Course Description:

Visions, votives and cult centers were all part of ancient pilgrimage in the Roman world. Who were the ancient pilgrims? Where did they travel? How did they get there? Why did they go? This course will examine the visual, archaeological and written evidence of those who sometimes risked their lives to heal themselves, divine the future or see their gods.

The general objective of this course is to investigate the popular practice of pilgrimage in the Greco-Roman world as “a meta-structure that permeates society and religion in different historical periods” (Troels Myrup Kristensen, 2012) by:

- Comparing ancient Roman pilgrimage practices to 21st century pilgrimage practices;
- Studying expressions of pilgrimage in ancient art and texts as well as contemporary media;
- Studying the archaeological remains of ancient pilgrimage routes and destinations as well as their continued appeal for contemporary “pilgrims”.

As a cross-disciplinary course, “Pilgrimage in the Roman World” is a hybrid course which addresses knowledge areas in art history, ancient religions, classical civilizations and even Communication Studies. Because it is an academic “mash-up” it will not look or feel like a dedicated course in any one of these disciplines. However the course will maintain continuity through employing a thematic and chronological approach across our different sources. After an introduction to the important questions which frame the course, we begin with one of most popular religious festivals of the ancient world (including in the Roman period) – the ancient Olympics in honour of Zeus. We then work our way through a variety of themes in ancient and contemporary pilgrimage e.g. the importance of place, organizational requirements, and divine encounters. Towards the end of the course, we discuss and compare the beginnings of early Christian pilgrimage with pilgrimage to pagan sites and finally, we finish with two very different media expressions of 21st century pilgrimage as a religious/cultural phenomenon.
**Specific goals for students registered in Art History**

As part of the study of ancient pilgrimage, the student will examine and gain knowledge of
- the centrality of visual and material culture e.g. archaeological sites, votives, medallions, ampullae, reliefs, statuary as well as recorded dreams and visions for what they might tell us about ways of seeing and the historical imagination of ancient pilgrims. These examples are contrasted with the pilgrimage-related visual culture of the 21st century.
- how ancient pilgrims understood, remembered and revisioned their journey through written expression and visual representations. Again, this aspect of pilgrimage is contrasted with examples in contemporary visual culture.

While artistic style used in art and artifacts and found in archaeological sites are referred to, keep in mind that our focus on ancient and contemporary visual culture relates to how the object/image functions in its historical context and in ancient or contemporary ways of seeing.

**Specific goals for students registered in Religious Studies**

As part of the study of ancient pilgrimage, the student will examine and gain knowledge of
- the concept of pilgrimage in the ancient world especially as a common religious phenomenon and practice; this will be contrasted with contemporary understandings.
- the ritual aspects of pilgrimage, including preparations, and accounts of/responses to encounters with the gods/mysteries, and sacred spaces/places of the past and present.

**Specific goals for students registered in Greek and Roman Studies**

As part of the study of ancient pilgrimage, the student will examine and gain knowledge of
- the concept of pilgrimage as a widespread social practice across diverse ethnic populations and religious cults in the ancient world; this will be contrasted with contemporary practices.
- the social history of ancient travel; comparison will be made to contemporary methods of pilgrimage experience;

While the practice of pilgrimage is much older than Greek and Roman civilizations, this course will focus on European, Middle-eastern and Asia-minor pilgrimage practices primarily from the Hellenistic and Roman periods i.e populations that lived under Roman rule (ca200 BCE- 500CE). These practices will be compared with 21st century pilgrimage practices.

All students should be aware that the weight of content from any one of the above disciplines will vary from week to week and topic to topic. Over the course of the semester content from each of three disciplines will even out. Content among disciplines will also overlap. At times they could conflict. This is to be expected in a course that is a “mash-up”. Such conflicts make interesting teaching moments. Some students might also have gaps in knowledge with regard to those disciplines in which they are not registered whereby extra reading could be required. Further, the pacing of the course could change at times if it is discovered that more than a few students require more time on a specific topic in order to integrate learning.

If we all keep in mind that the course is not a race to the finish but a process in acquiring new knowledge then together as a learning community our expectations for a rich and thoughtful experience can be met. If at any point, you are lost or confused, please speak up in class or text/email me asap for clarification or extra help.
Required Texts:

1. **Printed Coursepack** of selected essays on ancient pilgrimage. Available in Bookstore. Due to copyright reasons not all secondary readings could be incorporated into this publication. Therefore some secondary readings will be available **ON RESERVE** as a hard copy in the library, or as a PDF through ARES, or as an electronic journal article through MacOdrum Library.

2. **Selected Ancient Texts** including but not limited to short excerpts from Ovid’s *Fasti*; Lucian’s *De Dea Syria*; Pausanius’ *Description of Greece*; Aristides’ *Sacred Tales*; Anonymous: *Pilgrim of Bordeaux (333 AD)*; “The Pilgrimage of Etheria” will be available to students **FREE OF CHARGE** through Carleton Library’s ARES program. To access ARES, the table of contents for the **Selected Ancient Texts**, and the actual readings, students must log on through the CULEARN course web-site. Some excerpts can also be read in hard copy, accessed via the name of the ancient author **ON RESERVE** for this course in the MacOdrum Library.

