

CLST 207 A01/FNRT 337: Art of the Roman World

John Felice Rome Center

Spring 2023

Tuesdays | 9:00am - 12:00pm

Prof. Massimo Betello (PhD)

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Office Hours: after class or by appointment

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the art of the Roman world from c. 1000 B.C.E. to the age of emperor Constantine, and is an essential study for anyone interested in the world of ancient Rome and its Empire.

It focuses on major trends and developments in Etruscan, Roman and later Greek art, including sculpture, architecture, painting and mosaic through close study of individual examples.

Roman temples, public squares and baths are still part of the fabric of the city of Rome, and their remains are present virtually in every European and Mediterranean country, a testimony to the pervasiveness and lasting influence of this civilization – an influence that reached shores beyond the limit of its own original diffusion (e.g. the Capitol in Washington DC, Jefferson memorial). The language of Roman statuary has had a long lasting effect (e.g. the Liberty statue) that only in recent times has been rejected for a more conceptual approach to sculpturing. Roman frescos and mosaic are not only admired, but still employed in royal palaces and Las Vegas.

These different forms of art will be analyzed in their historical context using primary and secondary sources with the objective to 1) comprehend the different values they embodied, 2) examine the functions and messages they were intended to deliver, 3) understand the meaning that art had to the Roman themselves, 4) gain insight into the life of the Romans.

Questions of propaganda and technical achievements will be discussed. Elite imagery and commission will especially be one of the main areas of exploration.

More than half of the classes will be held on site to permit a direct interaction with the artifacts and archaeological sites in order to enhance both retention and critical evaluation.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of the course students should be able to:

- identify the main phases of Rome's art development and their chief features, as well as link historical events to relevant works of art, sites and monuments;
- assess the significance of selected examples of ancient Roman art, including painting, mosaic, sculpture, architecture, and other types;
- determine the values that brought about the creation of art objects and the message that such art objects were meant to deliver;
- apply critical skills to the general production of Roman art so as to be able to determine the correct stylistic and temporal context of any Roman artwork;
- develop an ability in creating a logical and well-sounded argument about art;
- develop an ability in public speaking;
- understand the relevance that Roman art still has on the creation of our modern visual messages;
- apply their critical skills on the evaluation of other types of art.

Required Text / Materials

Tuck, Steven L. *A History of Roman Art*. 1 edition. Chichester, West Sussex: Wiley-Blackwell, 2015. ISBN: 978-1-4443-3026-7. To be purchased as an e-book through the social learning platform Perusall.com. Please, do NOT buy the textbook before the first class. During the first meeting of the semester the professor will provide the necessary details.

Assignments posted on Sakai.

Assigned readings from books on the reserved shelves of the library at the John Felice Center in Rome.

Attendance Policy

In accordance with the JFRC mission to promote a higher level of academic rigor, all courses adhere to the following absence policy. Prompt attendance, preparation and active participation in course discussions are expected from every student.

- For all classes meeting once a week, students cannot incur more than one unexcused absence.

This course meets once a week, thus a total of one unexcused absence will be permitted. **Unexcused absences beyond these will result in 1% lowering of the final course grade, for every absence after the “approved limit”.**

More than 3 (three) unexcused absences – i.e. missing more than 25% of the classes - will have you fail the course.

Absences will be excused only in the event of sickness or an emergency.

