

**Please submit the typed original with all required signatures to the Graduate Council**  
Course syllabus must be attached and completed according to Fitchburg State guidelines

Form functionality most compatible using Adobe Acrobat 9 and newer.

Course Title: Roman Society and Culture

Banner limit of 30 characters, including punctuation, spaces, and special characters.

Banner Abbreviation:

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Faculty member(s) who  
are creating the course: Daniel Sarefield

Contact Person: Daniel Sarefield

Graduate Program Proposing Change: History

Course Description:

This course presents an in-depth look at the social life and cultural mores of ancient Rome during the early Empire. By examining an array of literary sources and other materials, students will investigate the structures that shaped Roman society, learn about Roman values and beliefs, and witness the lives of Romans on the street, in the home, at the table, and in the bedroom.

Rationale for Offering the Course:

This course, which has been offered twice successfully, will provide an attractive elective option for students in our History graduate program to fulfill the European history field requirement. This course will serve as a representative example of social history, a field of history that examines the lived experiences of people from the past.

**GRADUATE COUNCIL  
NEW COURSE PROPOSAL**Is there a similar undergraduate course? ☐ Yes ☒ No If so, how does this graduate course differ?Discipline Prefix: HIST If more than one provide rationale: N/ACredits: 03Level: ☐ 7000 ☐ 8000 ☒ 9000

Brief rationale for level choice: This course has been offered twice previously as HIST 9017.

Additional Requirements: Laboratory Hours: N/A Pre-Practicum Hours: N/A Practicum Hours: N/A  
Fieldwork Hours: N/A Other (specify): N/APrerequisite course(s) if any: N/AThis course will be: ☐ a Required Course ☒ an Elective Special/Note: \_\_\_\_\_Course is a replacement for (Course Number/Name): N/AHas the course been offered previously as a "Topics" course? ☒ Yes ☐ NoIf yes, How often? Twice. Once during the Fall 2009 term and once during Summer II 2015.What is the Expected Average Enrollment?: Approximately 15 students.Which semester will this course first be offered?: Summer II 2018 How often thereafter to be offered?: Every two years.Does this course affect offerings in any other department or program? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, please explain.Is this an Extended Campus course? ☐ Yes ☒ No

**GRADUATE COUNCIL  
NEW COURSE PROPOSAL**

Course syllabus must be attached and completed according to Fitchburg State guidelines.

☒ Course Syllabus is Attached[Print Form](#)☐ Reviewed by Dean: \_\_\_\_\_**Required Signatures—Graduate and Continuing Education New Course Approval**

Course Developer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 3/28/18

Department Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 3/28/18

Graduate Council Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 5/1/18

(Indicates Graduate Council approval)

President: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 5/11/18

FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

HIST 9017

**TOPICS: ROMAN SOCIETY & CULTURE**

Sull 2015 • CRN 53113 • 3 credit hours

T Th 5:30–7:30 p.m.  
Thompson Hall [THOM], Rm. 202

Daniel Sarefield, Ph.D.  
Department of Economics, History, and Political Science / Graduate Program in History  
Office: Miller Hall, Rm. 313  
Special Office Hours: T Th 4:30–5:30 p.m. and by appointment  
Office Telephone: 978-665-4804  
E-mail: dsarefield@fsc.edu

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

History 9017 presents an in-depth look at the social life and cultural mores of Romans, especially during the early and middle imperial eras (44 BCE to 180 CE). Through a detailed examination of a wide range of literary sources in translation, students examine the structures that shaped Roman society, learn about Roman values and beliefs, and witness the lives of Romans in the city, at the table, and in the bedroom.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This course has three primary objectives:

1. to develop broad competence in the social and cultural history of the early and middle imperial periods of Roman civilization;
2. to refine your textual interpretation skills through the careful reading and discussion of relevant primary source texts;
3. to refine your ability to express your ideas and opinions and to produce coherent and convincing arguments through the composition of several short (approximately 5-7 pages each) response papers.

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

The texts for this course are available for purchase at the student bookstore and online.

