

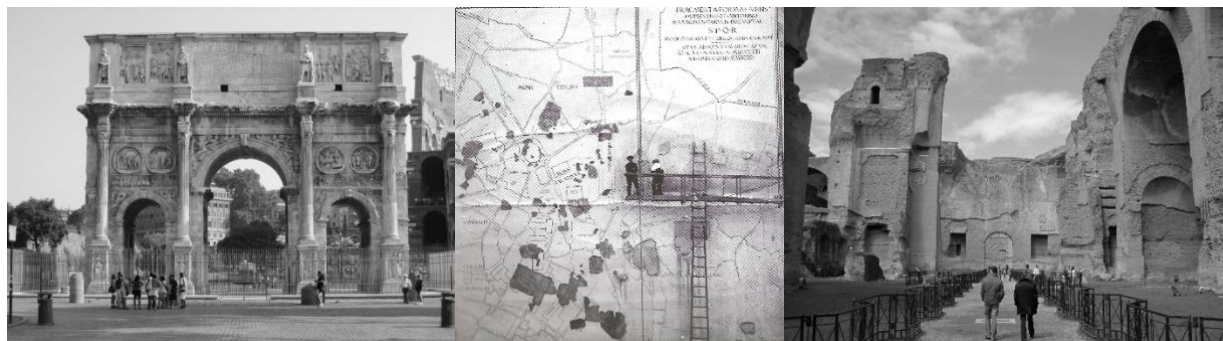
CS 9552B (Winter 2022)

Topography of Rome

Dr. Alexander Meyer

Thursday, 2:30-5:30pm

Room: Lawson Hall 2205



Course Description

This course will examine the ancient city of Rome, its monuments and its spaces through literature, epigraphy, cartography and archaeology. The first portion of the term will be concerned with the physical development of the city from the archaic period to late antiquity. During this portion of the course we will discuss evolution and innovation in Roman architecture and the politics of construction and urban planning in the city. The second portion will delve into some specific problems in Roman topography. The third will explore uses to which Roman topography can be put and the history of the discipline. In each of these units students will be asked to consider how the city of Rome reflected the growth and evolution of the empire as a whole, how topography can be used to study issues such as demography, politics, city planning, travel and trade, and how the city itself has been portrayed in literature and art. By the end of the term students should have gained an intimate understanding of the city of Rome in such a way that they can better place historical events and literary sources in their proper context as they relate to physical space of the city.

Throughout the term students will be required to give a thirty- to sixty-minute presentation on one of the great monument or complexes of the city and another on one of the problems, sources, uses, or literary treatments of Roman topography. Students will also be required to complete a midterm exam covering the location and chronology of buildings, monuments and other features of the city. Finally, students will be expected to complete a 4,000-5,000 word essay on a topic of interest to them. This may be based on one of the student's presentations to the class, but need not be.

Learning Outcomes and Skills

- Intimate knowledge of the location, history and context of the monuments and buildings of ancient Rome
- Comfort with the most useful reference texts related to Roman Topography
- Familiarity with the most recent and most important scholarship that utilizes topography as a mode of investigation
- Facility with the primary material, both literary and archaeological, that informs topographical scholarship
- Appreciation of the ways in which literature can inform topography and topography can inform literature
- Understanding of how physical spaces and monuments communicate with their audiences, both ancient and modern
- The ability to analyze monuments and spaces to discover their intended and unintended effects on audiences and the ancient city
- Improved comprehension of the place of Rome and its significance from the foundation of the city through Late Antiquity
- Active engagement with current controversies in the field
- Understanding of the development of the study of topography from the Renaissance to the present day

Contact Information

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Required Texts (for purchase)

Claridge, A., Toms, J. and Cubberley, T. 2010: Rome : an Oxford archaeological guide, Oxford ; New York.

Recommended Books

Aicher, P. J. (2004). *Rome alive : a source-guide to the ancient city*. Wauconda, Ill., Bolchazy-Carducci.

