



**FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION  
COURSE OUTLINE  
Winter 2021**

**COURSE NUMBER:** GREEK & ROMAN STUDIES 306

**COURSE NAME:** *Roman Religion*

**PRE-REQUISITES:** 3 units from Greek & Roman Studies 205, 209, Religious Studies 201, 205, 273

**CLASSROOM LOCATION:** Web-based instruction via Desire2Learn (D2L)

**CLASS DAYS & TIMES**

There will be no in-class meetings or synchronous sessions. All instruction will occur asynchronously through lecture notes that will be posted regularly on the course's D2L website. Aside from observing the due dates indicated in the Class Schedule (see below), it is the responsibility of students to maintain their own study schedules in accordance with the lesson topics and required readings.

**INSTRUCTOR'S NAME, EMAIL, & PHONE**

James Hume, B.A., M.A. (Senior Instructor)

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Phone: 403-220-4833

**EMAIL POLICY**

All official course communications should occur through your @ucalgary e-mail account. (This is far preferable to leaving a telephone message, especially during this Term when no one will be in the Department to answer or return calls in a timely fashion.)

**OFFICE HOURS**

You may request, via e-mail, one-on-one appointments with your Instructor at any point in the Term. These will be arranged, at the convenience of both parties, to occur either over the phone or through private Zoom sessions.

**COURSE CALENDAR STATEMENT**

A survey of religious beliefs and practices in the pre-Christian Roman world.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course examines the methods by which pre-Christian Romans worshipped their gods, with emphasis on major priesthoods, temples, religious festivals and sacred rituals. While the historical development of each of these aspects is traced as far as possible, the course's approach is thematic (and, it must be noted, does not follow precisely the same order as the assigned textbooks). Furthermore, Roman "religion" is not to be confused with "mythology": while ancient tales about the gods will be mined for information about Roman cult, the latter is this course's focus, not the myths themselves.

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be better able to decipher and interpret various types of evidence, whether textual, artistic, or material, about ancient Roman religious cult. They will gain an appreciation for and a healthy scepticism about interpretive theories, both ancient and modern. In the course of their investigations for their own written submissions, they will gain experience putting some of these scholarly theories into practice.

## LEARNING RESOURCES

Required Textbook: *Religions of Rome* (2 volumes), by Mary Beard, John North, and Simon Price (Cambridge University Press, 1998)

Documents (lecture notes) to accompany the required readings from the textbook will be posted on D2L regularly throughout the term. These will consist of quotations from the principal ancient (and, occasionally, modern) sources for Roman religion, as well as the Instructor's commentary. Images (mostly from the Instructor's own photographs of ancient sites and religious objects) will also be posted to D2L to illustrate the readings.

Students are encouraged to follow up on the textbook's and the Instructor's references by means of websites that feature English translations of ancient sources. The following on-line aids will be especially helpful:

- *Perseus Digital Library*, ed. Gregory R. Crane (Tufts University): [perseus.tufts.edu](http://perseus.tufts.edu)
- *The Theoi Project*, ed. Aaron J. Atsma: [theoi.com](http://theoi.com)
- *Lacus Curtius*, ed. Bill Thayer (University of Chicago):  
[penelope.uchicago.edu/Thayer/E/Roman/home.html](http://penelope.uchicago.edu/Thayer/E/Roman/home.html)

## LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND REQUIREMENTS

There is a D2L website for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see [d2L.ucalgary.ca](http://d2L.ucalgary.ca)).

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

## CLASS SCHEDULE

DATE	LECTURE NOTES	READINGS* & ASSIGNMENTS
WEEK ONE (11-15 Jan.)	1. Introduction: The State of the Question	I, pp. ix-xii; II, ix-xii
	2. Coming to Terms: Defining the Sacred	I, 214-227; II, 1-3
	3. <i>Homo Doctissimus</i> : M. Terentius Varro	Readings to be supplied.

