

Layers of Rome 2023 Syllabus

University of Texas – El Paso

Instructors:

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Cross-listed 6 –credit course. Students are enrolled in a Maymetser and a Summer 1 course. All students are enrolled on HUMN 4390 for 3-credits and a choice between HIST 3390, ART 307, COMM 4350 or POLS 4350

Course Description: This course will survey the history, art, and religion of Rome from its founding into the modern era. Classes convene for two weeks in El Paso before departure, on site in Rome, and for one week upon return to El Paso. In Italy, instruction takes place amid Rome's archaeological remains, important churches, museums, and social spaces. Direct personal dialogue with the places and artefacts of Rome, our historical laboratory, will foster an understanding of the relevance of history to current conditions and a comprehension of Rome's historical realities. To increase the breadth of the student experience, the course partners with Iowa State University and Kirkwood Community College of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. In this way, UTEP students are able to take advantage of the expertise of faculty from other institutions and to interact with other student travelers from across the U.S.

During the course, special efforts will be made to promote leadership and team building skills by engaging students in an active project, which will promote global awareness. The focus will be on how cultural heritage and cultural heritage preservation promotes social identity and international communication locally and internationally. Students will be working on-site, in teams, to develop media components and educational resources for use in high school and college curricula. The end products of student work will be published on our website *The Layers of Rome* as part of our traveling *Preserving Identities* Exhibit. The websites and exhibits serve as an open-access resource, serving as our main implement for community outreach.

Course Rationale: In our fast-changing world sustainability is the current concern in every area, and in a changing world, cultural heritage is a monumental concern. We are proposing an interdisciplinary offering directed at students interested in the identification, documentation, research, preservation, transmission, and revitalization of culture at many levels. The skills acquired will have wide applications, promote social responsibility, and allow students to exercise their problem-solving skills to identify and address current social and political needs internationally, nationally, and locally. In the process, students will encounter the works of Renaissance artists such as Bramante, Michelangelo and Raphael; Baroque artists like Bernini, and Caravaggio and the writings of Victorian travelers such as Keats and Shelley, who experienced and recorded the life and romance of historical Rome.

Rome, our historical laboratory, offers students an opportunity to explore a world-class city that presents intriguing problems in sustaining historical heritage. Through their research and experiences, students will encounter the historical layering that preserves the remembrance of human activity from ancient times to the Renaissance. Students will work in teams to map human activity by identifying and photographing historical sites to develop a narrative of Rome's history through individual journal accounts. In the process, they will be working to develop projects that investigate past attempts to preserve cultural heritage and cultural monuments. The goal shall be to understand the impact heritage preservation upon the current state of cultural preservation work going on in Italy, to analyze successes and failures, to record digitally their work, and to propose suggestions for continued work that will increase their knowledge of preservation work. Our plan is to engage students in this research to develop long-term educational products suitable for display and publication. Student research will become a part of a traveling exhibition, *Preserving Identities*, which is currently circulating in schools across El Paso. All past work is published on our website at <http://layersofrome.utep.edu/> .

Course Objectives: By completing this course, students will:

1. Increase their awareness of the historical and geographical spaces of an ancient city now functioning as a modern European heritage and tourist center.
2. Better understand the connection between classical, medieval, renaissance, and modern Rome.

3. Be prepared to engage and discuss various historical and artistic issues on site in Rome.
4. Research and prepare a preservation exhibit on a designated Roman monument.
5. Keep daily experience journals recording notes from lectures, photographs, and personal observations on life in a non-English speaking country.
6. Experience the world of travel, crossing international borders, using public transportation, and living in a foreign environment.
7. Gain knowledge, training & experience in video/multimedia preproduction, production, and postproduction.

Course Expectations: To complete the course with a high grade, students should:

1. Complete all reading and homework assignments.
2. Come to class prepared to participate in all class discussions.
3. Bring a pen, notebook, and the assigned reading to every class.
4. Type all assignments in accordance with the MLS style sheet.
5. Know that all assignments are linked to class discussions, readings, and videos.
6. Be prepared to present short historical reports on site in Rome.
7. Attend all meetings on site in Rome.
8. In the Maymester begin Preproduction of class projects by completing a plotline, a 1st draft script, and a 1st draft storyboard.
9. In the Summer I term: Produce a 2nd draft script & 2nd draft storyboard, film an introduction to their script and testimonials, film B-roll and provide 10 good pictures for their assigned project.
10. In the Summer I term: Complete production by finalizing voice overs for script, edit video & and prepare photos in the lab.
11. Keep a daily personal journal.
12. Submit Vocation and Vacation essay to Study Abroad.

Class Assignments & Itinerary

Summary: Exploration of significant historical eras will be amplified by visits to historical sites such as; the Roman Forum, Forum of Augustus, the Palatine Hill, the Colosseum, the Pantheon, the great aqueducts, the Arch of Constantine, and the Baths of Caracalla. We will visit Catholic churches such as San Clemente and of course St. Peter's Basilica, which were paramount in the establishment of the Holy Roman Empire. Museum visits will include the Vatican Museum, the Borghese

Gallery, the Capitoline Museum, and the Roman House. In addition to Rome’s capital, we will travel to the ancient seaport city of Rome, Ostia Antica, where our course instruction will continue on site in the ruins. Beyond the walls of Rome there will also be optional excursions offered to travel to ancient Pompeii as well as the Renaissance city of Florence.

JOURNALS

All students will be given a small journal on the first day of class. Students will be required to bring the journal to every class and to carry it with them each day in Rome recording their reactions as the class moves about Rome. Students will be able to use these reactions to complete the essay required by the Study Abroad Office and the final essay required for this class. Journals will be submitted to the instructors when each student enters the classroom for the Maymester course. In the first week, students will be asked to compile their own ten point outlines of the readings before coming to class. Students will share their outlines with the class during the quiz review.