Most Important Resources

Lugli, G. (1952-1969). *Fontes ad topographiam veteris Urbis Romae pertinentes*. Romae, Università di Roma, Istituto di topografia antica.

Platner, S. B. and T. Ashby (1929). *A topographical dictionary of ancient Rome*. London, Oxford University Press. (available online)

Richardson, L. (1992). *A new topographical dictionary of ancient Rome*. Baltimore (Md.), Johns Hopkins University Press.

Steinby, E. M. (1993). *Lexicon topographicum urbis Romae*. Roma, Quasar. (LTUR)

Other Important Resources

Coarelli, F. (2007). *Rome and environs : an archaeological guide*. Berkeley, University of California Press.

Edwards, C. (1996). *Writing Rome : textual approaches to the city*. Cambridge; New York, Cambridge University Press.

Macadam, A. and A. Barber (2010). *Rome*. London, Somerset. (Blue Guide)

Ramage, N. H. and A. Ramage (2009). *Roman art : Romulus to Constantine*. Upper Saddle River, N.J., Pearson Prentice Hall.

Sear, F. (1989). *Roman architecture*. London, Batsford Academic and Educational.

Stamper, J. W. (2004). *The architecture of Roman temples : the republic to the middle empire*. New York, NY, Cambridge University Press.

Additional Texts

Further readings will be supplied electronically by PDF and/or through OWL. These texts are every bit as important as the books listed above so be sure to allow yourself sufficient time to access them. Details will also be provided if you prefer to check these sources out of the library.

Assessment

Assessment for this course will be based on **one quiz (Feb. 3), two presentations (dates TBD individually; one numbered topic and one lettered topic from list), a seminar paper (due Apr. 14) and in-class participation.**

Quiz: 10%; First Presentation: 20%; Second presentation: 20%; Essay 30%; Participation: 20%

Note from the Dean of Arts and Humanities

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

Plagiarism

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

Scholastic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Western Accessibility Policy

Western has many services and programs that support the personal, physical, social and academic needs of students with disabilities. For more information and links to these services: <http://accessibility.uwo.ca/>

Accessibility Options

Student Accessibility Services (SAS) plays a central role in Western's efforts to ensure that its academic programs are accessible for all students at the graduate and undergraduate levels. SAS arranges academic accommodation for classes, exams, internships and other course or program activities. SAS also provides digital and Braille textbooks, accessible campus transportation, learning strategy instruction for students with learning disabilities, access to computer labs that are equipped with assistive technology, referrals for assessments and other services, and bursaries for students who meet OSAP's eligibility criteria. You may wish to contact SAS at 519 661-2111 x 82147 or visit their website: <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/> for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website: www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html

Mental Health

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Copyright

Lectures and course materials, including power point presentations, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. You may take notes and make copies of course materials for your own educational use. You may not record lectures, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, wiki material, and other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without my written consent.

Topography of Rome

CS 9552A (Winter 2022)

Dr. Alexander Meyer

Monday 2:30-5:30pm

Room: Room: Lawson Hall 2205

January 6: No class

January 13 (Class 1): Introduction to Topography and Archaic Rome

Topics

- Sources and Resources
- Presentation Assignments
- Uses and Limitations of Topography
- Approaches to the study of the topography of Rome

January 20: No Class

January 27: Archaic Rome

Topics

- Overview of the history of the city
- Types of buildings, complexes and monuments
- How did the physical geography of Rome affect its development?
- How did early Romans use and modify this geography for their benefit?
- What did the city look like in 600 BCE? In 500 BCE?

- What types of buildings dominated the landscape in archaic Rome?

