INTRODUCTION TO
ROMAN ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY

CLAS/ARTX 209 • Winter 2013
Fine Arts Room 20
MWF 2:40-3:55pm

Prof. Britt Hartenberger
Department of Classics
Office: Humphrey House Rm. 104
Kalamazoo College
bhartenb@kzoo.edu

Office Hours:
Department of Classics
MW 1:30-2:30pm
and other times by appt.
tel.: 269-337-7112

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the field of Roman art and archaeology which will rely on examining and interpreting the art and monuments in their cultural setting. The context in which Roman art and architecture developed is a multicultural one, with influences from the Etruscans, Greeks, and the Near East. We will examine how the distinctive features of Roman art and architecture developed out of this cultural background. The course will cover the developments chronologically, especially since the growth of the Roman empire led to emperors using art and monuments in new ways to glorify their reign and support their further wars. One result of the growth of the empire was the spread of Roman culture to its provincial territories, and we will examine how this occurred and how the provincial people themselves reacted to this “Romanization” in their art work and architecture.

Required texts available in the bookstore:


A few articles will be posted in Moodle in pdf format or as links to web pages.

Course Schedule

Week 1: January 7, 9 and 11 – Beginnings in Italy
Ramages: Introduction and Chapter 1
Topics to discuss: importance of context, archaeological ethics, Greek and Etruscan influences on early Rome

Week 2: January 14, 16 and 18 – The Roman Republic
Ramages: Chapter 2
Sear: Chapter 1
for Friday: Nodelman article in D’Ambra
Topics: the development of the Forum, art forms such as portraiture

**Week 3: January 23 and 25 (no class Monday) – Augustus and the Early Empire**
Ramages: Chapter 3
Sear: Chapters 2 and 4
Topics: what is distinctly “Roman”?; Augustus’s influence on art, developments in architecture
*Friday: Architectural terms quiz*

**Week 4: January 28 and 30, February 1 – Augustus and Imperial Power**
Sear: Chapter 3
For Wednesday: *Res Gestae Divi Augustae* online:
For Friday: Kleiner and Rose articles in D’Ambra
Topics: propaganda and its use in ancient art, accuracy of and intentions behind the *Res Gestae* monument
*Friday: Paper #1 due*

**Week 5: February 4 and 6 (no class Friday) – The Julio-Claudians**
Ramages: Chapter 4
Sear: Chapter 5
Topics: the spread of the empire and the concept of ‘Romanization’
*Wednesday: Midterm*

**Week 6: February 11, 13 and 15 – The Flavian era and Archaeology of Pompeii**
Ramages: Chapter 5
Sear: Chapter 6 and 7
Leach article from D’Ambra
Allison 1999 (pdf in Moodle)
Topics: household life and domestic space, public and private in Pompeii and Ostia

**Week 7: February 18, 20 and 22 – Trajan and Hadrian eras**
Ramages: Chapters 6 and 7
D’Ambra and Marvin articles in D’Ambra
Sear: Chapter 8
Topics: villas and the landscape, the role of the Forum, “the other” and women in art

**Week 8: February 25, 27, March 1 – The Antonines and Severans and the provinces**
Ramages: Chapters 8 and 9
Kampen article in D’Ambra
Topics: shifts in portraiture, health and city life in Rome, provincial adaptations
*Friday: Paper #2 due*

**Week 9: March 4-8 – no class (Professor out of town) – work on last paper**
Sear: Chapters 9 and 11
Thebert article from D’Ambra
Work on paper #3 on provinces and empires

Week 10: March 11, 13, and 15 – The era of Constantine
Ramages: Chapter 12
Wood article in D’Ambra
Topics: Constantinople and Rome, early Christian art, ethics and museums
Friday: Paper #3 due

Final exam: date and time TBA

Grading
There will be two exams worth 20% each, a midterm and a final, that include slide identifications, short answers, and essay questions. An architecture quiz will test knowledge of Latin terms that are important for discussing the many features of Roman buildings and monuments. Three short papers are assigned over the course of the quarter and will help you explore specific topics in greater detail. Participation in class discussion and activities will make up the remainder of your grade – please do the assigned readings so that you can share your thoughts during class discussions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architecture quiz</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short papers – 3 at 15% each</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in class activities</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Absences
The only excused absences for exams are documented illness or family emergency - if you miss an exam for one of these reasons, you may make it up without penalty. If you will be out of town for the midterm or final, you must talk to your instructor in advance to arrange taking the exam at another time. Papers will be accepted late but their grade will be dropped by one grade per day late.