The collective health of the JFRC is everyone’s responsibility. **DO NOT ATTEND CLASS IF YOU ARE ILL.**

Assessment Components

Assessment	Guidelines	Weight
Assignments	Students are asked to complete the assignments (reading, videos, comments etc.) before coming to class. In addition, students are expected to participate to class discussion and to express their problems, ideas and perplexities about the materials, especially during the site visits, where what studied can be tested. Assignments are both from the textbook and from materials posted on Sakai.	10%
Midterm exam	<u>Date: see schedule.</u> The topics tested will be those of the first half of the semester . It will be made up by two parts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one testing the student’s factual knowledge (events, dating, characteristics, ideas etc.) using identifications, multiple choices, true-false, • the other testing the student’s understanding and knowledge of the concepts explained in class using open questions, essays etc. 	25%
Final exam	<u>Date: see schedule.</u> The topics tested will be those of the second half of the semester only. The final exam is not cumulative. The format will follow that of the midterm exam.	30%
One presentation	For the <u>presentation</u> , students will examine one work of art/monument from a list provided by the instructor. On Sakai the students will find the link to the google document containing the list from where each student can select a presentation topic. The presentation topic is to be selected <u>by the beginning of the third class. Failure to select a topic by this time will have you fail (zero grade) this portion of your grade.</u> The presentation should last a minimum of 15 minutes and provide a thorough assessment of the work of art/monument: its history, its context, its functions, dates, and afterlife. Second, the decorative program needs to be explained and related to the development of Roman art. Both primary and secondary sources should be employed. The day of the presentation the student is expected to provide a 2-page handout summarizing the main points, completed with color images. This presentation will become the base of the <u>written report (see below).</u> On the day of the presentation, the student should take photos of the object to use in the written report.	15%

	Presentation guidelines are located on Sakai.	
Written report.	Your presentation will become a written report to be submitted by the deadline indicated on the class schedule. The students are expected to write their own personal, independent paper on the subject, even if that subject was presented using a joint-presentation. In case the student will not provide the topic by the due time (see “One presentation”) the professor will assign the topic. The cut-off date for any request of support or revision is 14 days before the submission of the paper. After such a date, requests of that sort will not be taken into consideration. Written report guidelines are to be found on Sakai.	20%
TOTAL		100%

Grading

94-100: A	77-79: C+
90-93: A-	74-76: C
87-89: B+	70-73: C-
84-86: B	67-69: D+
80-83: B-	60-66: D
59 or lower: F	

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are unacceptable at the JFRC and will be dealt with in accordance with Loyola University Chicago’s guidelines. Please familiarize yourself with Loyola’s standards here: http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicintegrityshtml. You are responsible to comply with the LUC Student Handbook.

Late or Missed Assignments

Late or missed assignments will not be accepted for grading without the authorization of the instructor. When a late/missed assignment or material is accepted, it will incur in a deduction of 5% of its grade per day. More than seven days of delay will result in a zero grade for that assignment or material.

Communication policy

Professional, formal, and kind communications are the norm in the academic world. Academic education is the **beginning of a student’s professional career**; please treat any interactions in a **professional manner, including emailing**.

The professor can be reached either during his weekly office hours or by email (mbetello@luc.edu).

As for email communications, please note:

1. normally emails will not receive a reply in less than 24 hours;
2. normally emails received during the weekend will receive a reply only at the beginning of the next week;
3. please, write in a **professional and formal manner**. Other types of email may end up filtered into the spam folder.

Suggested format: salutation (Dear Prof. XYZ), followed by student’s name + course name and day. Then write the subject of the email in a clear and kind manner. Final greetings and student’s name. Please, follow this link to clear and precise guidelines on how to email a professor: <https://www.wikihow.com/Email-a-Professor#>

Accessibility Accommodations

Students registered with the Student Accessibility Center requiring academic accommodations should contact the Office of the Dean at the John Felice Rome Center, the first week of classes.

Students will provide professors with an accommodation notification from SAC, preferably within the first two weeks of class. Students are encouraged to meet with their professor individually in order to discuss their accommodations. All information will remain confidential.

Please note that in this class, software may be used to record class lectures only to provide equal access to students with disabilities. Students approved for this accommodation may use recordings for their personal study only, and recordings may not be shared with other people or used in any way against the faculty member, other lecturers, or students whose classroom comments are recorded as part of the class activity. Recordings must be deleted at the end of the semester.

