

SOC-961 – Ancient Rome

Independent Study Correspondence Course Syllabus

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Number of Graduate Semester Units: 3 units
Target Audience: 5th - 12th grade teachers

Course Description

This course will explore the development of the ancient Roman Republic and Empire utilizing national social studies standards. Course materials include a highly respected and readable textbook, History Channel video, as well as the student assignment workbook prepared by the instructor. Assignments will emphasize research as well as practical application of ancient Rome's influence on our modern world. Recommended for social studies/history teachers of all levels or any educator interested in a deeper understanding of the world of ancient Rome and its impact on our own day. Course requirements include practical application to classroom settings. Assignments have been developed to align with Common Core State Standards for Literacy and Writing in History/Social Science.

Note: Required textbook and video must be acquired separately.

Required Texts and Course Materials

Textbook: Boatright, M. T., Gargola, D. J., Lenski, N., & Talbert, R., J. A. (2013). *A Brief History of the Romans*. Oxford University Press. ISBN-13: 978-0199987559 <https://www.amazon.com/Brief-History-Romans-Mary-Boatwright/dp/0199987556>

Video: "Rome: Engineering an Empire" a History Channel DVD.

Note: Students are responsible for purchasing their own textbook, analyzing the content, and applying what they learned to the course assignments. You are welcome to purchase used, ebook, or new versions to save money. You can order the book directly from the publisher or from one of several discount aggregators (for example): <http://books.nettop20.com>

Course Packet: The course packet includes information about the course, instructions and rubrics for completing course assignments, information about Fresno Pacific University (FPU), and specifics on FPU and Continuing Education policies and procedures.

Course Dates

Self-paced; students may enroll at any time and take up to one year, from the date of registration, to complete assignments. Students may complete assignments in no less than three weeks for a 3-unit course (one week per unit).

National Standards Addressed in This Course

National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS)

<http://www.nbpts.org/standards-five-core-propositions/>

First published in 1989 and updated in 2016, [*What Teachers Should Know and Be Able to Do*](#) articulates the National Board's Five Core Propositions for teaching. The Five Core Propositions - comparable to medicine's Hippocratic Oath — set forth the profession's vision for accomplished teaching. Together, the propositions form the basis of all National Board Standards and the foundation for National Board Certification. Course assignments have been designed so students can demonstrate excellence against these professional teaching standards whenever possible.

- Proposition 1: Teachers are committed to students and their learning
- Proposition 2: Teachers know the subject they teach and how to teach those subjects to students
- Proposition 3: Teachers are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning
- Proposition 4: Teachers think systematically about their practice and learn from experience
- Proposition 5: Teachers are members of learning communities

National Council for the Social Studies

Based on curriculum standards for social studies as articulated by the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS Bulletin 89), the course content is woven around six "social studies thematic strands" of (1) culture; (2) time, continuity, and change; (3) people, places, and environments; (4) individuals, groups, and institutions; (5) power, authority, and governance; and (6) science, technology, and society.

Continuing Education Program Student Learning Outcomes

CE 1	Demonstrate proficient written communication by articulating a clear focus, synthesizing arguments, and utilizing standard formats in order to inform and persuade others, and present information applicable to targeted use.
CE 2	Demonstrate comprehension of content-specific knowledge and the ability to apply it in theoretical, personal, professional, or societal contexts.
CE 3	Reflect on their personal and professional growth and provide evidence of how such reflection is utilized to manage personal and professional improvement.
CE 4	Apply critical thinking competencies by generating probing questions, recognizing underlying assumptions, interpreting and evaluating relevant information, and applying their understandings to the professional setting.
CE 5	Reflect on values that inspire high standards of professional and ethical behavior as they pursue excellence in applying new learning to their chosen field.
CE 6	Identify information needed in order to fully understand a topic or task, organize that information, identify the best sources of information for a given enquiry, locate and critically evaluate sources, and accurately and effectively share that information.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) for This Course

Student Learning Outcomes for This Course By the end of this course student will be able to:	National Standards Addressed in This Course*	Continuing Education Program Student Learning Outcomes Addressed**
1. Identify the beliefs and values of the Roman world and how their belief systems, such as religious and political ideals, influenced other parts of the culture.		
2. Describe how the culture changed to accommodate different ideas and beliefs as the Roman world expanded.		
3. Describe the significant milestone events in the development and eventual decline of the Roman world.		
4. Identify ways in which Roman influence provided continuity in Europe for centuries to come after Rome's fall.		
5. Describe Rome's technological innovations that made its empire, and the modern world, possible.		
6. Identify historically significant individuals and groups in the Roman experience.		
7. Identify how and why political ideas were altered to move Rome from Republic to Empire.		
8. Describe the circumstances that led to the spread of Christianity in Europe and other Roman territories.		
9. Identify the legacies of Roman art and architecture, technology and science, literature, language, and law.		
10. Demonstrate ability to use content/concepts from this course to plan/teach a meaningful lesson to students.		

