



**FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION  
COURSE OUTLINE  
Winter 2023**

**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:** Administration Building (AD) 142

**CLASS DAYS & TIMES:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

**INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE HOURS:**

Tuesdays, 12:30-1:30 p.m.; Wednesdays, 11:00-11:50 a.m.; or by appointment.

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

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

e-mail: [jhume@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jhume@ucalgary.ca)

Phone: 403-220-4833

**TEACHING ASSISTANT'S NAME AND EMAIL:**

To be announced

**EMAIL POLICY**

All official course communications should occur through your @ucalgary e-mail account.

**OFFICE HOURS**

You may visit either the Instructor or the Teaching Assistant in person, without appointment, during their designated office hours (see above for the Instructor; the TA's hours will be announced in the first week of class). Alternatively, you may request, via e-mail, an appointment; this will be arranged, at the convenience of both parties, to occur through a private Zoom session.

**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)).

### CLASS SCHEDULE

The important dates for this course (i.e., deadlines for submission of written Reflections) are indicated below.

DATE	LECTURE	READINGS* & ASSIGNMENTS
1. Tues. 10 Jan.	1. Introduction: The State of the Question	I, pp. ix-xii; II, ix-xii
2. Thurs. 12 Jan.	2. Coming to Terms: Defining the Sacred	I, 214-227; II, 1-3
3. Tues. 17 Jan.	3. <i>Homo Doctissimus</i> : M. Terentius Varro	Readings to be supplied.
<i>De hominibus</i> (On Personnel)		
4. Thurs. 19 Jan.	4. Kings & Magistrates: The 'Historicity' of Roman Religion	I, 1-18
5. Tues. 24 Jan.	5. Collegial Priesthoods: An Urge for Order	I, 18-30, 54-64, 99-108, 114-121, 130-132; II, 194-202
6. Thurs. 26 Jan.	6. <i>Flamines</i> : The Tenacity of Tradition	Same as above.
7. Tues. 31 Jan.	7. Vestal Virgins: Exceptions to the Rule	I, 51-54; II, 38-41, 202-204

<i>De locis</i> (On Places)		
8. Thurs. 2 Feb.	8. The Roman <i>templum</i>	I, 39-40, 87-91, 167-174; II, 78-79, 86-87
9. Tues. 7 Feb.	9. The Sacred City: Roman Foundations	I, 132-134, 177-181; II, 93-96, 116-119, 166-169 <b>REFLECTION <i>De hominibus</i> DUE</b>
10. Thurs. 9 Feb.	10. Urban Sanctuaries: The Capitoline Cults	I, 82-83; II, 5-7, 23-25, 244-245
11. Tues. 14 Feb.	11. A Rural Sanctuary: Diana's Grove at Nemi	II, 15-17, 239-240
<i>De temporibus</i> (On Times)		
12. Thurs. 16 Feb.	12. The Roman Calendar	I, 45-48; II, 60-69
19-25 February: <b>READING WEEK</b> ( <i>No classes</i> )		
13. Tues. 28 Feb.	13. <i>Lupercalia</i> : The 'Primitive' as a Model	II, 119-124 <b>REFLECTION <i>De locis</i> DUE</b>
14. Thurs. 2 Mar.	14. <i>Cerealia</i> : A Plebeian Holiday	I, 64-66
15. Tues. 7 Mar.	15. <i>Megalensia</i> : Patrician Competition	I, 96-98, 163-166; II, 43-49, 132-133, 209-211.
<i>De sacris</i> (On Rituals)		
16. Thurs. 9 Mar.	16. On Divination: Augurs & Soothsayers	I, 18, 21-4, 27-8, 102-4, 178, 182, 186
17. Tues. 14 Mar.	17. 'Etruscan Discipline': The 'Foreign' as a Model	I, 113; II, 170-178 <b>REFLECTION <i>De temporibus</i> DUE</b>
18. Thurs. 16 Mar.	18. Roman Sacrifice	I, 42-72; II, 148-160
19. Tues. 21 Mar.	19. <i>Lares &amp; Penates</i> : Household Cults	II, 30-31, 102-103
20. Thurs. 23 Mar.	20. <i>Dis Manibus</i> : The Cult of the Dead	II, 104-106, 235-237
<i>De diis</i> (On the Gods)		
21. Tues. 28 Mar.	21. Assembling the Roman Pantheon	I, 30-38; II, 130-131
22. Thurs. 30 Mar.	22. Liber or Bacchus? Defining Romanness	I, 91-96; II, 288-291 <b>REFLECTION <i>De sacris</i> DUE</b>
23. Tues. 4 Apr.	23. Venus: The Politics of Piety	I, 121-125, 144-149; II, 216-221
24. Thurs. 6 Apr.	24. Apollo & Mars: Breaking with the Past	II, 80-83
25. Tues. 11 Apr.	25. Apotheosis: Towards a New Model	I, 84-87, 140-144; II, 49-54, 222-228, 253-259 <b>FINAL PAPER DUE</b>

\*All assigned readings are from Mary Beard, John North, and Simon Price, *Religions of Rome* (Cambridge, 1998), Vols. I and II, unless otherwise indicated. Be sure also to consult the documents regularly posted to the D2L website accompanying this course.

## 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 9 Feb.; *De locis*, due 28 Feb.; *De temporibus*, due 14 Mar.; or *De sacris*, due 30 Mar.), and a FINAL PAPER, due on the last day of the course, 11 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: Tues. 9 February; Tues. 28 February; Tues. 14 March; Thurs. 30 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>	30% each	No
Tues. 11 April	Final Paper	40%	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 absolute 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 appropriate 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>

### **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. Students are welcome to discuss the process and content of the course at any time with the instructor.

### **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