Covid-19 and Campus Health

The collective health of the JFRC: community is everyone's responsibility. The JFRC will conduct all activity according to policies and best practices as prescribed by the Italian Ministries of Health and Education and in consultation with the Loyola University Chicago main campus. At present masking, social distancing and periodic testing are required to keep our campus and community safe. A complete set of COVID policies, taking into consideration the most up-to-date mandates and recommendations, will be provided at the start of the semester. These policies will be subject to change as the situation warrants.

Student Travel

No special accommodations will be made for individual student travel. The Rome Center supports travel as an opportunity for personal growth by offering excursions and trips throughout Italy and Europe. In addition, there are no classes on Friday (with the exception of 2-3 Friday class days per semester) to facilitate individual travel. Personal travel, including travel that incurs delays back to campus, is not a permitted excuse for absences or lateness. For that reason, no exams or quizzes are to be made up if missed for reasons of travel. Students are responsible for communicating any lateness or absence due to travel to the correct parties at the PRC (Student Life, faculty, etc.).

Fridays Class Days

The Rome Center holds classes four days a week, Monday through Thursday. On average, 2-3 Friday class days will be scheduled during any given semester. These Fridays will be indicated in the semester's academic calendar (both on the website and on campus), on the academic bulletin board on campus, and on course syllabi. The purpose of these Friday class days is to recuperate any class time lost from any holidays. These classes are obligatory for all students and no exemptions will be granted for travel or any other personal reason. Should a student choose to travel during these or any other scheduled class days, he or she will simply be marked absent. Note that individual courses may occasionally include events or visits on Fridays or otherwise outside the typical schedule that are obligatory for that course; students should check syllabi for such instances in order to avoid unexcused absences.

Examination Policy

<http://www.luc.edu/rome/academics/academicpolicies/#examinations>

Final examinations are given during the scheduled examination period each semester. Additional tests or examinations may be given during the semester as often as deemed helpful by the instructor. Students who miss any scheduled exam or quiz, including a final exam at the assigned hours will not be permitted to sit for a make-up examination without approval of the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. Permission is given rarely and only for grave reason; travel is not considered a grave reason. Make-up exams will only be given for documented absences.

Optional mid-term examinations and/or assignments are administered before the mid-semester break. Student progress is assessed after mid-term so that students who are not performing to established academic standards may be informed of their academic progress far enough in advance to take corrective steps. Early academic alert notices are issued to students who are not performing at acceptable levels; notices may also be sent to the students' deans and/or study abroad coordinators if deemed appropriate. The policy concerning travel and make-up examinations for missed mid-term exams is identical to that for all exams.

Absence due to a serious illness must be reported to the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs prior to the examination and later substantiated by a written statement from the physician in attendance. Absences due to quarantine will be handled on a case-by-case basis. In cases where proper permission has not been granted, a grade

of “F” will be assigned. In instances where proper authorization has been granted, the student may take a make-up exam by following the make-up procedure outlined above.

Final exam policy

In accordance with established policy at the home campus, exams must be held at the time and location indicated on the academic calendar and final exam schedule. Faculty have been instructed to not hold exams during the last week of class because students should receive a set number of class sessions; anything less than those class sessions would be denying them of needed instructional time. With the exception of a short quiz, no exams are permitted during the last week of classes before final exams.

If students have more than three examinations in the same day, they may appeal to the JFRC office of the Academic Dean to shift one of the exams to another day. Conflicts such as these may occur; after securing permission and in consultation with the Dean's office and faculty member, an alternative time can be arranged at a mutually agreed upon time.

Course Schedule

Course fee (for museum entries) included during course registration.

Every student is responsible for completing whatever parts (reading, homework, videos, etc.) of the course that a student misses during the add-drop period.