Academic conduct
Please note that you are responsible for making yourself aware of and understanding the policies and procedures in the student Honor System at Kalamazoo College, which may be found online:
http://www.kzoo.edu/studentlife/?p=honor

The Honor System states that students must accept responsibility for their own scholarship and not falsely represent the ideas and work of others as their own. You should familiarize yourself with how scholarly work is conducted in order to avoid plagiarism, for example when writing a paper. If you are uncertain about how to cite a source or any other issue of academic conduct, please consult with your instructor prior to the submission of your paper.
Short Paper #1

due February 1

What makes it “Roman”? 

Papers should be 4-5 pages long, double-spaced, in a size 12 font. Please print them out and bring them to class. Papers will be graded on organization and how well they address the question. A well-organized paper would include a short introduction with a summary of your findings, followed by a series of points which support your main findings.

Your writing should include your own thoughts based on your research into the topic, using online and library resources as references. List the resources you have used at the end of your paper. To avoid plagiarizing, put any direct quotations from another source in quotes and list the author’s name and year of the publication at the end of the sentence. If you paraphrase an author, you do not need to use quotation marks but must list their name and year at the end of the sentence. Authors must be cited for books, journals, and web pages – if there is no obvious author on a web page, say Web Page #1 and list the web pages in your references.

Topic: Much of early Roman art and architecture is not yet distinctive – it copies the works of the Etruscans and Greeks, who have their own unique styles. For this paper, pick one piece of art or architecture from the period up through Augustus, and discuss how this one piece exemplifies something which is truly Roman. Why would this not look “out of place” in Rome, but look foreign in northern Italy or Athens? Discuss it in its context and how it typifies Roman culture at a particular point in time, as distinct from the same kind of work created by the Etruscans or Greeks. Describe the object/building you have chosen, how it is so Roman, and the social and political context in which it was created.

You could choose a type of art or architecture which is not common in those other cultures and therefore its very use is Roman, or choose a form common to all the cultures (for example, the temple) and discuss how it has become distinctly Roman.
Short paper #2  

Due March 1

Domestic space or provincial culture

Papers should be 4-5 pages long, double-spaced, in a size 12 font. Please print them out and bring them to class. Papers will be graded on organization and how well they address the particular question. A well-organized paper would include a short introduction with a summary of your findings, followed by a series of points which support your main findings.

Your writing should include your own thoughts based on your research into the topic, using online and library resources as references. List the resources you have used at the end of your paper. To avoid plagiarizing, put any direct quotations from another source in quotes and list the author’s name and year of the publication at the end of the sentence. If you paraphrase an author, you do not need to use quotation marks but must list their name and year at the end of the sentence. Authors must be cited for books, journals, and web pages – if there is no obvious author on a web page, say Web Page #1 and list the web pages in your references.

Choose one topic:

**Domestic space**

Studies of domestic space too often cite vague historical documents in order to interpret the functions of rooms in Roman houses, and do not use archaeological data. Fortunately, we can examine the detailed contents of the houses at Pompeii, room by room. What do the room decorations, artifacts, and features of the houses at Pompeii tell us about the functions of space in the houses? Do most houses have the same set of standard rooms with functions like dining, sleeping, and light/water access, or do the room types vary significantly between houses, or instead show mainly multi-purpose rooms? Consult Allison’s online database of house contents at Pompeii, and pick six to eight houses to compare to see if you can detect patterns in room types and their usage:

http://www.stoa.org/projects/ph/home

You will want to follow the Database links from each house’s web page to find more information on the room types and finds.

**Provincial culture and ‘Romanization’**

Archaeologists and historians have debated how people living outside Rome were gradually incorporated into the expanding empire. One term for this is “Romanization” but this is often taken to imply that the process was inevitable and always included Roman culture completely replacing a native culture. Webster (2001) has argued that “Creolization,” the mixing of cultures, is a better way to describe the material culture found in the recently conquered provinces of Rome. Pick one of the Roman provinces and discuss whether Romanization, Creolization, or another model best explains what occurred. Discuss the archaeological and artistic evidence from sites in this region – do they show Romanization or Creolization? Several books will be placed on reserve that will help you in finding examples of objects and architecture from the various provinces.