1. Jo-Ann Shelton, ed., *As the Romans Did: A Sourcebook in Roman Social History*, Second Edition, Oxford University Press, 1997. ISBN: 0-19-508974-X.
2. Ovid, *The Erotic Poems* (Peter Green, trans.) New York: Penguin Classics, 1983. ISBN: 0-140-44360-6.
3. Plautus, *The Pot of Gold and Other Plays* (E.F. Watling, trans.) New York: Penguin Classics, 1973. ISBN: 978-0-14-044149-9.
4. Pliny the Younger, *Letters* (Betty Radice, trans.) New York: Penguin Books, 1985. ISBN: 978-0-14-044127-7.
5. Juvenal, *The Sixteen Satires* (Peter Green, trans.) New York: Penguin Classics, 2004. ISBN: 978-0-14-044704-0.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In order to pass this course, students must regularly attend the class sessions, actively participate in class discussions of the assigned readings, and promptly submit all five response papers by the deadline posted in the course schedule below. Final grades will be determined as follows:

Response Paper 1 = 20 %
Response Paper 2 = 20 %
Response Paper 3 = 20 %
Response Paper 4 = 20 %
Response Paper 5 = 20 %

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TOTAL = 100 %

## GRADES WILL BE ASSIGNED BASED ON THE FOLLOWING SCALE:

4.0	95-100	A	3.3	86-88	B+	2.5	77-79	B-/C+
3.7	92-94	A-	3.0	83-85	B	2.3	74-76	C+
3.5	89-91	A-/B+	2.7	80-82	B-	2.0	71-73	C
						0.0	0-70	F

## STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters excellence in collegiate education. Thus, I expect all students to be familiar with and adhere to Fitchburg State University's *Student Code of Conduct*, and that all students complete all assignments with the utmost fairness and honesty. Failure to follow the rules and guidelines set forth in the Code may constitute academic dishonesty and I will regard any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of this course or the University or that subverts the educational process as such. Examples of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession and/or use of unauthorized materials during an examination. Ignorance of the rules is never an excuse, so I recommend that you review the Code if you feel that you are unfamiliar with its content. If I suspect that a student has committed some form of academic dishonesty in this course, I am obliged to report my suspicions to the Committee on Academic Dishonesty. If the Committee determines that a student has violated the Code (i.e., committed academic dishonesty), the sanctions could include a failing grade on the assignment or the course, academic suspension, or dismissal from the University. Please consult your *Student Handbook* or speak with me if you have any questions.

## OTHER EXPECTATIONS

**Attendance:** All students are expected to attend every scheduled session of this course and I will regularly take attendance to confirm that you do. Absences can only be excused for pressing medical reasons or other dire personal circumstances (e.g., a death in the family), military service, or for participation in official University activities, such as a musical performance or athletic competition. Proper documentation is required for all excused absences.

**Assignments:** All students must submit all assignments at the announced dates and times. Late work will not be accepted. No exceptions!

**Special Arrangements:** If you have a learning disability or other extraordinary need requiring some special arrangement, please come visit me during my office hours and I will be happy to accommodate you.

# HIST 9017 Sull 2015 WEEKLY SCHEDULE

## WEEK 1

**Readings:** Jo-Ann Shelton, *As the Romans Did*, pp. 1–15; Juvenal, *Satire VIII* and *Satire IX*

T	7/7	<b>FIRST DAY OF CLASS</b>
		<b>INTRODUCTION</b>
Th	7/9	<b>The Structures of Roman Society</b>

## WEEK 2

**Readings:** Jo-Ann Shelton, *As the Romans Did*, pp. 59–99, 163–202; Juvenal, *Satire III*; Plautus, *The Prisoners (Captivi)*

T	7/14	<b>Life in the Roman City</b>
Th	7/16	<b>Roman Slaves &amp; Freedmen</b>

## WEEK 3

**Readings:** Jo-Ann Shelton, *As the Romans Did*, pp. 288–306, 16–58; Juvenal, *Satire VI*; Plautus, *The Pot of Gold (Aulularia)*

T	7/21	<b>Women in Roman Society</b>
Th	7/23	<b>Marriage &amp; the Roman Family</b>

## WEEK 4

**Readings:** Jo-Ann Shelton, *As the Romans Did*, pp. 100–162, 307–328; Pliny the Younger, *Letters*, Book 10; Ovid, *The Art of Love*; Ovid, *On Facial Treatments for Ladies*; Juvenal, *Satire V* and *Satire XI*

T	7/28	<b>Roman Education &amp; Occupations</b>
Th	7/30	<b>Beauty &amp; Pleasure in Ancient Rome</b>

## WEEK 5

**Readings:** Jo-Ann Shelton, *As the Romans Did*, pp. 329–358, 359–404, 417–420; Juvenal, *Satire XII*

T	8/4	<b>Spectacles &amp; Entertainment in Ancient Rome</b>
Th	8/6	<b>LAST DAY OF CLASS</b>
		<b>ALL RESPONSE PAPERS ARE DUE BY BEGINNING OF CLASS TODAY</b>