READINGS

Assigned readings each day should be read before coming to class in preparation for class discussion on the days on which the readings are assigned. For example, the readings assigned on Tuesday, May 23 should be read before coming to class Tuesday.

| Date | Location / Sites |
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| Monday, May 22 | <p>Please read assigned readings before we meet for class. Quiz over pre-class readings. In preparation: For discussion and Quiz. Watch Video: Ancient Rome in Twenty Minutes</p> <p>Reading: Guy M. Rogers, C. Warren Hollister. <i>Roots of the Western Tradition</i>, pages 159-173, 176-195.</p> |

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| | Distribution of composition books to students to be used as their personal notebook/journals. |
| Tuesday, May 23 | Readings: Robert Kebric, <i>Roman People</i> , pp. 36-56. |
| Wednesday, May 24 | Readings: Robert Kebric, <i>Roman People</i> , pp. 243-275. 1 st part of class: lecture and discussion over readings 2 nd part of class, students begin work on Projects |
| Thursday, May 25 | Readings: Readings: Loren Partridge, <i>The Art of Renaissance Rome: 1400 To 1600</i> . pp. 11-42. 1 st part of class: lecture and discussion over readings 2 nd part of class, students begin work on Projects |
| Friday, May 26 | Readings: Readings: Loren Partridge, <i>The Art of Renaissance Rome: 1400 To 1600</i> . pp. 115-118; 120-131; 133-136. 1 st part of class: lecture and discussion over readings 2 nd part of class, students begin work on Projects 1st Draft Due in One Drive folder. |
| Monday, May 29 | University Holiday—No Class |
| Tuesday, May 30 | Discussion of Modern Italian Culture Watch Video: History of Italy in 16 min. Students present Oral presentation of 1 st draft, followed by oral feedback from Dr. Weber. |
| Wednesday, May 31 | Instruction in collection and editing of media and photography, and color correction. Continued work on project 2 nd Draft |

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| Thursday, June 1 | Continue working on project 2nd Draft Due in One Drive folder. |
| Friday, June 2 | Final Preparation for trip NO CLASS |
| Saturday, June 3 | Leave for Rome |
| Sunday, June 4 | Arrive Rome / Settle into Lodging Walking tour of neighborhood and along the Tiber. |
| Monday, June 5 | 9:00 AM: Pantheon, Largo Argentina & Piazza. Navona. Reading: <i>Blue Guide</i> , p. 163-166, 177-181, 212, 564. 3:30 PM: Vicus Caparius, the City of Water: Aqueducts. Reading: <i>Blue Guide</i> , p. 525 KCC group arrives: 5:30 PM reception at Iowa State Rome campus (Piazza delle Cinque Scole 23). |
| Tuesday, June 6 | 10:30 AM: San Clemente Reading: <i>Blue Guide</i> , p. 263-267. 2:20 PM: Colosseum Preserving Identities: Colosseum Exhibit Reading: <i>Blue Guide</i> , p. 105-109. Arch of Constantine video w/ Dr. Ronald Weber Reading: <i>Blue Guide</i> , p. 110-112. |
| Wednesday, June 7 | 9:00 AM: Roman Forum & Palatine Hill. Reading: <i>Blue Guide</i> , p. 64-88. |
| Thursday, June 8 | 9:00 AM Baths of Caracalla Reading: <i>Blue Guide</i> , p. 249-253. 11:00 AM: Capitoline Museum Reading: <i>Blue Guide</i> , p. 434-471. |
| Friday, June 9 | 10:30 AM: Lecture at Iowa State Rome campus (Piazza delle Cinque Scole 23). |

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| | <p>St. Peter's Basilica Reading: <i>Blue Guide</i>, p. 413-433.</p> <p>7:00 PM - Vatican Museum Reading: <i>Blue Guide</i>, p. 434-474.</p> |
| Saturday, June 10 | FREE DAY |
| Sunday, June 11 | <p>Day trip to Pompeii Reading: Pompeii Folder in One Drive Pompeii Interactive Map</p> |
| Monday, June 12 | <p>12:00 PM: Keats-Shelley House.</p> <p>3:00 PM: Protestant Cemetery Reading: Romanticism Readings Folder in One Drive & <i>Blue Guide</i>, p. 475-478.</p> <p>6:00 PM: Wine Tasting</p> |
| Tuesday, June 13 | <p>Day trip to Florence Reading: <i>Rick Steve's Guide to Florence</i></p> |
| Wednesday, June 14 | <p>7:00 AM: Papal Audience</p> <p>Villa Farnesina and Tempio di Bramante: Optional.</p> <p>5:00 PM: Picnic in Aqueduct Park</p> |
| Thursday, June 15 | <p>11:00 AM: Picnic in Borghese Park and lecture.</p> <p>12:00 PM: Villa Borghese Gallery Reading: <i>Blue Guide</i>, p. 354-362.</p> |
| Friday, June 16 | <p>Day trip to Ostia Antica Review both presentations of Ostia mosaics and Mithraism in link below: https://layersofrome.utep.edu/ostia-antica Reading: <i>Blue Guide</i>, p. 526-536.</p> |
| Saturday, June 17 | Day Trip to Assisi |

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| | Reading: <i>Rick Steve's Guide to Assisi</i> |
| Sunday, June 18 | FREE DAY (prepare for departure) |
| Monday, June 19 | Leave Rome for El Paso |
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| Monday, June 26 | Project assessment: Roman Forum |
| Tuesday, June 27 | Project assessment: Pompeii |
| Wednesday, June 28 | Final Projects due. |