<i>De hominibus</i> (On Personnel)		
WEEKS TWO & THREE (18-29 Jan.)	4. Kings & Magistrates: The 'Historicity' of Roman Religion	I, 1-18
	5. Collegial Priesthoods: An Urge for Order	I, 18-30, 54-64, 99-108, 114-121, 130-132; II, 194-202
	6. <i>Flamines</i> : The Tenacity of Tradition	Same as above.
	7. Vestal Virgins: Exceptions to the Rule	I, 51-54; II, 38-41, 202-204
<i>De locis</i> (On Places)		
WEEKS FOUR & FIVE (1-12 Feb.)	8. The Roman <i>templum</i>	I, 39-40, 87-91, 167-174; II, 78-79, 86-87 <b>1 February:</b> <b>REFLECTION <i>De hominibus</i> DUE</b>
	9. The Sacred City: Roman Foundations	I, 132-134, 177-181; II, 93-96, 116-119, 166-169
	10. Urban Sanctuaries: The Capitoline Cults	I, 82-83; II, 5-7, 23-25, 244-245
	11. A Rural Sanctuary: Diana's Grove at Nemi	II, 15-17, 239-240
<b>15-19 February: READING WEEK</b> (No classes)		
<i>De temporibus</i> (On Times)		
WEEKS SIX & SEVEN (22 Feb. - 5 Mar.)	12. The Roman Calendar	I, 45-48; II, 60-69 <b>22 February:</b> <b>REFLECTION <i>De locis</i> DUE</b>
	13. <i>Lupercalia</i> : The 'Primitive' as a Model	II, 119-124
	14. <i>Cerealia</i> : A Plebeian Holiday	I, 64-66
	15. <i>Megalensia</i> : Patrician Competition	I, 96-98, 163-166; II, 43-49, 132-133, 209-211.
<i>De sacris</i> (On Rituals)		
WEEKS EIGHT, NINE & TEN (8-26 Mar.)	16. On Divination: Augurs & Soothsayers	I, 18, 21-4, 27-8, 102-4, 178, 182, 186 <b>8 March:</b> <b>REFLECTION <i>De temporibus</i> DUE</b>
	17. 'Etruscan Discipline': The 'Foreign' as a Model	I, 113; II, 170-178
	18. Roman Sacrifice	I, 42-72; II, 148-160
	19. <i>Lares</i> & <i>Penates</i> : Household Cults	II, 30-31, 102-103
	20. <i>Dis Manibus</i> : The Cult of the Dead	II, 104-106, 235-237
<i>De diis</i> (On the Gods)		
WEEKS ELEVEN, TWELVE & THIRTEEN (29 Mar. - 15 Apr.)	21. Assembling the Roman Pantheon	I, 30-38; II, 130-131 <b>29 March:</b> <b>REFLECTION <i>De sacris</i> DUE</b>
	22. Liber or Bacchus? Defining Romanness	I, 91-96; II, 288-291
	23. Venus: The Politics of Piety	I, 121-125, 144-149; II, 216-221
	24. Apollo & Mars: Breaking with the Past	II, 80-83
	25. Apotheosis: Towards a New Model	I, 84-87, 140-144; II, 49-54, 222-228, 253-259 <b>15 April: FINAL PAPER DUE</b>

\*All assigned readings are from the required textbook: Mary Beard, John North, and Simon Price, *Religions of Rome* (Cambridge, 1998), Vols. I and II. Be sure also to consult the documents regularly posted to D2L.

## EXAMINATION

There will be no Final Exam for this course.

## ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS

Assessment of students' progress will be judged by three pieces of written work, which they must submit throughout the term, namely: REFLECTIONS on the required readings in TWO OUT OF FOUR of the course's thematic segments (*De hominibus*, due 1 Feb.; *De locis*, due 22 Feb.; *De temporibus*, due 8 Mar.; or *De sacris*, due 29 Mar.), and a FINAL PAPER, due on the last day of term, 15 April.

Each of the Reflections will be approximately 1½ to 2 pages single-spaced, or 3-4 pages double-spaced. These will identify and discuss one or more of the major subjects, themes, or problems arising from the assigned readings, prompted by questions for consideration that will be provided ahead of time.

The Final Paper will be a fuller treatment of the same nature, approximately 3-4 pages single-spaced, or 6-8 pages double-spaced. Topics and instructions for the Final Paper will be provided several weeks before the end of term.

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)	Required pass/fail
TWO of the following dates: Mon. 1 February; Mon. 22 February; Mon. 8 March; Mon. 29 March	Written Reflection on required readings in TWO of the course's thematic segments: <i>De hominibus</i> ; <i>De locis</i> ; <i>De temporibus</i> ; <i>De sacris</i>	25% each	No
Thurs. 15 April	Final Paper	50%	No

## MISSED OR LATE ASSIGNMENTS

If you cannot submit an assignment by the due date, let your Instructor know (preferably ahead of time, but no later than 24 hours after the fact), and some alternative arrangements may be made. Failure to do so will result in a grade of zero for the component in question.

## GRADING

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme, typically used within the Department of Classics and Religion:

A+	100 - 95	A	94 - 90	A-	89 - 85
B+	84 - 80	B	79 - 75	B-	74 - 70
C+	69 - 65	C	64 - 60	C-	59 - 55
D+	54 - 53	D	52-50	F	Under 50

N.B. All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form and content. A student's final grade for the course is the sum of the separate assignments. It is not necessary to pass each assignment separately in order to pass the course. For the University of Calgary's policies on undergraduate grading, see: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1.html>.

## **EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING**

As may be seen from the instructions under “Assessment Components” (above), writing—i.e., the clear, orderly, grammatically correct, and even (at its best) elegant arrangement and argumentation of ideas—is the only method by which to judge students’ work for this course. Your Reflections and Final Paper should always be based on evidence (in this case, the ancient primary sources above all), but you are also encouraged to explore ideas and develop your own theories of interpretation: no need to agree with either the textbook or your Instructor.

If you need help with your writing, you may use the writing support services in the Learning Commons. For further information, please refer to the official online University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, E. Course Information, E.2: Writing Across the Curriculum: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

## **GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS**

Please submit all assignments electronically through the Dropbox in D2L. Assignments may be submitted in Word or PDF format. Assignments should have a file name as follows: “Last Name First Name Assignment Number” (e.g., Smith Alex Assignment 2). Assignments must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on their due date. It is the student’s responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment and to ensure that the proper version is submitted.

## **CONDUCT**

Students, employees, and academic staff are also expected to demonstrate behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. As members of the University community, students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar, the Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures, which can be found at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

## **GUIDELINES FOR ZOOM SESSIONS**

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a “live” video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor’s permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the [Code of Conduct](#)). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g. [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#)). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they

should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/>.

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

### **COURSE EVALUATIONS AND STUDENT FEEDBACK**

Include information on opportunities for students to provide feedback on the course for evaluation and continuous improvement.

### **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>.

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>. Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf> ). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework

based on a protected ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

### **INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

### **COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.

### **SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY**

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

### **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information

- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk