

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES - GREEK AND ROMAN STUDIES
ROMAN BRITAIN
CLCV 4800

Professor: Laura Banducci

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Virtual Office hours via Big Blue Button: Tuesday 10am-11am, Thursday 1pm-2pm, or by appointment

Online. **Synchronous: Mondays 8:35-11:25.** On Zoom.

This is a real-time, online course. Participation requires students to have reliable, high-speed Internet access, a computer (ideally with a webcam), and a microphone. You do not need to have your webcam on, if you'd prefer not to. I plan on recording our sessions.

This seminar course focuses on the history and archaeology of Britain, from the Late Pre-Roman Iron Age until the departure of the Romans in the 5th century CE. Although we will touch on the ancient texts which mention Britain, our evidence will be largely archaeological. We will examine the major archaeological sites in Britain as well as learning some of the key questions historians and archaeologists have when they consider the nature of Roman rule on the island.

This course is ultimately tasked with considering: How did the Romans conquer and hold on to this region? How did the Roman presence change daily life in Britain? How did different populations throughout Britain experience this period in history? How do scholars exploit archaeological evidence to see “culture” and “resistance”? What are the ways in which scholars have approached cultural change and colonial domination?

The course is structured both chronologically and thematically. We begin in the Iron Age and end with the Roman departure, but focus on the landscapes and peoples for whom there is evidence: the towns, the countryside, and the military.

Our central text is *An Imperial Possession*, one of many books about Roman Britain, but one that encompasses many aspects of the evidence and the debates. It is both thorough and easy to read, since it is meant not strictly for a scholarly audience. We will read selected chapters most weeks. These will be supplemented and/or contrasted with other readings: academic articles written by a variety of scholars.

Although this course is a 3-hour seminar, several of the classes will have the last 30 minutes or so reserved for lecture to cover background content in order to facilitate the readings and discussion for the following class.

Required texts (available in the Carleton bookstore or online):

An Imperial Possession (2007) by David Mattingly

Mark breakdown

Class participation 10%

Written reading responses 15%

Leading discussion 15%

“Mysitis” Presentation 15%

Final Presentation 15%

Final Essay (Due: December 18th, 12pm noon) 30%

Details

Class participation (10%)

Because this is a seminar, the students in it *make* the course. You must do the readings and arrive online prepared and ready to discuss the course material by responding to the questions suggested by your discussion leaders and ready with comments and questions of your own. If you do not do this, the course will suffer as a result. I will be carefully noting students' attendance and contributions to the discussion.

Written reading responses (15%)

Starting in Week 2, each student is to write a 1-page response to the readings of each week. This will demonstrate that the reading was completed and that you've started to think about it. Part of this should include a brief (!) summary of the reading; part of this can include comments on things you did not understand, or questions the reading led you to have. This can be generally informal, but should include some reference to each of the assigned readings. It should be emailed directly to me by Monday morning before class.

Leading discussion (15%)

Starting in Week 2, for each class, 1-2 student(s) will be designated as the discussion leaders. They may decide amongst themselves how to divide up the work: they should present a brief introduction to each reading (e.g. highlighting the reading's thesis or aim, its scholarly perspective), they should prepare discussion questions for their classmates, and they are responsible for moderating the class discussion about the readings.

"Mysitis" Presentation* (15%)

In Weeks 4 and 6, each student will give a 10-15 minute presentation on a relevant archaeological site: either a town, or a military site. You should consult the excavation reports (most of these sites have several large volumes) as well as shorter articles and websites which may tell you about this site. I suggest you look for library resources and order via ILL required books as soon as you know which site you are assigned. See Mattingly pages 553-554, and 559-561 for bibliography. On CuLearn, there is also a list of online resources to download pdf books, articles, and databases for your research. You need to cover the full chronological range of the site's occupation and development and give us a brief history of the site's excavation. Your presentation should consist of *at least* 3 images which you think demonstrate some of the features to note about this site. You must also produce a handout (with a bibliography) for your classmates.

Week 4:

Silchester
Wroxeter
Colchester
Verulamium
Cirencester

Week 6:

Hadrian's Wall and the Antonine Wall
Vindolanda
Housesteads

Final Research Essay 30%

Each student will write a research essay 3000-4000 words in length, not including bibliography (this is about 10 pages). The professor will provide a list of suggested topics, or students may write on another topic of their choosing. All topics must be approved by the professor so that we can properly share and allocate books and other sources! You are welcome to write an essay on a topic related to your "mysitis" presentation. Footnotes, rather than endnotes or in-text citations, are preferred. The citation style students use can be any with which they are comfortable as long as the method is consistent. A

minimum of four academic sources (i.e. books, articles) must be used. You may also use academic (rather than popular) websites.

Final Research Presentation 15%

In the final two weeks of the course, students will give 20-minute “work in progress” presentations on their chosen research essay topic. This must include a powerpoint presentation shared through Zoom. This is an opportunity to collect your thoughts about the topic well ahead of when the essay is due and to receive peer feedback.

Topic Schedule (Readings posted on cuLearn)

Week 1: September 14th

Introduction to the scholarship, Written Sources, Research Resources

Week 2: September 21st

The Iron Age and Late Pre-Roman Iron Age (LPRIA)

Week 3: September 28th

Towns: London – the origins debate

Week 4: October 5th

Towns and Student presentations

October 26th – Fall Break

Week 5: October 19th

Rural settlements and villas

Week 6: November 2nd

Military Structures and Student presentations

Week 7: November 9th

Military community

Week 8: November 16th

Religion and ritual in Roman Britain

Week 9: November 23rd

Identifying Roman decline and retreat

Week 10: November 30th

The Romanization debate revisited

Week 11: December 7th

Work-in-progress research presentations

Week 12: December 11th (This is a Friday!)

