are expected to take dependable notes during the live session and devise a notation system for the reading. Depending on student's experience in note taking, parents may need to help develop this skill to avoid unnecessary frustration. Keeping an organized notebook and recopying class notes after each session are also going to be helpful.

Before each quiz (or "test") anticipate spending time reviewing class and reading notes and playing the review games on our class page. In addition to multiple choice and matching type questions, students will be expected to write short response essays (2-5 paragraphs) to questions posed on quizzes. Essays are a tool to help students articulate answers to "big picture" issues discussed in class. Supportive details will help students write an effect response.

At the end of this syllabus you will find a complete schedule for the semester. There I have listed the readings that I expect you to complete as well as the date and times of quizzes and exams and the due date of our research paper. There will be separate guidelines for our research paper posted on the class web page later this semester. Once

again, students will have varying experience writing research papers. I will provide additional suggestions and specific guidelines.

### LUKEION ROMAN HISTORY STUDENTS WILL COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

- Weekly reading assignments
- In-class response questions
- Online quizzes, midterm and final exam (2-3 essay responses and multiple choice type questions)
- 1 research paper, topic chosen from a list or produced by the student
- Check your class web page weekly: <http://www.quia.com/pages/abarr/romanhistory>

CLASS WEB PAGE: <http://www.quia.com/pages/abarr/romanhistory>

Students should pay a visit to this page at least once a week. This page is where I post all handouts, make announcements about schedule and assignment changes create links to topics of interest to the Roman historian, and (best of all) design games to practice the information prior to formal graded quizzes.

Once quizzes are graded, students may go back to their account in Quia and look at instructor comments and quiz grades. Please contact your instructor by email if you have difficulty accessing the quizzes after exams are scored.

### TEXT BOOK FOR THIS COURSE:

Boatwright, Gargola and Talbert, *The Romans from Village to Empire: a History of Ancient Rome from Earliest Times to Constantine*, 2004

## COURSE POLICIES

This next section is going to make for dry reading, alas. Nevertheless, it is important for students to know the answers to problems which will occur during the upcoming semester. The following sessions will take care of the majority of student issues and will prevent me from sounding terribly grumpy on our first day of class.

### STUDENT ABSENCES

Students must complete work on time or arrange to do so prior to a planned absence. I take attendance at the very start of class and keep track of absences and lateness as a part of each student's grade. Since I tend to be heavily involved in my presentation, I generally do not change "absent" to merely late upon your tardy arrival. Please do not be late: all important announcements are made at the beginning of each session.

### CONTACTING YOUR INSTRUCTOR:

Students may reach me ANY TIME by email: [amy@lukeion.org](mailto:amy@lukeion.org). Please do not call since calls interrupt other classes that may be live in session.

### SUBMITTING WORK IN THIS COURSE:

- All quizzes and exams are to be found via the appropriate link on your class page.
  - You may click into quizzes only once. Do not begin the quiz until you are prepared to complete it.
  - **Quia** will prohibit you from entering a second time.
  - **Email me immediately** if you have trouble with **Quia**—I will not grant extensions for students who fail to notify me of problems in Quia.
  - **Quia** closes at the time announced: begin well ahead of the deadline.
  - **Quia** exams are timed.

- **Quia** will provide a score for ONLY the computer graded portion of the quiz and will not show an accurate grade in your account until I personally grade the essays at a later time.
- I will make a general announcement once quizzes are finally graded. Please access the graded quiz and look at your marks and my comments.
- Paper
  - Submit the paper to [amy@lukeion.org](mailto:amy@lukeion.org) attached as a separate file (proper formatting is a portion of the grade). I prefer that papers be submitted in a .doc, .docx or.pdf format. .txt is not acceptable.
  - **IMPORTANT:** your writing assignment has not been submitted until you receive a confirmation response from me. "Lost in cyberspace" is not an acceptable excuse for missing assignments.
  - In most cases, there will be a 1-point deduction from your final paper grade for every hour your assignment is late. (for example, if you earn a 95% but turn in your paper a day late, you earn 71% or a C-)

## GRADING

Although quizzes are submitted in an online format, I will personally grade each exam. Please allow *at least* 1 week after each quiz for grading, provided all students complete the work on time.

Papers require much longer to grade. I seldom finish grading papers before the semester ends. I will provide an analysis of each paper at or around the time that I submit final course grades by the middle of June (I anticipate leading a study tour in Greece from May 13-27).

## INTEGRITY:

All exams and quizzes are "closed book." If you register for this course, you agree to and will participate in the honor system. By submitting work, you tacitly agree that all the work you submit is your own and that you have not given yourself any unfair advantage. Dishonesty is usually treated with expulsion without refund.

## ABSENCES AND RECORDINGS:

Most class sessions are recorded. Access to recordings is provided as a courtesy only. We cannot guarantee the quality of the recordings. Request recordings **by email after the missed class meets**.

Recordings are deleted ONE week after the event so view the recording prior to the next class meeting. If you fail to view the recording in a timely manner, get notes from a classmate. Understand that sending recordings is a time consuming task for your instructor so be courteous and considerate.

## INSTRUCTOR ABSENCE:

In the event of illness or an emergency on my part, I will make a reasonable attempt at making up the missed class session in a timely manner, usually by distributing a recording of the session at the first possible opportunity.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

Below is a handy chart with this semester's assignments. Once again, email me immediately if you are confused or think that something is just plain "off." With 3 levels of Latin plus mythology, I have been known to "miss" something every now and then. Furthermore, I thank you in advance for your patience during those occasional moments when organization goes missing.

Wk#	Class Date	Topic	Reading	Assignments Due by 5 pm ET on date listed
1	Jan 28	Geography, Early Italy, Mythic Past	Chapter 1	None
2	Feb 4	Rome's First Centuries	Chapter 2	
3	Feb 11	Rome in the Fourth Century	Chapter 3	Quiz #1 (all material from weeks 1-3)
4	Feb 18	The Punic Wars	Chapter 4	List of paper topics and instructions available on your class web page
5	Feb 25	Rome in the Second Century	Chapter 5	Quiz #2 (all material from weeks 4-5)
6	Mar 4	Marius, Sulla and Cinna	Chapter 6	<b>Submit your paper topic</b> no later than Friday, Mar 6 at 5 pm ET (earlier is fine)
7	Mar 11	Sulla, Pompey and Crassus	Chapter 7	
8	Mar 18	Julius Caesar	Chapter 8	Quiz #3 (all material from weeks 6-8)
9	Mar 25	Augustus and the Pax Romana	Chapter 9	
10	Apr 1	Jesus and the Early Church	Handout & web links	
11	Apr 8	The Early Principate	Chapter 10	Quiz #4 (all material from weeks 9-11)
12	Apr 15	<b>Spring Break: No Class Meeting This Week</b>		
13	Apr 22	Expansion of the Empire & Culture	Chapter 11	<b>Paper due</b> Friday, April 24 at 5 pm ET
14	Apr 29	The Empire in the Provinces	Chapter 12	Quiz #5 (all material from weeks 13-14)
15	May 6	The Third and Rome ends with Constantine	Chapter 13	Final Exam opens May 8 (comprehensive exam)
16	Final Exam	<b>No classes meet: final exam on all chapters online May 8. Final exam closes at 5 pm ET on May 12. No extensions (I may be in Greece)</b>		