



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

COURSE NUMBER: GRST 459.2

COURSE NAME: Ancient Greece and Rome on Film (The Romans on Film)

PRE-REQUISITES: Students are strongly advised to have taken at least two 300-level Greek and Roman Studies courses with grades of at least "C-"

CLASSROOM LOCATION: online

CLASS DAYS & TIMES: Tuesdays 1:00 – 3:45 p.m. via Zoom

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Craig Maynes

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT

email: craig.maynes@ucalgary.ca

office: SS 548 (note: I will not be on campus. Please email me.)

phone: 403-220-3279 (note: I will not be on campus to answer this phone. Please email me.)

INSTRUCTOR OFFICE HOURS

I will make myself available to you as much as possible. Each week, I will hold a virtual, drop-in office hour via Zoom on Thursdays from 2:00 to 2:50 p.m. In addition, you may email me to request a one-on-one meeting at a different time.

INSTRUCTOR EMAIL POLICY:

Please note that all course communications must occur through your @ucalgary email, and I will respond to emails sent via student's @ucalgary emails within 24 working hours.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course examines the history of the cinematic representation of the ancient Romans, beginning with their first appearances in early silent films and ending with their roles in modern films. Students will focus on the film industry's treatment of the ancient sources in its constant recasting of the Romans to suit modern social and historical developments. Students will also learn about the enduring power of popular perceptions about the Romans, and reflect on how the Romans of the big screen have affected other modern media such as television and video games.

Throughout the course, students will build a diary which will record responses to, and thoughts about, the films they view. Diary responses and reflections will be employed during the synchronous classes each week, and later entries will build upon the earlier ones, thereby demonstrating an increasingly deep understanding of the course material. Each student will have the opportunity to

present a critical analysis of a scene from one of the films, and to develop an applied research project on a topic of their own choosing, either in a formal paper or a more creative medium.

This course will take place **online** via Desire2Learn (D2L) and Zoom. To best succeed in the course, students are encouraged to participate in the asynchronous learning tasks using the D2L learning environment and synchronous Zoom sessions. When unable to participate live due to the time difference or unforeseen circumstances, inform the instructor in advance and propose and implement propose an alternative participation activity (e.g., watch the recordings, submit a brief reflection, and actively contribute to the follow-up online discussion).

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate detailed knowledge of film representations of the ancient Romans.
2. Demonstrate improved ability in the critical analysis of primary sources.
3. Articulate the impact of film on popular representation of the ancient Romans.
4. Articulate the influence of modern social and historical developments on the reception of the ancient Romans.
5. Demonstrate improved ability in applied academic research.

LEARNING RESOURCES

Students will need to purchase access to one film: *Monty Python's Life of Brian* (1979, dir. Jones). It is available on Netflix Canada, and can also be rented or purchased through YouTube, Google Play, iTunes, etc.

All other films to be viewed for the course are available to stream through the library (links will be provided on D2L)

Weekly readings will be provided on D2L.

LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND REQUIREMENTS

There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2l.ucalgary.ca).

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended 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

Week 1: May 3-7 (Classes Start May 5)

Monday, May 5: View Introductory Presentation
Introduction Assignment due

Asynchronous Work: View Presentation 1
Complete readings (on D2L)
View film: *Cabiria* (1914, dir. Pastrone)

Week 2: May 10-14

Tuesday, May 11 Synchronous Class #1
13:00-14:15 Introduction to the Course Diary (entry 1)
14:30-15:45 Class Discussion: *Cabiria*

Asynchronous Work: View Presentation 2
Complete readings (on D2L)
View film: *The Sign of the Cross* (1932, dir. DeMille)
View film: *Quo Vadis?* (1952, dir. LeRoy)

Week 3: May 17-21

Monday, May 17 Course Diary entries 2 and 3 due

Tuesday, May 18 Synchronous Class #2
13:00-14:15 Class Discussion: *The Sign of the Cross*
14:30-15:45 Class Discussion: *Quo Vadis?*

Asynchronous Work: View Presentation 3
Complete readings (on D2L)
View film: *Spartacus* (1960, dir. Kubrick)
View film: *Cleopatra* (1963, dir. Mankiewicz)

Week 4: May 24-28 (Monday is Victoria Day Holiday)