Work-in-progress research presentations

*most archaeologists have the affliction known as *mysitis*, as in “My site is the most interesting and important, here’s why.”



Humanities

University Regulations for All College of the Humanities Courses

Academic Dates and Deadlines

This schedule contains the dates prescribed by the University Senate for academic activities. Dates relating to fee payment, cancellation of course selections, late charges, and other fees or charges will be published in the Important Dates and Deadlines section of the Registration Website.

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.

Academic Integrity at Carleton

The University Senate defines **plagiarism** as “*presenting, whether intentionally 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 citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use 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 that cannot be resolved directly by the course’s instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts 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

[Academic Integrity Policy](#)

[Academic Integrity Process](#)

Academic Accommodation Policy

Academic Accommodation

Carleton University is committed to providing access to the educational experience in order to promote academic accessibility for all individuals.

Parental Leave: The Student Parental Leave Policy is intended to recognize the need for leave at the time of a pregnancy, birth or adoption and to permit a pause in studies in order to provide full-time care in the first year of parenting a child or for health-related parental responsibilities.

Religious obligation: Carleton University accommodates students who, by reason of religious obligation, must miss an examination, test, assignment deadline, laboratory or other compulsory academic event.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Academic accommodation of students with disabilities is available through the [Paul Menton Centre](#) by evaluations that are carried out on an individual basis, in accordance with human rights legislation and University policy, and with the support of relevant, professional/medical documentation.

Survivors of Sexual Violence

Individuals who disclose that they have experienced sexual violence will be provided support services and will be treated with dignity and respect at all times by the University and its representatives. A person affected by sexual violence is not required to report an incident of or make a complaint about sexual violence under the formal complaint process of the Sexual Violence Policy in order to obtain support and services, or in order to receive appropriate accommodation for their needs.

[Supports and services available at the University to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support.](#)

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. [More information.](#)

Grading System at Carleton University

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean."

The [system of grades](#) used, with corresponding grade points and the percentage conversion, is listed below. Grade points indicated are for courses with 1.0 credit value.

Course Sharing Websites and Copyright

Classroom teaching and learning activities, including lectures, discussions, presentations, etc., by both instructors and students, are copy protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). All course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, outlines, and other materials, are also protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s).

Students registered in the course may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational use only. Students are not permitted to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly for commercial or non-commercial purposes without express written consent from the copyright holder(s).

[More information](#)

Student Rights and Responsibilities at Carleton

Carleton University strives to provide a safe environment conducive to personal and intellectual growth, free of injustice and characterized by understanding respect, peace, trust, and fairness.

The [Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy](#) governs the non-academic behaviour of students. Carleton University is committed to building a campus that promotes personal growth through the establishment and promotion of transparent and fair academic and non-academic responsibilities.

[7 Student Rights and Responsibilities](#)

Deferred Term Work

In some situations, students are unable to complete term work because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control, which forces them to delay submission of the work.

1. Students who claim illness, injury or other extraordinary circumstances beyond their control as a reason for missed term work are held responsible for immediately informing the instructor concerned and for making alternate arrangements with the instructor and in all cases this must occur no later than three (3.0) working days after the term work was due. The alternate arrangement must be made before the last day of classes in the term as published in the academic schedule. Normally, any deferred term work will be completed by the last day of term. In all cases, formative evaluations providing feedback to the student should be replaced with formative evaluations. In the event the altered due date must extend beyond the last day of classes in the term, the instructor will assign a grade of zero for the work not submitted and submit the student's earned grade accordingly; the instructor may submit a change of grade at a later date. Term work cannot be deferred by the Registrar.

2. In cases where a student is not able to complete term work due to illness or injury for a significant period of time/or long term, the instructor and/or student may elect to consult with the Registrar's Office (undergraduate courses) or Graduate Registrar (graduate courses) to determine appropriate action.

[More information of deferred Term Work](#)

Deferred Final Exams

Students who are unable to write a final examination because of a serious illness/emergency or other circumstances beyond their control may apply for accommodation. Normally, the accommodation for a missed final examination will be granting the student the opportunity to write a deferred examination. In specific cases when it is not possible to offer a deferred examination, and with the approval of the Dean, an alternate accommodation may be made.

The application for a deferral must:

1. be made in writing to the Registrar's Office no later than three working days after the original final examination or the due date of the take-home examination; and,
2. be fully supported by appropriate documentation and, in cases of illness, by a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination, or by appropriate documents in other cases. Medical documents must specify the date of the onset of the illness, the (expected) date of recovery, and the extent to which the student was/is incapacitated during the time of the examination. The University's preferred medical form can be found at the Registrar's Office [here](#).

[More information on Final Exam Deferrals](#)

[Financial vs. Academic Withdrawal](#)

Withdrawn. No academic credit, no impact on the CGPA. WDN is a permanent notation that appears on the official transcript for students who withdraw after the full fee adjustment date in each term (noted in the Academic Year section of the Calendar each term). Students may withdraw on or before the last day of classes.

Important dates can be found [here](#). Make sure that you are aware of the separate deadlines for Financial and Academic withdrawal!

Making registration decisions in Carleton Central involves making a financial and academic commitment for the courses you choose, regardless of attendance. If you do not attend – you must withdraw in Carleton Central within the published deadlines to cancel your registration. You can do this via the [MyCarleton Portal](#). A fee adjustment is dependent on registration being canceled within the published [fee deadlines](#) and dependent on your course load.

Department Contact Information

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