Readings

- Claridge: Historical Overview, Documentary Sources, Glossary, Roman Forum
- **As needed: Chapters of Sear's *Roman Architecture*; Chapters of a Roman history text book (e.g. *Village to Empire; A History of the Roman People; The Cambridge Ancient History*)**
- A.J. Ammerman. 1990. "On the origins of the Roman Forum," *AJA* 94, 627-45.
- Cornell, T. (1995). *The beginnings of Rome : Italy and Rome from the Bronze Age to the Punic Wars (c. 1000-264 B.C.)*. London ; New York, Routledge. Chapter 1, "Introduction: The Evidence." Ch. 8, "The Power of Rome in the Sixth Century."
- Lulof, P. (2000). Archaic terracotta acroteria representing Athena and Heracles: Manifestations of power in central Italy. *JRA* 13: 207-19.
- Holloway, R. R. (1994). *The archaeology of early Rome and Latium*. London ; New York, Routledge. Chapters 4, 6-7.

February 3: Republican Rome (509-31 BCE)

Topics

- How do the structures build in Rome during this period reflect social and political changes in the city?
- Where was the center of the city in the Republican period? What type of buildings were there?
- What evidence is there for religious life in Rome under the Republic? Where were the temples? Who built them?
- How did the city and its buildings and monuments evolve during the republic?

Readings

- Ammerman, A. J. (1996). The Comitium in Rome from the beginning. *AJA* 100: 121-36.
- Cornell, T. (1995). *The beginnings of Rome : Italy and Rome from the Bronze Age to the Punic Wars (c. 1000-264 B.C.)*. London ; New York, Routledge. pp. 239-41 on the Regia
- Torelli, M. (2010). The Topography and Archaeology of Republican Rome. In R. Morstein-Marx and N. Rosenstein, eds, *The Companion to the Roman Republic*, Blackwell: 81-101.

Presentations

1. The Theater of Pompey and the Largo Argentina Complex
2. Forum of Julius Caesar
3. The Forum Boarium
 - a. Cicero and Roman Topography
 - b. Horace and the City

February 10: Augustan Rome (31 BCE – 14 CE)

Topics

- How did the landscape of Rome change during the reign of Augustus?
- What message did Augustus intend to communicate through his management of the city?
- Which of Augustus' building projects were innovative? How?
- How did Augustus' city of marble communicate with the Republican city of brick?

Readings

- Favro, D. G. (1992). "Pater urbis": Augustus as City Father of Rome. *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* 51(1): 61-84.
- Gagliardi, M. C. and J. E. Packer (2006). A new look at Pompey's Theater: History, documentation, and recent excavation. *AJA* 110(1): 93-122.
- Haselberger, L. and J. Humphrey (2006). *Imaging ancient Rome : documentation, visualization, imagination : proceedings of the third Williams Symposium on Classical Architecture, held at the American Academy in Rome, the British School at Rome, and the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Rome, on May 20-23, 2004*. Portsmouth, R.I., Journal of Roman Archaeology.
- Ulrich, R. B. (1993). Julius Caesar and the Creation of the Forum Iulium. *AJA* 97: 49-80. (Online)
- Zanker, P. (1988). *The power of images in the Age of Augustus*. Ann Arbor, University of Michigan Press. Ch. 3, "The Great Turning Point: Imitations of a new Imperial style."

Presentations

4. Augustus and the Campus Martius
- c. Livy and the City of Rome
- d. Ovid and the City of Rome
- e. Propertius and Rome
- f. Vergil and the City of Rome

February 17: Augustan and Julio-Claudian Rome

Topics

- Augustus and the Julio-Claudian Dynasty
- How did later Julio-Claudian emperors change the city of the Rome?
- To what extent did Rome change after the death of Augustus?
- How did the relationship between the people and the physical city change in the early empire?
- How are political changes visible in the buildings and monuments of the city?

Readings

- Rose, C.B. 2005. "The Parthians in Augustan Rome," *AJA* 109: 21-75.

- Rehak, P. 2006. *Imperium and Cosmos: Augustus and the Northern Campus Martius*. Ch. 2, "Field of Dreams: The Campus Martius."
- Boatwright, M.T. 1986. "The Pomerial extension of Augustus," *Historia* 35.1: 13-27.