* Please refer to the section on **National Standards Addressed in This Course**

** Please refer to the section on **Continuing Education Program Student Learning Outcomes**

Topics, Assignments, and Activities

Module Module Title	Module Assignments and Activities	Points Possible for Each Assignment
Module 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> View and respond to the History Channel video, "Rome: Engineering an Empire." 	20 pts
Module 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read A Brief History of the Romans and write chapter summaries and key points. 	25 pts

Module Module Title	Module Assignments and Activities	Points Possible for Each Assignment
Module 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essay on Roman influence on Western civilization. 	10 pts
Module 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essay on the mutual influences of Rome and Christianity. 	10 pts
Module 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two brief essays on selected topics. 	10 pts
Module 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essay on comparisons between Rome and the U.S. as superpowers 	10 pts
Module 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and teach a lesson or submit two lesson plans 	20 pts either option
Module 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet source search 	10 pts
Module 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary and application 	5 pts
TOTAL POINTS		120 points

Grading Policies, Rubrics, and Requirements for Assignments

Grading Policies

- Assignments will be graded per criteria presented in the course rubrics.
- A = 90-100% and B = 80-89%, (anything below 80% will not receive credit.)
- The discernment between an A or a B letter grade is at the discretion of the instructor based on the quality of work submitted (see course rubrics).
- Coursework falling below a B grade will be returned with further instructions.
- All assignments must be completed to receive a grade and are expected to reflect the quality that teacher-training institutions require of professional educators. If completed assignments do not meet this standard, students will be notified with further instructions from the instructor.

Grading Rubrics

Grade	Percent	Description	Rubric
A	90-100%	Excellent	Meets all course / assignment requirements with significant evidence of subject mastery and demonstration of excellent graduate level professional development scholarship.
B	80-89%	Very Good	Adequately meets criteria for all course/assignment requirements - demonstrates subject competency with very good graduate level professional development scholarship.
NC	Below 80%	Unacceptable	Does not meet the minimum criteria for all course/assignment requirements and demonstrated little, if any, evidence of acceptable graduate level professional development scholarship.

Writing Requirements

- **Superior:** Writing is clear, succinct, and reflects graduate level expectations. Clearly addresses all parts of the writing task. Maintains a consistent point of view and organizational structure. Include relevant facts, details, and explanations.

- **Standard:** Writing is acceptable with very few mistakes in grammar and spelling. Addresses most parts of the writing task. Maintains a mostly consistent point of view and organizational structure. Include mostly relevant facts, details, and explanations.
- **Sub-standard:** Writing contains noticeable mistakes in grammar and spelling. Does not address all parts of the writing task. Lacks a consistent point of view and organization structure. May include marginally relevant facts, details, and explanations.

Lesson Plan Requirements

- **Superior:** Instructional goals and objectives clearly stated. Instructional strategies appropriate for learning outcome(s). Method for assessing student learning and evaluating instruction is clearly delineated and authentic. All materials necessary for student and teacher to complete lesson clearly listed.
- **Standard:** Instructional goals and objectives are stated but are not easy to understand. Some instructional strategies are appropriate for learning outcome(s). Method for assessing student learning and evaluating instruction is present. Most materials necessary for student and teacher to complete lesson are listed.
- **Sub-standard:** Instructional goals and objectives are not stated. Learners cannot tell what is expected of them. Instructional strategies are missing or strategies used are inappropriate. Method for assessing student learning and evaluating instruction is missing. Materials necessary for student and teacher to complete lesson are missing.