Further Reading:

A selection of reliable web-sites on pilgrimage related to our course include:

Institute for Pilgrimage Studies, College of William and Mary, USA:  
[http://www.wm.edu/sites/pilgrimage/](http://www.wm.edu/sites/pilgrimage/)

Pilgrims and Pilgrimage, University of York, UK  
[http://www.york.ac.uk/projects/pilgrimage/index.html](http://www.york.ac.uk/projects/pilgrimage/index.html)

Travel and Religion in Antiquity by Philip Harland, ed. York University, ON  
[http://www.philipharland.com/travelandreligion.htm](http://www.philipharland.com/travelandreligion.htm)

Early Christian pilgrimage to the Holy Land  

On-line academic bibliographies on pilgrimage:  
(30 pages: Contents page organized by subject is also provided )

Student Evaluation:

There is no final examination in this course. You will be evaluated in the following four ways:  
1. **INDIVIDUAL WRITTEN RESPONSE.** Discussion among students on course web-site for purposes of clarification **IS ALLOWED**. Give a written account of an experience you’ve had that you would describe as a “pilgrimage” based on one of the three contemporary types discussed in class (i.e. secular, spiritual, religious). Full details of assignment available online or in class by September 5.

   - **Value:** 15% Due September 19’ 2013 @11:59pm EST  To be returned to students October 3, 2013.
2. Individual project: COLLABORATION IS NOT ALLOWED. Essay comparing two aspects of ancient pilgrimage with contemporary pilgrimage. E.g. travel and marketplace; art and landscape/architecture; rituals and shrine/temple; games and athletes; testimonia and votives; health and environmental concerns, etc. RESEARCH FOR THE INDIVIDUAL PROJECT MAY BE USED towards the end product for your group project (see below). Full details of assignment available online or in class by September 5.

  o Value: 25% Due October 10, 2013 @11:59pm EST

3. Group Project: COLLABORATION ON IDEAS, DESIGN, TABLE OF CONTENTS IS WELCOMED; STUDENTS HOWEVER ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR INDIVIDUAL WRITTEN SECTIONS OF THE ASSIGNMENT. To create a hard copy or virtual guide with the goal of promoting the benefits to ancient pilgrims of making a pilgrimage to a specific ancient sanctuary (to be selected from a list culled by prof - SAMPLE MODEL IN COURSEPACK: EXTENDED VERSION ON RESERVE IN LIBRARY). This project will involve research into a particular ancient pilgrimage site that was active between 200BCE and 500CE. Topics covered must include but are not limited to: name and location of sacred site; gods/goddesses honored; name and description of religious festival(s) and their duration, games, dates (in contemporary months), physical description of sanctuary buildings and officials (including priests, priestesses, pythia (if relevant), judges and other personnel), sanctuary restrictions, eligibility criteria of pilgrims (e.g. age, gender requirements), required sacrifices, fees (if required), votives (if required), available accommodation for people and animals, necessary preparation (ritual and practical), favorable pilgrimage routes (land and sea), and of course images and maps to and of the ancient site (e.g. schematics, art, architecture). A list of sites will be provided to students in early September who can then sign up for the site of their choice. Please note that students will be evaluated individually based on the sections of the project for which they are responsible. Full details of assignment to be available online or in class in early September.

  o Value: 35% Due November 14, 2013 @11:59pm EST.

4. Individual written response: To the Hollywood film, The Way (2010). Directed by Emilio Estevez. Film to be aired in class, November 28th. Full details of assignment including question guide to the film to be available online or in class by November 7.

  o Value: 25% Due December 5 2013 @11:59pm EST.

Individual and final grades will be available to students through CULearn. Final grades are recommendations based on the professor’s evaluation of the student’s submitted assignments. Grades are given final approval by the Director of Humanities and Dean of FASS.

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Unless otherwise stated, assignments must be double-spaced, include a cover page with the assignment number, your name, student number, my name and the course number and date of actual submission. Number each page of your assignment (excluding cover page) and make sure your name and student number appear on the top right-hand corner of every page. All student-authored materials for this course are to be presented in the standards set out in The Chicago Manual of Style with either endnotes or footnotes plus a complete bibliography on a separate page including primary (listed first) and secondary sources by alphabetical order.
Late assignments are subject to a 1% penalty per day unless a doctor’s note or some other form of validation for lateness has been provided to the professor. Extensions for assignments will be considered by the professor on a case by case basis.

There are no make-up assignments for this course. Students are responsible for taking note of all assignment due dates, reading all assignment instructions carefully, and managing their time accordingly.

Course Calendar: Please note that some topics might be switched due to the changed availability of third parties. In these cases, the professor will give students as much notice as possible.

Sept 5

Introduction to the course: What is pilgrimage? Does pilgrimage have a set of minimum features? What is the difference between secular, spiritual and religious pilgrimage? Expressions of pilgrimage in art/material culture.

