

Cincinnati Christian University
Foster School of Biblical Studies, Arts & Sciences
HIST 120 - Classical Greek and Roman History

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Early Fall Semester 2019
3 Semester Credit Hours

CCU Mission: CCU is committed to providing a Christ-centered, liberal arts education taught with a Christian worldview in students' chosen fields of study.

Course Description: An analysis of the early Greeks, their classical and Hellenistic expression, followed by Rome's republic, revolution, empire, and fall; the emergence of the Byzantine east.

Course Rationale: A survey of the history of the ancient Greek and Roman cultures leading up to and beyond the first century A.D., which will lead the student to a greater understanding of the context of the New Testament and the life and ministry of Jesus Christ and his apostles.

A&S Learning Outcomes:

- A&S 1: Students should be able to communicate effectively in both oral and written forms in a variety of rhetorical contexts, including Standard English
- A&S 2: Students should be able to adeptly utilize modern research and writing tools
- A&S 3: Students should be able to identify decisive events and ideas in the human experience and assess their influences on modern culture and thought
- A&S 4: Students should be able to employ critical and creative thinking and mathematic and scientific principles for problem solving, literary and socio-cultural analysis, intercultural understanding, and research in the sciences and humanities
- A&S 5: Students should be able to demonstrate the integration of academic insights and experiences by constructing and employing a personal framework in which ethical decisions can be made in light of societal values and a Christian worldview

Course Objectives: The student will . . .

- Learn the historical and cultural framework of the New Testament (Supports A&S 5)
- Learn geographical locations, the names of significant historical figures and their political and military movements.
- Learn to understand the social and religious setting as well as the philosophical thought of the era. (Supports A&S 4)
- Learn to recognize the long lasting influence of the Greek and Roman civilizations even up to modern day America. (Supports A&S 3)
- Demonstrate ability to effectively communicate ideas and critical thinking in written form. (Supports A&S 1, 2)

Course Material: To accomplish the course objectives a variety of materials will be used including power point slides, textbooks, movies, handouts, classroom lectures and discussions.

Course Syllabus

Course Schedule:

A one hour lunch break from noon to 1:00 p.m. will be given each day.

Mon. 8.12.19 10:00 to 5:00

Tues. 8.13.19 9:00 to 5:00

Wed. 8.14.19 9:00 to 5:00
Thu. 8.15.19 9:00 to 5:00

Fri. 8.16.19 9:00 to 2:00

Required Textbooks:

1. *The Ancient World: A Social and Cultural History*, by Brendan D. Nagle, 8th ed., Pearson, 2013.
2. *The Greco-Roman World of the New Testament Era* by James S. Jeffers, InterVarsity Press, 1999.
3. *Ten Caesars* by Barry Strauss, Simon & Schuster Publishing, 2019.

Course Assignments:

Textbook Questions – Answer the following questions at the end of each chapter in the Nagle textbook. Each question is to be answered with material from that chapter and will be a paragraph in length.

Textbook Questions can be turned in at any time, but must be turned in by **October 18, 2019**.

Ch. 1. #2, 5	Ch. 6. #1, 5	Ch. 11. #2, 4, 5
Ch. 2. #2, 3, 5	Ch. 7. #1, 2, 5	Ch. 12. #2, 4, 5
Ch. 3. #1, 3, 5	Ch. 8. #1, 5	Ch. 13. #1, 4, 5
Ch. 4. #1, 4, 5	Ch. 9. #2, 5	
Ch. 5. #2, 4	Ch. 10. #1, 2, 3	

Final Exam – A final exam will be posted on Canvas from 3:00 p.m. on Friday, August 16th until midnight on Tuesday, August, 20th. Students must complete the final in this time frame. The final exam for this course will consist of twenty items to identify and match correctly and three essays.

Odyssey Paper – an analysis and response paper to the movie *The Odyssey*. **Due August 30, 2019.**

Watch the movie *The Odyssey* (1997, starring Armand Assante). Two copies are on reserve at the CCU Library; it may also be available through Netflix, Youtube or other on-line movie services. Write a two page paper explaining the significance of the book (as portrayed in the movie) *The Odyssey* to ancient Greek history and its relevance to the overall course. *Identify key characteristics and themes of Greek culture depicted in the book.* Begin with an introductory paragraph before moving into your analysis and response. Conclude with a summary and recommendation.

Book Review – read and write a scholarly book review of *The Greco-Roman World of the New Testament Era* according to academic standards and the guidelines in the syllabus. **Due September 20, 2019.**

The book review will be approximately three to four pages in length and will have four main sections:

First, begin with a good summary of the book as a whole (no more than one page).

Second, provide an analytical discussion of the book's content. This would include an analysis of the thesis of the book, strengths and weaknesses of the book and an analysis of the writer's style, presentation and research (no more than one page)

Third, answer the question, what is the significance of this book to our knowledge of the New Testament?

Fourth, provide a concluding recommendation in a paragraph stating whether or not you would recommend this book to be read by others and if so, by whom and for what reasons.

Book Review - read and write a scholarly book review of *Ten Caesars* according to the academic standards and the guidelines in the syllabus. **Due October 11, 2019.** The book review needs to be two to three pages in length. Identify the author's intended purpose for writing the book and analyze whether or not he was successful in his purpose. In addition, discuss how this books to the study of Roman history. The review will also include a quality introductory paragraph and conclusion.

Course Grading: Course letter grades will be determined in accordance with the percentages listed in the college catalog. Final grade for this course will be based on the following breakdown:

- a. Class attendance, participation and preparedness 10%

b. Textbook Questions	10%
c. Odyssey Paper	15%
d. Jeffers Book Review	20%
e. Strauss Book Review	20%
f. Final Exam	25%

Course Accommodations: Students who require academic accommodations due to a documented physical, psychological, or learning disability may request assistance from the Student Services Department. Students are encouraged to complete this process within the first two weeks of the semester. The Student Services Department is located on the upper level of Presidents Hall. You may also contact the office by phone at 244-8150.

Class Guidelines

1. Arrive in class by the start time and be prepared for class.
2. Students who need to leave class early must speak to the professor prior to the start of class.
3. Breaks will be given throughout the day at the discretion of the professor.
4. Students are expected to participate in the class, but refrain from causing distractions in the class. Students are not to enter and exit the classroom at their own personal discretion. Go to the bathroom before or after class or during one of the breaks.
5. Be attentive in class. Sleeping, talking, playing with cell phones, laptops or other electronic equipment, or disturbance of any kind will not be tolerated. Excessive inappropriate behavior will result in the lowering of your grade, dismissal from class or failure from the course.
6. Turn off all cell phones before the start of class. Texting during class will not be tolerated.
7. It is the student's responsibility to complete and turn in all assignments on the due dates. To successfully pass this course, all assignments must be completed and turned in.
8. Possible extra credit will be available for students at the discretion of the professor.
9. Contact the professor if you have any problems, need clarification of information, or require help with course assignments or need some other form of assistance.