





Humanities (HUMN) 312

Ancient Rome (Revision 3)

Status: Replaced with new revision, see the [course listing](#)  for the current revision 

Delivery mode: [Individualized study online](#) 

Credits: 3

Areas of study: Arts or Humanities

Prerequisites: None. Previous course in CLAS, HIST, or HUMN is recommended.

Precluded: HUMN 312 is a cross-listed course—a course listed under three different disciplines—with **CLAS 312** and **HIST 312**. (HUMN 312 may not be taken for credit by students who have obtained credit for CLAS 312, HIST 312, HUMN 249, HUMN 320, HUMN 321 or HUMN 350.)

Challenge: HUMN 312 has a challenge for credit option.

Faculty: [Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences](#) 

Overview

The influence of ancient Roman civilization is still strongly felt in Europe, northern Africa, and western Asia. The study of ancient history and culture is valued by students of history, politics, classics, philosophy and literature. Through ancient readings and modern scholarly interpretations, students will meet the ancient Romans: emperors, soldiers, commoners, builders, writers and philosophers. A research project lets students research a Roman topic in greater detail and develop their writing skills, with the help of online lessons and consultation with their personal tutor.

Outline

- Unit 1: Introduction
- Unit 2: Early Rome (c. 1000–509 BCE); Roman Religion
- Unit 3: Roman Society and Its Organization
- Unit 4: The Republic (509 BCE–31 BCE)
- Unit 5: Roman Architecture and Engineering
- Unit 6: Latin Literature of the Republic; Roman Philosophy
- Unit 7: Return to One-Man Rule – The Julio-Claudians (27 BCE–68 CE)
- Unit 8: Golden and Silver Age Latin Literature
- Unit 9: The Year of the Four Emperors, The Flavian Emperors, and the Roman Army
- Unit 10: The Zenith of the Empire to the Severans (96–235 CE)
- Unit 11: Empire in Crisis and Restored
- Unit 12: Constantine and the Late Empire

Learning outcomes

1. Summarize what is known about pre-Republican Rome.
2. Describe the main features of Roman religion.
3. Outline the main events and key figures of the Roman Republic.

4. Identify the main architectural and engineering achievements of Rome.
5. Summarize the major Roman writers and philosophers.
6. Explain the political evolution of the Roman Empire, from the Julio-Claudians to the fall of Romulus Augustulus.
7. Identify and interpret excerpts from major primary sources assigned in the course.
8. Follow scholarly arguments in academic writings.
9. Research and write effective essays, conforming to academic standards.

Evaluation

To **receive credit** [↗](#) for HUMN 312, you must achieve a course composite grade of at least **D (50 percent)** [↗](#) and a grade of at least 50 percent or better on the final examination. The weighting of the composite grade is as follows:

Activity	Weight
Online Multiple-Choice Quiz 1	1.25%
Online Multiple-Choice Quiz 2	2.5%
Online Multiple-Choice Quiz 3	1.25%
Essay	25%
Research essay	35%
Invigilated final exam	35%
Total	100%

The **final examination** for this course must be requested in advance and written under the supervision of an AU-approved exam invigilator. Invigilators include either ProctorU or an approved in-person invigilation centre that can accommodate online exams. Students are responsible for payment of any invigilation fees. Information on exam request deadlines, invigilators, and other

exam-related questions, can be found at the [Exams and grades](#) section of the Calendar.

To learn more about assignments and examinations, please refer to Athabasca University's [online Calendar](#).

Materials

Potter, David. *Ancient Rome: A New History*. 3rd ed., New York: Thames & Hudson, 2018.  (Print)

Other Materials

Digital Reading Room: primary sources and scholarly readings online.

Study Guide: 12 units of commentary, learning activities and primary source excerpts.

Four Skills Modules: online lessons in research and writing.

Challenge for credit

Overview

The challenge for credit process allows you to demonstrate that you have acquired a command of the general subject matter, knowledge, intellectual and/or other skills that would normally be found in a university-level course.

Full information about [challenge for credit](#) can be found in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Evaluation




To [receive credit](#) for the HUMN 312 challenge registration, candidates must demonstrate to the Course Coordinator that they have previous knowledge about the ancient Romans comparable to the course and obtain permission to challenge the course.

The student must obtain at least 50% on each challenge component and attain a composite grade of at least 50% to pass the challenge process.



[Challenge for credit course registration form](#)

Important links

- › [Academic advising](#) 
- › [Program planning](#) 
- › [Request assistance](#) 
- › [Support services](#) 

Athabasca University reserves the right to amend course outlines occasionally and without notice. Courses offered by other delivery methods may vary from their individualized study counterparts.

Opened in Revision 3, June 6, 2019

Updated April 26, 2024

View [previous revision](#) 