Types of contemporary pilgrimage:
1. Secular
2. Spiritual
3. Religious

Types of Ancient Pilgrimage:
1. Religious festivals/games
2. Initiation – secret mysteries
3. Cures for illness of self or other
4. Oracle or divination
5. Hero/Martyr Shrines
6. Famous Mausolea

Sept 12

What makes someone a pilgrim today? Why did the Ancients travel?

- Film: Believing, 52 minutes (1999) – in class

Readings:


Sept 19

The significance of “place” in pilgrimage

- Assignment 1 due.

- EXCERPTS FROM ANCIENT WRITERS: Philostratus’ Life of Apollonius, Ovid’s Fasti. ON RESERVE IN LIBRARY

Readings:


Sept 26  Travel and Pilgrimage Destinations in the Greco-Roman World: an overview

- Maps and Itineraries – Session with Monica Ferguson, Map specialist, MacOdrum Library
- Course feedback

Readings:

October 3  The Ancient vs the Modern Olympics: Religious vs. Secular journey; Oaths and athletes, then and now.

- Pausanias, *Description of Greece*, “Zeus Averter of Flies”
- Ancient Art and Sculpture of Athletes and Olympia
- Media clips of 2012 London Olympics
- Skype interview with Kyle Jones, Canada’s no. 1 Triathlete and participant in London 2012 Olympics

Readings:
October 10  
**Ritual and practical preparation by and for pilgrims**

- Assignment 2 due
- **EXCERPTS FROM ANCIENT WRITERS**: Lucian’s *De Dea Syria*; Ovid, *Fasti*

**Readings:**


October 17  
**Popular festivals in the Greco-Roman world**

- Ancient Art and festivals


October 24  
**Rituals/Divine Encounters/Mysteries**


**Readings:**


October 28 - Nov. 1 Reading Week  No classes

November 7  Rome and its Environs as a Pilgrimage Destination

- Ancient Art and Archaeology: Pagan and Christian Rome
- EXCERPTS FROM ANCIENT WRITERS: Aelius Aristides, XXVI: “Regarding Rome” Seutonius, The Life of Titus; Prudentius, “Crowns of Martyrdom”

Readings:


November 14 Testimonia, Votives and the Sanctuary as Art Museums

- Assignment 3: Group project due
- Ancient Religions and Visual Culture
- EXCERPTS FROM ANCIENT WRITERS: Dio Chrysostom, Excerpt from the Thirty-First Discourse, 149-153
- Contemporary religious sites and visual culture

Readings:

November 21  From Pagan to Early Christian Pilgrimage

- Ancient/Contemporary Architecture: Monasteries
- Ancient/Contemporary Art: Blessings in a bottle

Readings:


- Film and discussion
- Video: Interview with Emilio Estevez and Martin Sheen

December 5  Pilgrimage and Change?

- Pilgrimage and contemporary media
- Course evaluation.
- Assignment 4 due

Readings:
REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED
Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

PLAGIARISM
The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper quotation marks;
- handing in “substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.”

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course.

GRADING SYSTEM
Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100 (12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85-89 (11)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80-84 (10)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77-79 (9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>73-76 (8)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70-72 (7)</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67-69 (6)</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>63-66 (5)</td>
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<td>C-</td>
<td>60-62 (4)</td>
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<td>D+</td>
<td>57-59 (3)</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>53-56 (2)</td>
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<td>D-</td>
<td>50-52 (1)</td>
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<td>F</td>
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F Failure. Assigned 0.0 grade points
ABS Absent from final examination, equivalent to F
DEF Official deferral (see “Petitions to Defer”)
FND Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY
The last date to withdraw from FALL TERM courses is DEC. 9, 2013. The last day to withdraw from FALL/WINTER (Full Term) and WINTER term courses is APRIL 8, 2014.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION
You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by Nov. 8, 2013 for the Fall term and March 7, 2014 for the Winter term. For more details visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

PETITIONS TO DEFER
If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a FINAL assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply a deferral of examination/assignment.

If you are applying for a deferral due to illness you will be required to see a physician in order to confirm illness and obtain a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or assignment deadline. This supporting documentation must specify the date of onset of the illness, the degree of incapacitation, and the expected date of recovery.

If you are applying for a deferral for reasons other than personal illness, please contact the Registrar’s Office directly for information on other forms of documentation that we accept.

Deferrals of assignments must be supported by confirmation of the assignment due date, for example a copy of the course outline specifying the due date and any documented extensions from the course instructor.

Deferral applications for examination or assignments must be submitted within 5 working days of the original final exam.

ADDRESSES:  (Area Code 613)
College of the Humanities 520-2809  300 Paterson
Greek and Roman Studies Office 520-2809  300 Paterson
Religion Office 520-2100  2A39 Paterson
Registrar's Office 520-3500  300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850  302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608/TTY 520-3937  501 Uni-Centre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125  4th Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125  4th Floor Library