Instructor/Student Contact Information

This course requires a minimum of three contacts between the student and the instructor. The first contact point occurs after the student enrolls in the course. The instructor contacts the student by phone to welcome them to the course and Fresno Pacific University. The instructor provides an overview of the course, material, assignments, and expectations for successful completion of the course. This initial interaction also establishes a foundation for future interactions (via email or phone). The second interaction should occur when the student is approximately half-way through the course. The instructor can field any assignment questions and learn what has been most beneficial to the student so far. The final conversation occurs at the end of the course. This interaction provides a final check that all assignments have been completed, final grade request has been submitted, and answer any final questions or concerns.

Coursework Hours

Based on the Carnegie Unit standard, a unit of graduate credit measures academic credit based on the number of hours the student is engaged in learning. This includes all time spent on the course: reading the textbook, watching videos, listening to audio lessons, researching topics, writing papers, creating projects, developing lesson plans, posting to discussion boards, etc. Coursework offered for FPU Continuing Education graduate credit adheres to 45 hours per semester unit for the 900-level courses. Therefore, a student will spend approximately 135 hours on a typical 3-unit course.

Services for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities are eligible for reasonable accommodations in their academic work in all classes. In order to receive assistance, the student with a disability must provide the Academic Support Center with documentation, which describes the specific disability. The documentation must be from a qualified professional in the area of the disability (i.e. psychologist, physician or

educational diagnostician). Students with disabilities should contact the Academic Support Center to discuss academic and other needs as soon as they are diagnosed with a disability. Once documentation is on file, arrangements for reasonable accommodations can be made. For more information and for downloadable forms, please go to <https://www.fresno.edu/students/academic-support/services-students-disabilities>.

Plagiarism and Academic Honesty

All people participating in the educational process at Fresno Pacific University are expected to pursue honesty and integrity in all aspects of their academic work. Academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, will be handled per the procedures set forth in the Fresno Pacific University Catalogue - <https://www.fresno.edu/students/registrars-office/academic-catalogs>

Technology Requirements

To successfully complete the course requirements, course participants will need Internet access, can send and receive email, know how to manage simple files in a word processing program, and have a basic understanding of the Internet. Please remember that the instructor is not able to offer technical support. If you need technical support, please contact your Internet Service Provider.

Final Course Grade and Transcripts

When all work for the course has been completed, students will need to logon to the Continuing Education website (<https://ce.fresno.edu/my-account>) and “Request Final Grade”. Once the instructor receives the requests and submits the grade online, students may log back in to view their Final Grade Report or order transcripts online. Please allow at least two weeks for the final grade to be posted. For more information, see the Continuing Education Policies and Procedures at <https://ce.fresno.edu/ce-policies-and-procedures>.

University Policies and Procedures

Students are responsible for becoming familiar with the information presented in the Academic Catalog and for knowing and observing all policies and procedures related to their participation in the university community. A summary of university policies may be found on the university website at <https://www.fresno.edu/students/registrars-office/academic-catalogs>.

Fresno Pacific University Student Learning Outcomes

Student Learning Outcomes Oral Communication: Students will <i>exhibit</i> clear, engaging, and confident oral communication – in both individual and group settings – and will critically <i>evaluate</i> content and delivery components.
Written Communication: Students will <i>demonstrate</i> proficient written communication by <i>articulating</i> a clear focus, <i>synthesizing</i> arguments, and utilizing standard formats in order to <i>inform</i> and <i>persuade</i> others.
Content Knowledge: Students will <i>demonstrate</i> comprehension of content-specific knowledge and the ability to apply it in theoretical, personal, professional, or societal contexts.
Reflection: Students will <i>reflect</i> on their personal and professional growth and <i>provide evidence</i> of how such reflection is utilized to manage personal and vocational improvement.

Critical Thinking: Students will *apply* critical thinking competencies by *generating* probing questions, *recognizing* underlying assumptions, *interpreting* and *evaluating* relevant information, and *applying* their understandings to new situations.

Moral Reasoning: Students will *identify* and *apply* moral reasoning and ethical decision-making skills, and *articulate* the norms and principles underlying a Christian world-view.

Service: Students will *demonstrate* service and reconciliation as a way of leadership.

Cultural and Global Perspective: Students will *identify* personal, cultural, and global perspectives and will employ these perspectives to *evaluate* complex systems.

Quantitative Reasoning: Students will accurately *compute* calculations and symbolic operations and *explain* their use in a field of study.

Information Literacy: Students will *identify* information needed in order to fully understand a topic or task, *explain* how that information is organized, *identify* the best sources of information for a given enquiry, *locate* and critically *evaluate* sources, and accurately and effectively *share* that information.