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 and these will be supplemented and/or contrasted with other readings.

Although this course is a 3-hour seminar, several of the classes will have the last 30 minutes 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 30%

**Details**
Class participation (10%)
Because this is a seminar, the students in it make the course. You must do the readings and arrive for class prepared and ready to discuss the course material, 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 type-written 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.

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/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. 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 hand out (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, and no websites, must be used.

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 power point presentation. 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: January 8th
Introduction to the scholarship, Written Sources, Library Research at Carleton

Week 2: January 15th
The Iron Age and Late Pre-Roman Iron Age (LPIRA)

Week 3: January 22nd
Towns: London – the origins debate

Week 4: January 29th
Towns and Student presentations

Week 5: February 5th
Rural settlements and villas

Week 6: February 12th
Military Structures and Student presentations

Week 7: February 26th
Military community

Week 8: March 5th
Religion and ritual in Roman Britain

Week 9: March 12th
Identifying Roman decline and retreat
Week 10: March 19th
The Romanization debate revisited

Week 11: March 26th
No class – research break! Extra office hours!

Week 12: April 2nd
Work-in-progress research presentations

Week 13th: April 9th
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.”
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

Plagiarism is presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas, or work of others as one’s own. Plagiarism includes 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. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, and material on the internet. More information can be found on https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/#AIatCU.

Academic Accommodation Policy

Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to the instructor 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. For more details see the Student Guide

Religious obligation: write to the instructor 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. For more details see the Student Guide

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at
613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

**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. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points and the percentage conversion is below. Grade points indicated are for courses with 1.0 credit value. Where the course credit is greater or less than one credit, the grade points are adjusted proportionately. [Grading System Chart](#)

**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).

**Statement on Class Conduct**

The Carleton University Human Rights Policies and Procedures affirm that all members of the University community share a responsibility to:

- promote equity and fairness,
- respect and value diversity,
- prevent discrimination and harassment, and

preserve the freedom of its members to carry out responsibly their scholarly work without threat of interference.
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.

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. More information is available [in the calendar](#).

Deferred Exams

Students who do not write/attend a final examination because of illness of other circumstances beyond their control may apply to write a deferred examination.

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 [forms and fees page](#).

The granting of a deferral also requires that the student has performed satisfactorily in the course according to the evaluation scheme established in the Course Outline, excluding the final examination for which deferral privileges are requested. Reasons for denial of a deferral may include, among other conditions, a failure to (i) achieve a minimum score in the course before the final examination; (ii) attend a minimum number of classes; (iii) successfully complete a specific task (e.g. term paper, critical report, group project, computer or other assignment); (iv) complete laboratory work; (v) successfully complete one or more midterms; or (vi) meet other reasonable conditions of successful performance.

More information can be found [in the calendar](#).
Any questions related to deferring a Final Exam or Final Assignment/Take Home Examination should be directed to: Registrar’s Office

Withdrawal From Courses

Withdrawn. No academic credit, no impact on the CGPA.

**NEW FALL 2017:** WDN is a permanent notation that appears on the official transcript for students who withdraw after the full fee adjustment date in each term. Students may withdraw on or before the last day of classes.

**Dates can be found here:** [http://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/](http://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/)

Department Contact Information

**College of the Humanities** 300 Paterson Hall (613)520-2809
CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca
Drop box for CLCV, HUMS LATN GREK Term Papers and assignments is outside 300 P.A.

**Greek and Roman Studies** 300 Paterson Hall (613)520-2809
GreekAndRomanStudies@cunet.carleton.ca
Drop Box is outside of 300 P.A.

**Religion** 2A39 Paterson Hall (613)520-2100
Religion@cunet.carleton.ca
Drop box for RELI Term Papers and assignments is outside of 2A39 P.A.

**Registrar’s Office** 300 Tory (613)520-3500
https://carleton.ca/registrar/

Student Resources on Campus

CUKnowHow Website