Week	Topic	Assignments
01 week 17 Jan	<u>Introduction to the study of art history</u> <u>Summary of Roman history</u> <u>Summary of Greek art</u>	Chapter 1: Introduction
02 week 24 Jan	<u>The Etruscans</u> <u>Art in Latium</u> <u>Early art in Monarchic Rome</u> ON SITE CLASS @ National Etruscan Museum of Villa Giulia	Chapter 2: Regal Period. Selected readings and videos. MEETING POINT: main entrance of the “Museo Etrusco Villa Giulia”.
03 week 31 Jan	<u>The Greek and Etruscan influences on early Roman Republic: painting, terracotta, bronze</u> ON SITE CLASS @ American Academy in Rome	Hands-on experience with original Roman objects. Chapters 3: the early Republic. Selected readings and videos. MEETING POINT: main entrance of the Accademia Americana - Via Angelo Masina, 5 - Roma. BEFORE CLASS, THE PRESENTATION TOPIC NEEDS TO BE SELECTED (see syllabus).
04 week 7 Feb	<u>The explosion of Greek art in Rome and Italy.</u> <u>First and Second style painting.</u> ON SITE CLASS @ The Round Temple, The Temple of Portunus, the Forum of Caesar.	Chapter 4: the later Republic Selected readings and videos. MEETING POINT: in Piazza della Bocca della Verita’, next to the Round Temple of Hercules.
05 week 14 Feb	<u>The Augustan Principate: imperial portraits, Rome makeover.</u> <u>Third style painting.</u> ON SITE CLASS @ Ara Pacis, Mausoleum of Augustus.	Chapters 5: The age of Augustus Selected readings and videos. MEETING POINT: main entrance of the “Museo dell’Ara Pacis”.
06 week 21 Feb	<u>The Julio-Claudians: the creation of the first public dynastic art</u> <u>Fourth style painting.</u> ON SITE CLASS @ Vatican museums.	Chapters 6: The Julio Claudians Selected readings and videos. MEETING POINT: main entrance of the “Musei Vaticani”.
07 week 28 Feb	MIDTERM EXAM	

6-12 March	No classes - SPRING BREAK	
08 week 14 March	<u>Imperial architectural benefaction. The last years of Pompeii and Herculaneum.</u> ON SITE CLASS @ Colosseum, arch of Titus, the Palatine Palace.	Chapter 7: the Flavians. Selected readings and videos. MEETING POINT: at the "Arco di Constantino"
09 week 21 March	<u>The Silver age of Roman art: grafting provincial art on the Classics trunk.</u> ON SITE CLASS @ Trajan forum, The Pantheon, The Hadrianeum, The Column of Marcus Aurelius.	Chapter 8: Trajan and Hadrian Selected readings and videos. MEETING POINT: next to the "Colonna Traiana".
10 week 28 March	<u>The Antonines. A new development of Classical art and the Second Sophistic.</u> ON SITE CLASS @ Capitoline Museums.	Chapters 9: Antonine emperors. Selected readings and videos. MEETING POINT: main entrance of the "Musei Capitolini".
11 week 4 April	<u>The Severan dynasty.</u> ON SITE CLASS @ The Arch of Septimius Severus, The Arch of the Argentarii, Septizodium, The Baths of Caracalla.	Chapters 10: Civil war and Severan Dynasty. Selected readings and videos. MEETING POINT: main entrance of the "Musei Capitolini".
12 week 11 April	<u>Soldier-emperors: private continuity and public interruption in a time of chaos.</u> <u>Constantine and the Christian Church</u> ON SITE CLASS @ Arch of Constantine, and the Church of San Clemente.	Chapters 11: The third century and the tetrarchy Selected readings and videos. Chapter 12: Constantine. Selected readings and videos. MEETING POINT: at the "Arco di Costantino" BY TODAY AT 11:59 pm THE WRITTEN REPORT NEEDS TO BE SUBMITTED TO SAKAI.
13 week 18 April	<u>Conclusions and Review.</u>	Selected readings and videos.
14 week 24-27 April	Final Exam TBA	