



KIIS ITALY, Winter 2019-20

HIST 490 Topics: Day to Day in Ancient Italy

Professor: Dr. Chris Shea

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Syllabus subject to change

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

What did the ancients wear? eat? hate? love? How did they spend their days and nights? How did they survive without the car, movies, texting? How did they make their money? What did they think about the good life, death, politics, sex? Why do we care? This course explores the ordinary lives of ancient Romans--and of the Italians, Greeks, Jews, and Christians who lived near them--as we wander their towns and poke our noses into what remains of their homes, temples, stores, streets.

II. PURPOSE:

Students will examine ancient values, cultural experiences, and institutions which are at the foundation of Western civilization. Through their experiences in Italy, students will explore how the traditions of the ancient Italians live on.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students are expected to read widely in ancient texts and modern interpretations of those texts; to participate actively in analysis and discussion of ancient cultural experiences, institutions, and values; to experience ancient Italian culture in art and architecture in museums and at various Italian sites; to synthesize the information they've gained in class and on their own and to apply it to a problem or topic of their own choosing in a final paper.

IV. COURSE OUTLINE:

Where Are We?/The Ancient Italians and Their World/The Mysterious Etruscans/Life in a Face-to-Face Culture/Roman Values/The Ancients at Home/Unheard, Unseen/Public Life/Entertainment and Sports ... more

V. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Lectures and discussions; visits to cultural sites and museums. Because we are interested to compare how the ancients lived with how modern Westerners live, we'll be using the places we visit as texts, as well as the course textbook.

VI. FIELD, CLINICAL, AND/OR LABORATORY EXPERIENCES:

This course is part of the KIIS winter study abroad in Rome and Florence (the Italy Winter trip).

VII. RESOURCES: None.

VIII. **GRADING PROCEDURES:**

Scale:

90 – 100 A

80 – 89 B

70 – 79 C

60 – 69 D

Below 60 E (F)

Students will keep a reflective journal, which will periodically be collected and graded. This journal will count for 40% of the final course grade. Students will also write a paper of 8-10 pages on a topic selected in consultation with the instructor. This paper will count for 30% of the final course grade. Several short quizzes will account for the last 30% of the final course grade.

IX. **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Students are expected to attend every class and to participate in out-of-class activities as directed by the instructor. KIIS requires that any unexcused absence result in grade reduction, and multiple unexcused absences may result in expulsion from the program.

X. **ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:**

Cheating, plagiarism (submitting another person's material as one's own), or doing work for another person which will receive academic credit are all impermissible. This includes the use of unauthorized books, notebooks, or other sources in order to secure or give help during an examination, the unauthorized copying of examinations, assignments, reports, term papers, or the presentation of unacknowledged material as if it were the student's own work. Disciplinary action may be taken beyond the academic discipline administered by the faculty member who teaches the course in which the cheating took place.

XI. **TEXTS AND REFERENCES:**

Required Text: Gregory S. Aldrete, *Daily Life in the Roman City: Rome, Pompeii, and Ostia*. (University of Oklahoma Press, 2009). ISBN-10: 0806140275 (paperback). This is also available on the Amazon Kindle (although at not much of a reduction from the paperback \$18.34 price) and is eligible for textbook trade-back on Amazon. There are also cheap used copies available on Amazon.

XII. Please be aware that some of the material in this class may trigger disturbing thoughts or memories. Many of the works of art are explicit or nudes. Please feel free to step out of class if you feel uncomfortable or threatened.

Disability Accommodation

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS

Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/> early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Assistant Director, Rebekah Golla, rebekah.golla@wku.edu, to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Assistant Director, Rebekah Golla, or KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program.

If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Assistant Director, Rebekah Golla, or KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS Office will notify your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter.

In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Assistant Director Rebekah Golla (+1-270-779-8091) or KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson (270-745-5398 / andrea.anderson@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@wku.edu) or Joshua Hayes (270-745-5121 / joshua.hayes@wku.edu). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at 270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/titleixbrochure.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g. KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.