

Advanced Studies in England, Summer '02: Seminar Syllabus on *Roman Britain*
Prof. Michael Arnush, Leslie Mechem

The sources for Roman Britain are both literary and archaeological. Our readings will begin with Roman views of Britain as noted in the literary account of Caesar's campaign, the biography of the Emperor Claudius, the history of Cassius Dio and the critical study of provincial rule by Tacitus in his biography of his father-in-law, Julius Agricola (governor 77-83 CE).

Our study of these literary works will be supplemented with an examination of the surviving record of correspondence - letters between emperors and provincial governors, or between soldiers in the field and their families back home; requests for leave; diplomas extending privileges to military veterans; their discharge papers; and curse imprecations and graffiti that reveal the day-to-day aspects of life in a Roman province. The centuries of Roman military presence left behind an extensive archaeological record of soldiers in the field - mess kits, clothing, dice, armor - all of which we will study on site and in museums.

British views of Rome are less accessible but of just as much interest in this course. Instead of a literary record, the indigenous Brigantes (Belgae and Celts) left behind material remains that require archaeological and art historical study. Local craftsmen imitated and adapted the artistic styles of the Romans in pottery, metalwork, sculpture, mosaics, painting and architecture, and created a unique Romano-British style of art.

By the end of the course we will have studied in depth the interactions between these two cultures on this island, and how each had an enduring impact on the other until the collapse of Roman British society in the 5th century.

Textbooks:

- C. Scarre, *Penguin Historical Atlas of Ancient Rome*
- T.W. Potter and C. Johns, *Roman Britain* (handout) = **P&J**
- T.W. Potter, *Roman Britain* = **P**
- B. Cunliffe, *Roman Bath* (Nelson Library) = **C**
- S. Ireland, *Roman Britain: A Sourcebook*
- Tacitus, *Agricola* (handout)

Requirements:

- Participation: 25%. Class attendance is a requirement, as is doing the readings in advance and participating actively in discussion.
- Site presentation: 15%. You will each present some aspect of one of the sites or museums we will visit during the summer semester.
- Short essay: 20%. A 1000-word (3-4p.) paper on a topic of your choosing related to the first two weeks of class is due Friday, June 20.
- Long essay presentation: 10%. During the last week of classes you will present a 20-minute summary of your final long essay, and field questions from the class. Handouts are recommended.
- Long essay: 30%. A 2000-word (6-8p.) paper on a topic of your choosing related to weeks three and four is due on the second-to-last day of class, Wednesday, June 10.

Schedule of Topics and Readings

Date	Topic	P&J/P/C	Ireland (psg. nos.)
WEEK 1			
June 10 READ: 25pp.	Introduction; Earliest contacts	P&J 1-11	pp.1-9 (bkground) psgs. 1-11 (in class)
June 11 READ: 52pp.	Survey of Rome I Atlas: 12-63		
June 12	Stonehenge trip		
June 13 READ: 50pp.	Survey of Rome II Atlas: 64-113		
WEEK 2			
June 17 READ: 37pp.	Pre-Roman Britain to 68 CE	P&J 12-48	12-15, 18-64, 65-80 (select 1 from each)
June 18 READ: ~38pp.	Flavians to 3 rd C.	P&J 49-65	81-157 or 16-17 and 158-231
June 19 READ: 54pp.	Roman Bath: Temple & Baths	C chs.3-4, pp.30-84	
June 20 READ: 36pp.	Trip to Roman Bath: Sites and Inhabitants. Tour of walls. C chs. 5-6, pp.85-121 (select one site and one individual)		
June 21 Essay due	How do we reconstruct the history of a Romano-British site like Bath? What are the methodologies & sources available? What are the difficulties in reconstructing the history of such a site?		
WEEK 3			
June 24 READ: 33pp.	Essays; Romanization	P&J 66-98	
June 25 READ: 24pp.	Architecture & Art Focus: Fishbourne	P&J 99-122; also handouts for individual site reports for visit to Fishbourne	
June 26 READ: 35pp.	People, Towns, Houses & Country	P chs.1-5, pp.8-43	
June 27 READ: 48pp.	Army, Frontiers, Industry & Religion	P chs.6-12, pp.44-91	501-618 (selections)
June 28	Trip: Cerne Abbas; Maiden Castle; Fishbourne (reports); Windsor		
June 29	Trip: London: British Museum (reports); Museum of London; Amphitheater at Guildhall. Select second essay topics.		
WEEK 4			
July 1 READ: 27pp.	Religion	P&J 158-184	
July 2 READ: 40pp.	Religion		289-441
July 3	Trip: Cirencester (depart 12.30)		
July 4 READ: 14pp.	Politics & Commerce		442-500
WEEK 5			
July 8 SKIM: 65pp.	4 th c. and beyond	P&J 185-217 (skim)	232-288 (skim)
July 9-10	Reports		
July 11 Essay due	Conclusion		