



ARTS 372: The City of Rome

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office hours:
W, 2-3 p.m. &
Th, 11 a.m. - noon

Description and Goals: This seminar-style course will examine the city of Rome from antiquity to the present day. We will explore the vast public squares built of colored marble imported from the four corners of the ancient Roman Empire; the relics of the Christian martyrs and the pilgrims they attracted; the obelisks and straight streets of the Renaissance popes; the colossal “wedding cake” meant to celebrate Italian unification; the bulldozers of Mussolini; and the city’s vexed attempts to reckon with all of this in the present day, and to function effectively as a modern capital with a population of almost 3 million. Our discussions will revolve around two themes in particular: the forms, motives and impact of large-scale interventions into the urban fabric by the various powerful rulers who created the city we know today; and the concept of a “site of memory,” a particular place or monument whose history is selected for commemoration because it is deemed useful for present purposes. Students will develop an in-depth understanding of both of these general concepts, as well as a broad overview of one of the most historically significant cities in the world. Students will also develop two useful life-skills in this course: 1) how to deconstruct and assess scholarly arguments, and 2) how to give short, effective, public presentations.

Readings: I have ordered two books for you at the bookstore: James McGregor, *Rome from the Ground Up* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2005) and Claude Moatti, *The Search for Ancient Rome* (New York: Norton, 1993). Both of these offer useful background and overviews. The former is the best general, historically-oriented guidebook to the city of Rome on the market today, while the latter offers a more focused examination of the history of scholarly engagement with Rome’s ancient ruins. Neither

of these volumes, however, will serve as a textbook per se. The daily readings will be available electronically, either on Blackboard or through the library. You are expected to have read these before each class meeting and to be prepared to discuss them actively.

Assessment: Your primary responsibility in this course is to be an active, engaged participant in our discussions of the readings. Over the course of the semester, you will also give three presentations, and write a 10-page paper on, a single monument in the city of Rome, focusing on its moment of creation and two subsequent historical moments when it was adopted, adapted, appropriated, renovated, remodeled and/or repristinated by some potentate with a vested interest. There will also be a map quiz early on and a final exam.

Grade Distribution:

| | |
|-------------------|-----|
| Participation: | 15% |
| Map Quiz: | 10% |
| Presentation I: | 10% |
| Presentation II: | 15% |
| Presentation III: | 20% |
| paper: | 15% |
| final exam: | 15% |

Schedule of Readings:

T, 1/19: Urbanism and the “Grand Manner”

- Kevin Lynch, “Reconsidering The Image of the City,” in Tridib Banerjee and Michael Southworth, eds., *City Sense and City Design. Writing and Projects of Kevin Lynch* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1990), 247-256.
- Spiro Kostof, “The Grand Manner,” in idem, *The City Shaped: Urban Patterns and Meaning Through History* (Boston: Bulfinch, 1991), 209-77.

Th, 1/21: Sites of Memory

- Yael Zerubavel, “The Politics of Remembrance and the Consumption of Space: Masada in Israeli Memory,” in Daniel J. Walkowitz and Lisa Maya Knauer, eds., *Memory and the Impact of Political Transformation in Public Space* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2004), 233-52.
- Zeynep Kezer, “If Walls Could Talk: Exploring the Dimensions of Heterotopia at the Four Seasons Istanbul Hotel,” in Dana Arnold and Andrew Ballantyne, eds., *Architecture as Experience. Radical Change in Spatial Practice* (London: Routledge, 2004), 210-232.

T, 1/26: Intro to the City of Rome; Rome in the Republican Period

- Diane Favro, “Context: the Republican Urban Image,” in idem, *The Urban Image of Augustan Rome* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996), 42-78.

Th, 1/28: Augustus

- *Res Gestae Divi Augusti* (The Deeds of the Divine Augustus): <http://classics.mit.edu/Augustus/deeds.html> [pay close attention to chpts 19-21, and skim the rest]
- Diane Favro, “Making Rome a World City,” in Karl Galinsky, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to the Age of Augustus* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005), 234-263.
- Paul Zanker, “Summi Viri: A Revised Version of Roman History,” in idem, *The Power of Images in the Age of Augustus* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1988), 210-15.

T, 2/2: Ancient Rome at its Height

- James Packer, “Concept and Meaning in the Architecture of the Forum of Trajan,” in idem, *The Forum of Trajan in Rome. A Study of the Monuments in Brief* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2001), 172-91.
- Diane Favro, “The Street Triumphant: the Urban Impact of Roman Triumphal Parades,” in Zeynep Celik, Diane Favro and Richard Ingersoll, eds., *Streets*.

Critical Perspectives on Public Space (Berkeley: University of California Press: 1994), 151-64.

Th, 2/4: presentations

T, 2/9: presentations

Th, 2/11: presentations / Map Quiz

T, 2/16: Constantine

- Mark J. Johnson, "The Architecture of Empire," in Noel Lenski, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to the Age of Constantine* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006), 278-97.

Th, 2/18: Relics

- Epigrams of Damasus
- Alan Thacker, "Rome of the Martyrs. Saints, Cults and Relics, Fourth to Seventh Centuries," in Eamonn O Carragain and Carol Neuman de Vegvar, *Roma Felix – Formation and Reflections of Medieval Rome* (Hampshire: Ashgate Publishing, 2007), 13-49.