Tuesday, May 25 Course Diary entries 4 and 5 due
Synchronous Class #3
13:00-14:15 Class Discussion: *Spartacus*
14:30-15:45 Class Discussion: *Cleopatra*

Asynchronous Work: View Presentation 4
Complete readings (on D2L)
View film: *The Fall of the Roman Empire* (1964, dir. Mann)
View film: *Monty Python's Life of Brian* (1979, dir. Jones)

Week 5: May 31 – June 4

Monday, May 31 Course Diary entries 6 and 7 due
Research Project Proposal due

Tuesday, June 1 Synchronous Class #4
 13:00-14:15 Class Discussion: *The Fall of the Roman Empire*
 14:30-15:45 Class Discussion: *Monty Python's Life of Brian*

Asynchronous Work: View Presentation 5
 Complete readings (on D2L)
 View film: *Gladiator* (2000, dir. Scott)
 View film: *Centurion* (2010, dir. Marshall)

Week 6: June 7-11

Monday, June 7 Course Diary entries 8 and 9 due

Tuesday, June 8 Synchronous Class #5
 13:00-14:15 Class Discussion: *Gladiator*
 14:30-15:45 Class Discussion: *Centurion*

Asynchronous Work: View Presentation 6
 Complete readings (on D2L)
 View film: *Pompeii* (2014, dir. Anderson)

Week 7: June 14-18 (Classes end on June 17)

Monday, June 14 Course Diary entry 10 due

Tuesday, June 15 Synchronous Class #6
 13:00-14:15 Class Discussion: *Pompeii*
 14:30-15:45 Discussion of Final Projects

Thursday, June 17 Final Self-Reflection due

Week 8 : June 21-25 (exam period is June 21-23)

Monday, June 21 Final Research Project due

EXAMINATIONS

This course has a final research project in place of a final exam.

ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)	Required pass/fail
Throughout term	In-class Participation	10%	N
Course Diary			
May 5	Introductory Assignment	2%	N
most Mondays (see schedule)	10 Course Diary Entries (3.5% each)	35%	N
June 17	Final Self-Reflection	3%	N
Scene Analysis			
each student's date TBA first week of class	In-class Presentation	10%	N
one week after presentation	Written Analysis	15%	N
Final Research Project			
May 31	Proposal	5%	N
June 21	Final Version	20%	N

MISSED OR LATE ASSIGNMENTS

If students miss a required component of the course, they must contact the instructor in writing within 24 hours to discuss options. Late assignments will not be accepted without acceptable rationale and supporting documentation if appropriate

GRADING

The University's grading system may be found in the calendar at this link:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1.html>.

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

A+	96 – 100%	Outstanding performance
A	90 – 95%	Excellent performance
A-	85 – 89%	Approaching excellent performance
B+	80 – 84%	Exceeding good performance
B	75 – 79%	Good performance
B-	70 – 74%	Approaching good performance
C+	65 – 69%	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	60 – 64%	Satisfactory performance
C-	55 – 59%	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	53 – 54%	Marginal pass
D	50 – 52%	Minimal pass
F	0 – 49%	Failure

When the final grade for the course is calculated, the calculated numerical mark will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole number before being converted to a letter grade. It is not necessary to pass each assignment in order to pass the course.

EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING

All written assignments (including, to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Sources used in research papers must be properly documented. 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>

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION

The sections below are optional but recommended to provide additional clarity to students regarding the course – please delete if not relevant.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to attend class regularly and to be fully present and engaged in class activities and discussions. These are part of the participation grade, as outlined in the assessment components section above. If students miss a class session that is included as a component of participation, they must contact the instructor within 24 hours to discuss options.

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

Student feedback will be sought at the end of the course through the standard University Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) and Faculty course evaluation forms. A midterm evaluation may also be included to provide students an opportunity to provide feedback, for the instructor to adjust their approaches to teaching and learning, and to continuously improve the course. Students are welcome to discuss the process and content of the course at any time with the instructor.

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY POLICIES AND SUPPORTS

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 ACCOMODATION

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/.

RESEARCH ETHICS

If a student is interested in undertaking an assignment that will involve collecting information from members of the public, they should speak with the course instructor and consult the CFREB Ethics (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/cfreb>) before beginning the assignment.

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