ARTS 3319:

Roman Art

Dr. Devon Stewart
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Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 2–4pm, and by appointment

LECTURES: TR 12:30-1:45

At its height, the Roman Empire controlled vast territories in Europe, Eurasia, North Africa and the Middle East, stretching from Scotland to the Red Sea. The spread of Roman civilization throughout the ancient world transformed the art and architecture of the Mediterranean, and in many ways set the trajectory for the development of western art. This course will investigate the ways in which major achievements in sculpture, painting, numismatic and glyptic art, as well as architecture, often reflected contemporary developments in Roman politics, society and religion. In addition, the course will explore the relationship of works of art and architecture erected in the city of Rome to those in the provinces, the interaction of public and official art to domestic art, as well as the impact of art commissioned by imperial and elite patrons on that commissioned by non-elite patrons.

STUDENT LEARNING GOALS:

1. To gain mastery of the form, content, and cultural context of the basic monuments in the ancient Roman Empire.
2. To become familiar with the stylistic development of Roman art.
3. To develop critical thinking skills.
4. To build visual skills.
5. To acquire writing skills in order to express clearly and effectively what you perceive through viewing.
6. To attain a proficiency in analyzing a work of art formally.

REQUIRED TEXT:


Additional readings will be provided by the instructor and available on Blackboard.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Exam I: 20%
Exam II: 20%
Exam III: 20%
Final Paper : 20%
Quizzes and Participation: 20%
Exams will be timed, slide-based exams consisting of image identification, short answer questions, unknown objects and essay questions. Exams are not cumulative, though you will be expected to demonstrate mastery of major concepts and artistic movements covered in previous sections.

PLEASE NOTE that no make-up exams will be administered under any circumstances except documented, excused medical circumstances. No exams will be administered early. Because art history exams are timed, slide-based exams, it is imperative that you arrive on-time for all exams. If you arrive late for an exam, you will not be given additional time to complete the test and missed slides will not be reviewed.

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions of the Student Handbook. Please consult your Student Handbook for broad (though not exhaustive) definitions of both cheating and plagiarism. You are responsible for knowing and understanding what constitutes cheating and/or plagiarism; if you are caught cheating or if you commit plagiarism, you will fail the exam or assignment and fail the class with no exceptions.

GRADE SCALE:

90-100 = A  
80-89 = B  
70-79 = C  
60-69 = D  
59 and below = F

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:

Students are expected to attend class regularly and to participate attentively. Roll will be circulated at the beginning of each class. Classes begin at stated times and lateness is unacceptable. Leaving early or arriving late is counted as a half absence. Acquiring information (including but not limited to class notes, assignments and important announcements) missed due to tardiness or absence will be the responsibility of the student.

CLASSROOM CONDUCT:

Cell phones should be silenced or placed on vibrate before the class period begins. All cell phones should be put away for the duration of the class period. Any use of a cell phone, including texting, web browsing, social media, ringing or other audible notifications, during the class period will be considered intentionally disruptive student behavior. Any use of an electronic device during an exam will result in automatic failure of the exam with no possibility of make-up.
University Course Withdrawal Policy:

The last day to drop a course or to totally withdraw from the University will be Monday, April 2, 2018. Withdrawal grades will be indicated by W. Any student who withdraws from the course after this date will receive a failing (F) grade for the course.

ADA Compliance:

Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Garden Level, University Center, (325) 942-2191, in order to request such accommodations prior to any accommodations being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Class Schedule:

Week One (Jan. 16-18): An Introduction to Roman Art
Reading: HoRA Chapter 1 (Introduction)

Week Two (Jan. 23-25): Etruria and the Roman Republic
Reading: HoRA Chapter 2 (Regal Period) and Chapter 3 (The Early Republic); Bonfante, “The Language of Dress: Etruscan Influences” (Bb).

Week Three (Jan. 30-Feb. 1): The Roman Republic II
Reading: HoRA Chapter 3, Chapter 4 (The Later Republic); Sheldon Nodelman, “How to Read a Roman Portrait” (Bb)

Week Four (Feb. 6-8): The End of the Roman Republic
Reading: HoRA Chapter 4 (The Later Republic)

Week Five (Feb. 13-15): Augustan Rome
Reading: HoRA Chapter 5 (The Age of Augustus); Charles Brian Rose, “‘Princes’ and Barbarians on the Ara Pacis” (Bb)

Week Six (Feb. 20-22): Augustan Rome (continued)/Exam I (Feb. 22)
Reading: HoRA Chapter 5 (The Age of Augustus)

Week Seven (Feb. 27-March 1): The Julio-Claudians
Reading: HoRA Chapter 6 (The Julio-Claudians)
Week Eight (March 6-8): The Flavian Emperors

Reading: *HoRA* Chapter 7 (The Flavians); Steven Tuck, “The Origins of Imperial Hunting Imagery: Domitian and the Redefinition of *Virtus* under the Principate” (Bb)

***SPRING BREAK MARCH 12-16: NO CLASS MEETING***

Week Nine (March 20-22): Pompeii

Reading: *The World of Pompeii*, eds. John J. Dobbins and Pedar W. Foss

Week Ten (March 27-29): The Second Century

Reading: *HoRA* Chapter 8 (Trajan and Hadrian); Elizabeth Wolfram Thill, “Civilization under Construction: Depictions of Architecture on the Column of Trajan” (Bb)

Week Eleven (April 3-5): The Second Century (Continued)/Exam II (April 5)

Reading: *HoRA* Chapter 9 (Antonine Emperors)

Week Twelve (April 10-12): The Severan Dynasty

Reading: *HoRA* Chapter 10 (Civil War and Severan Dynasty); Miranda Marvin, “Freestanding Sculptures from the Baths of Caracalla” (Bb)

Week Thirteen (April 17-19): The Crisis of the Third Century

Reading: *HoRA* Chapter 11 (The Third Century and the Tetrarchy); Susan Wood, “Subject and Artist: Studies in Roman Portraiture of the Third Century”

Week Fourteen (April 24-26): The Tetrarchy and Constantine

Reading: *HoRA* Chapter 11 (The Third Century and the Tetrarchy) and Chapter 12 (Constantine); Dale Kinney, “Spolia. Damnatio and renovatio memoriae,” (Bb).

Week Fifteen (May 1-3): The Tetrarchy and Constantine (continued)

**May 1: Final Papers Due in Class**

Reading: *HoRA* Chapter 12 (Constantine); J. Weisweiler, “From Equality to Asymmetry: Honorific Statues, Imperial Power, and Senatorial Identity in Late-Antique Rome” (Bb)

FINAL EXAM (Exam III) Thursday, May 10, 10:30am – 12:30pm