T, 2/23: Spolia

- Birgitta Lindros Wohl, "Constantine's Use of Spolia," in Jens Fleischer, John Lund and Marjatta Nielsen, eds., *Late Antiquity. Art in Context* (Copenhagen: Museum Tusulanum Press, 2001), 85-109.
- Beat Brenk, "Spolia from Constantine to Charlemagne: Aesthetics Versus Ideology," *Dumbarton Oaks Papers* 41 (1987), 103-09.
- Dale Kinney, "Spolia from the Baths of Caracalla in Sta. Maria in Trastevere," *Art Bulletin* 68.3 (1986), 379-97.

Th, 2/25: The Marvels of Rome (*Mirabilia Urbis Romae*)

- *The Marvels of Rome* (Nichols trans., Gardiner ed.) (New York: Italica Press, 1986) [buy online]

T, 3/2: presentations

Th, 3/4: presentations

T, 3/9: NO CLASS (EM giving paper in Kansas)

Th, 3/11: NO CLASS (EM giving paper in Kansas)

T, 3/16: NO CLASS (Spring Break)

Th, 3/18: NO CLASS (Spring Break)

T, 3/23: presentations / catch-up

Th, 3/25: Papal Rome I

- Spiro Kostof, "The Popes as Planners: Rome, 1450-1650," in idem, *A History of Architecture, Settings and Rituals* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995), 485-509.
- Charles Burroughs, "Absolutism and the Rhetoric of Topography. Streets in the Rome of Sixtus V," in Zeynep Celik, Diane Favro and Richard Ingersoll, eds., *Streets. Critical Perspectives on Public Space* (Berkeley: University of California Press: 1994), 189-202.
- Richard Krautheimer, *Roma Alessandrina. The Remapping of Rome Under Alexander VII, 1655-67* (1982), 1-32.

T, 3/30: Papal Rome II

- Charles L. Stinger, "Roma Triumphans: Triumphs in the Thought and Ceremonies of Renaissance Rome," *Medievalia et Humanistica* 10 (1981), 189-201.
- Laurie Nussdorfer, "The Politics of Space in Early Modern Rome," *Memoirs of the American Academy in Rome* 42 (1997), 161-86.

Th, 4/1: presentations

T, 4/6: presentations

Th, 4/8: Souvenirs, Obelisks and Napoleon

- Sarah Benson, "Reproduction, Fragmentation and Collection: Rome and the Origin of Souvenirs," in M. Lasanky and Brian McLaren, eds., *Architecture and Tourism: Perception, Performance and Place* (Oxford: Berg, 2004), 15-36.
- Jeffrey Collins, "Obelisk as Artifacts in Early Modern Rome: Collecting the Ultimate Antiques" in *Viewing antiquity: the grand tour, antiquarianism and collecting* [*Ricerche di storia dell'arte* 72,(2000)], 49-68.
- Christopher Hibbert, "Napoleonic Interlude," in idem, *Rome. The Biography of a City* (New York: Norton, 1985), 227-43.

T, 4/13: 1870: Roma Capitale

- Hugh Petter, 'Back to the future: archaeology and innovation in the building of Roma Capitale' in J. Coulston and H. Dodge, eds., *Ancient Rome. The*

Archaeology of the Eternal City (Oxford: Oxford University School of Archaeology, 2000), 332-53.

- David Atkinson and Denis Cosgrove, "Urban Rhetoric and Embodied Identities: City, Nation and Empire at the Vittorio Emanuele II Monument in Rome, 1870-1945," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 88.1 (1998), 28-49.

Th, 4/15: Fascism I

- Painter, Borden, "Mussolini's Obsession with Rome," in idem, *Mussolini's Rome: Rebuilding the Eternal City* (New York: Palgrave, 2005), 1-19.
- Marla Stone, "A flexible Rome: Fascism and the cult of romanità," in Catharine Edwards, ed., *Roman Presences: Receptions of Rome in European Culture, 1798-1945* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999), 205-220.

T, 4/20: Fascism II

- Spiro Kostof, "His Majesty the Pick: The Aesthetics of Demolition," in Zeynep Celik, Diane Favro and Richard Ingersoll, eds., *Streets. Critical Perspectives on Public Space* (Berkeley: University of California Press: 1994), 9-22.
- John Agnew, "The Impossible Capital: Monumental Rome under Liberal and Fascist Regimes, 1870-1943," *Geografiska Annaler. Series B, Human Geography* 80.4 (1998), 229-40.
- Andrew Anker, "Il Papa e Il Duce: Sixtus V's and Mussolini's plans for Rome," *Journal of Urban Design* 1.2 (1996), 165-79.

Th, 4/22: presentations

T, 4/27: presentations

Th, 4/29: Rome Today

- David Whitehouse, "The Future of Ancient Rome," *Antiquity* 57 (1983), 38-44.
- Elizabeth Marlowe, "'The Mutability of All Things': the Rise, Fall and Rise of the Meta Sudans Fountain in Rome," in Dana Arnold and Andrew Ballantyne, *Architecture as Experience. Radical Change in Spatial Practice* (London: Routledge, 2004): 36-56.
- Ann Thomas Wilkins, "Augustus, Mussolini and the Parallel Imagery of Empire," in Claudia Lazzaro and Roger J. Crum, *Donatello Among the Blackshirts. History and Modernity in the Visual Culture of Fascist Italy* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2005), 53-65.