UAB
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

History of Rome

Code: 104211
ECTS Credits: 6

2025/2026

Degree	Type	Year
Ancient Studies	OB	2

Contact

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Teachers

Jordi Morera Camprubi

Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the end of this document.

Prerequisites

No previous requirements

Objectives and Contextualisation

Introducing the students into the basic knowledge of the main historical, social and economic episodes of Ancient Rome.

In a secondary level, the subject will also focus on the following objectives:

- Knowing the main historical literary sources of each period, and know how to interpret these documents through the main historiographical tendencies.

- Knowing how to integrate archaeological data into historical discourse, highlighting the most significant sites and their material sets.

- Appreciate the contribution of the epigraphy to the study of Ancient Rome, coming across some emblematic examples.

Competences

- Apply the main methods, techniques and instruments of historical analysis.

- Be able to express oneself orally and in writing in the specific language of history, archaeology and philology, both in one's own languages and a third language.
- Recognise the impact of some important aspects of the ancient world in contemporary culture and society.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Students must have and understand knowledge of an area of study built on the basis of general secondary education, and while it relies on some advanced textbooks it also includes some aspects coming from the forefront of its field of study.
- Understand and interpret the evolution of ancient societies in the Mediterranean from Egyptian civilisation to the disbanding of Western imperial Rome through analysis of the political, historical, social, economic and linguistic factors.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyse the historical processes that lead to armed conflict.
2. Analyse the key issues that help to approach the study of historical phenomena from a gender perspective.
3. Describe the economic, social and political structures of the classical societies.
4. Explain the main historiographic debates on antiquity.
5. Identifying the context of the historical processes.
6. Identifying the specific methods of history and their relationship with the analysis of particular facts.
7. Preparing an oral and written discourse in the corresponding language in a proper and organized way.
8. Relate the historical texts to their archaeological contexts.
9. Submitting works in accordance with both individual and small group demands and personal styles.
10. Using the specific interpretational and technical vocabulary of the discipline.

Content

MAIN TOPICS

The topics will be developed in 3 blocks, each of them offering a synthetic vision of the History of the period, and the most significant political and social institutions.

Session 1. Introduction to the History of Rome. The Archaic and Monarchic Rome. Servius Tullius.

BLOCK 1. THE ROMAN REPUBLIC.

Session 2. The political groups of the Roman Republic. Patrician and Plebeian families.

Session 3. The institutions of the Roman Republic. Society and Law.

Session 4. The Conquest of Italy.

Session 5. The economy of the Roman Republic.

Session 6. The Punic Wars and the Mediterranean Conquest.

Session 7. The Crisis of the Republic. The Gracci. Marius and Sulla

Session 8. Pompey and Caesar.

BLOCK 2. THE EARLY EMPIRE.

Session 9. Mark Antony and Octavius. The Roman Revolution.

Session 10. The Augustean Reforms.

Session 11. The institutions of the High Roman Empire.

Session 12. The Julio-Claudian.

Session 13. The Flavian.

Session 14. The Antonines.

Session 15. Society and economy in the High Empire.

Session 16. The Severan and the crisis of the 3rd c. AD.

BLOCK 3. THE LATE EMPIRE AND THE LATE ANTICHITY.

Session 17. The Tetrarchy.

Session 18. Constantine and his heirs.

Session 19. The institutions of the Late Roman Empire.

Session 20. Christianity.

Session 21. Theodosius and his heirs.

Session 22. Society and economy in the Late Empire.

Session 23. The fate of the Western Empire.

Session 24. Bizantium and the survival of the Empire.

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Comentarios de texto en el aula	6	0.24	6
Type: Supervised			
Critic analysis of a scientific paper	20	0.8	6

PRACTICE.

Along the sessions, comments will be made of certain historical texts (dossier provided by the teacher). At the half-semester, approximately, there will be a practice on some of these texts.

Critical reading of a scientific article.
The teacher will offer several mandatory readings of scientific articles on the history of Rome. Of one of them, the student will have to do a critical reading, highlighting the 5 main ideas in a justified manner.

In the event that tests, exercises or exams cannot be taken onsite, they will be adapted to an online format made available through the UAB's virtual tools (original weighting will be maintained). Homework, activities and class participation will be carried out through forums, wikis and/or discussion on Teams, etc. Lecturers will ensure that students are able to access these virtual tools, or will offer them feasible alternatives.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Assessment

Continous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Active participation during the course	5 %	38	1.52	7, 6, 10
Assesment	45 %	60	2.4	1, 2, 3, 7, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10
Commentary of literary sources in the classroom	20 &	6	0.24	7, 5, 6, 10
Critic analysis of a scientific paper	30 %	20	0.8	2, 4, 6, 9, 8

The assessment for this subject, in the case of students who choose the Continuous Assessment, will be made up of the following elements:

- Practice 1: 20% of the grade.

- Critic reading of a scientific paper: 30% of the grade.

- Final test: 45% of the grade. The final test will consist of two parts. A broad topic to be developed by the student (it will be a broad issue seen throughout the course) following the model of 5 main ideas, and a text commentary on an ancient literary source.

- Active participation in sessions and colleagues' presentations. 5%

If the tests cannot be taken in person, their format will be adapted (maintaining their weighting) to the possibilities offered by the UAB's virtual tools. Homework, activities and class participation will be done through forums, wikis and/or exercise discussions through Teams, etc. The teacher will ensure that the student can access it or will offer him or her alternative means, which are within their reach.

In the event that the student commits any irregularity that could lead to a significant variation in the grade of an assessment act, this assessment act will be graded with 0, regardless of the disciplinary process that may be instituted. In the event that several irregularities occur in the evaluation acts of the same subject, the final grade for this subject will be 0.

Regarding recovery, it will not affect the presentation, which will maintain its grade and will not be recoverable. Practice 1 can be retaken two weeks after it has been scored. The final test will be made up for a new final test of the same style during the make-up schedule established by the faculty.

The student will receive the grade of "Not assessable" as long as he has not delivered more than 1/3 of the assessment activities.

Unique Assessment.

In this case, the grade for this subject will be made up of the following elements:

- Test-type exam on chronological and conceptual aspects. 25% of the grade.

- Guided text commentary of 2 ancient literary sources. 35% of the grade.

- Broad topic to be developed by the student, following the model of 5 main ideas on a problematic issue seen throughout the course. 35% of the grade.

- Active participation in sessions and colleagues' presentations. 5%

The same recovery system will apply as for the continuous assessment, as well as the regulations on any type of irregularity.

Use of Artificial Intelligence.

This subject allows the use of AI technologies as an integral part of the submitted work, provided that the final result reflects a significant contribution from the student in terms of analysis and personal reflection. The student must clearly (i) identify which parts have been generated using AI technology; (ii) specify the tools used; and (iii) include a critical reflection on how these have influenced the process and final outcome of the activity. Lack of transparency regarding the use of AI in the assessed activity will be considered academic dishonesty; the corresponding grade may be lowered, or the work may even be awarded a zero. In cases of greater infringement, more serious action may be taken.

Bibliography

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ROLDÁN, José Manuel, *Historia de Roma*, 2 vols., ed. Cátedra, Madrid, 1999.

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WARD-PERKINS, Brian, (2007) *La caída de Roma y el fin de la civilización,* Espasa-Calpe, Madrid.

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Software

None specifically

Groups and Languages

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this link. To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(PAUL) Classroom practices	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed