

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History

Semester II Year 1984-85

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
308	The Roman Empire	Mr. Clover

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Why did the Roman Empire fall? To answer this question we must first prove that the Empire reached such a state of perfection that it "rose", and this is harder to accomplish than is commonly thought.

We will first examine Hellenistic Civilization, the first great organization of the Mediterranean Basin. Then we will consider all phases of the Roman Empire's existence from its beginnings in the second century B.C. until about A.D. 500, noting as we proceed the extent to which the Romans seconded or interrupted the Hellenistic pattern of civilization. By proceeding in this fashion we will be able to deal properly with the problem of the "fall" of the Empire.

LECTURES

Three lectures each week, and a fourth hour for discussion of readings and lectures (if the class size is sufficient to warrant the presence of a teaching assistant).

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS (REGULAR CREDIT)

Students taking the course for THREE REGULAR CREDITS will write a six weeks examination, a twelve weeks examination OR a short twelve weeks paper (suggested maximum length: 8 to 10 pages), and a final examination. Students taking the course for FOUR REGULAR CREDITS have two options: (1) they may write the three examinations listed above, and hand in (by the time of the final examination), a short term paper (maximum length: 8 to 10 pages); or (2) they may write a six weeks and final examination, and a paper in two drafts. The first draft (maximum length: 8 to 10 pages) is due in the twelfth week of the term. The instructor will hand back this draft with suggestions and criticisms, and the student will submit a revised draft (maximum length: 10 to 15 pages) by the time of the final examination.

N.B. THE DEADLINE FOR SELECTING ALL REGULAR CREDIT TERM PAPER TOPICS IS FRIDAY OF THE SEVENTH WEEK OF THE TERM.

A MORE DIFFICULT ALTERNATIVE: A COLLOQUIUM ON THE EARLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Students who wish to complete the course without following the usual cycle of examinations and papers may participate in a colloquium on the Early Christian Church. Participants will select a term paper topic -- preferably but not necessarily one which concerns the Early Church -- by the third week of the term. They will hand in a first draft of the term paper by Friday of the ninth week of the term, and a second draft (revised in accordance with the instructor's comments and the student's own second thoughts) by the day of the final examination. During the semester participants in the colloquium will use a weekly discussion hour (in addition to the three lecture hours) to present one brief background report on an aspect of the Early Church, and then to present a sketch of their term paper.

Participants in the colloquium may earn honors or regular credit for the course. The suggested maximum length of the term paper's second draft varies with the number of credits:

3 regular or honors credits -- 10 to 15 pages;

4 regular or honors credits -- 15 to 20 pages.

GRADING SYSTEM

3 regular credits: 6 weeks exam 30%, 12 weeks exam or paper 35%, final exam 35% of final grade.
4 regular credits: 6 weeks exam 25%, 12 weeks exam or paper 25%, final exam 25% and final paper 25% of final grade.
colloquium: first draft of paper 30%, second draft 35%, discussion section reports 35% of final grade.

APPEALS: The course staff offers second readings of examinations and papers. This is a no-risk review: when second opinions are given, the staff records the higher of the two estimations as the examination or paper grade.

READINGS

- ** HISTORY 308/THE ROMAN EMPIRE: SPECIAL HANDOUTS
- %% M. Cary and H. Scullard, A HISTORY OF ROME DOWN TO THE REIGN OF CONSTANTINE. Third edition. New York: St. Martin's Press.
- %% PETRONIUS: SATYRICON. Tr. W. Arrowsmith, New American Library -- Mentor Paperback.
- &% F.W. Walbank, THE HELLENISTIC WORLD. Harvard University Press Paperback.
- %% THE NEW TESTAMENT OF THE JERUSALEM BIBLE: READER'S EDITION. Doubleday Image Paperback.
- %% G. Downey, THE LATE ROMAN EMPIRE. Krieger Paperback.
- %% H. Chadwick, THE EARLY CHURCH. Viking Penguin, Inc.: Pelican Paperback #A 502.
- %% JUSTINIAN: DIGEST OF ROMAN LAW. Viking Penguin, Inc.: Penguin Paperback.
- &% D.A. Saunders (ed.), THE PORTABLE GIBBON: DECLINE AND FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE. Viking Penguin, Inc.: Penguin Paperback.
- % R. Seaford, POMPEII. Thames and Hudson/Norton Paperback.
- &% E. Pagels, THE Gnostic GOSPELS. Random House Paperback.
- % F. Millar, THE ROMAN EMPIRE AND ITS NEIGHBOURS. Delacorte Press.
- # CHENOBOSKION MANUSCRIPTS. ENGLISH. 1977. THE NAG HAMMADI LIBRARY IN ENGLISH. Ed. J.M. Robinson.
- # H.A. Musurillo, THE ACTS OF THE CHRISTIAN MARTYRS. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
- # A.D. Nock, CONVERSION. New York: Oxford University Press, 1933.
- # E.R. Dodds, PAGAN AND CHRISTIAN IN AN AGE OF ANXIETY. Norton Library Paperback.

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