Presentations

5. The Domus Aurea Complex
6. The Castra Praetoria and other military and paramilitary structures in Rome (most sources in Italian, some imagination required – could include city walls and defenses)
- g. The Res Gestae, Rome and the Julian-Claudians

March 3: Flavian Rome

Topics

- Flavian Repurposing of Space
- Legitimizing a new dynasty
- How did the Flavian's public message and private space differ from those of the Julio-Claudians?
- How did the city change under the Flavians?

Reading

- Michael L. Thomas. 2004. "(Re)locating Domitian's Horse of Glory: The "Equus Domitiani" and Flavian Urban Design," *Memoirs of the American Academy in Rome* 49: 21-46.
- Gallia, A. B. (2016). Remaking Rome. In A. Zissos, ed., *A Companion to the Flavian Age of Imperial Rome*. Malden, Wiley Blackwell: 148-65.

Presentations

7. The Flavians, the grounds of the Domus Aurea and the Palace of Domitian
8. Agonistic structures and politics in Rome: Circuses and Stadiums
- h. Martial and the City of Rome
- i. The Roman water supply, Frontinus, law and politics

March 10: Trajan, Hadrian and the Antonines in Rome

Topics

- What effects did the Trajans, Hadrian and the Antonines have on the city?
- How did their attitude toward the city differ from those of their predecessors and from each other's?
- The question of credit and responsibility

Reading

- Boatwright, M. T. (1987). *Hadrian and the city of Rome*. Princeton, N.J., Princeton University Press. (Ch. 2-7, pp. 33-235)
- Rabun Taylor. 2004. "Hadrian's Serapeum in Rome," *AJA* 108.2: 223-266.

Presentations

9. The Forum of Trajan
10. The route of the Sacra Via and the location of the temple of Jupiter Stator and the Porta Mugonia (start with Ziolkowski, *Sacra Via*)

March 17: Severan Rome

Topics

- Civil War and Legitimization
- The Security of Rome
- Imperial traditions
- Arch of Septimius Severus
- Imperial Baths, public baths and private baths

Reading

- Lusnia, S. S. (2014). *Creating Severan Rome: The Architecture and Self-image of L. Septimius Severus (A.D. 193-211)*. Bruxelles, Éditions Latomus. (Ch. 3-4; pp. 61-116)
- Thomas, E. (2014). The Severan period. In R. B. Ulrich and C. K. Quenemoen, eds, *A companion to Roman architecture*: 82-105.

March 24: The Third and Fourth Centuries

Topics

- Early Christian Rome
- Catacombs
- The Tetrarchy and Rome
- Constantine, Rome and Constantinople

Reading

- Hekster, O. (1999). The city of Rome in late imperial ideology : the Tetrarchs, Maxentius, and Constantine. *Mediterraneo antico : economie, società, culture* 2((2)2): 717-48.
- Holloway, R. R. (2004). *Constantine & Rome*. New Haven, Yale University Press. (Ch. 2, 19-56)
- Ammianus Marcellinus (16.10.14-5)
- Mayer, E. (2014). The architecture of tetrarchy. In R. B. Ulrich and C. K. Quenemoen, eds, *A companion to Roman architecture*: 106-26. (Available electronically through Weldon)

Presentations

- j. Ammianus Marcellinus and Rome

March 31: Late Antiquity

Topics

- Late Antiquity
- Spoliation
- The afterlife of Rome's ancient monuments

Readings

- Kalas, G. (2015). *The restoration of the Roman Forum in Late Antiquity*. Austin: University of Texan Press. (Ch. 3 and 5; 75-103 and 125-140)
- Lançon, B. (2000). *Rome in Late Antiquity*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press. (Ch. 2-3; pp. 17-44)

Presentations

- k. Procopius' Rome