

AHAR 307: Late Antique and Byzantine Art
Spring 2019
T, 9am-12pm
Building F, F33

Professor Elizabeth Wueste

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Office Hours: Mondays, 1-3:30pm; Wednesdays, 11am-1pm; and by appointment

Credits and Hours: 3 credits, 3 hours/week

Prerequisites: A 100-level Art History Course

Field Trips: 7 on-site visits, most during class hours

Entry Fees: Paid by student when required. The highest estimate right now is currently €86 + metro tickets. While every effort is made to be accurate, the price may unexpectedly change and no responsibility can be taken for unexpected price increases beyond our control.

Course Description

This course explores the art of Rome in transition from the late Imperial age into the early Christian, from the 3rd to the 6th centuries. Attention is also paid to the developments across the Mediterranean region and in Constantinople, to the relationship to Late Antique art and to the formation of Christian iconography. Classes are held on-site and in the classroom with a possible excursion outside Rome. The course goals are the grasp the nature of art in periods of transition and to hone skills of critical analysis.

This is a Caput Mundi course, and half of the class meetings will be held on-site in Rome during normal class hours.

Course Learning Objectives

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- 1) identify, name and discuss major aspects of Roman art and architecture
- 2) develop a visual awareness of the characteristics and materials of Roman art and architecture
- 3) critically analyze the technical, typological, stylistic and iconographical characteristics of Roman art and architecture and their role in the maintenance of imperial power

Required Texts

Approximately 150 pages of reading are assigned per week. All texts are required.

1. Elsner, Jas. 2018. "The Art of the Roman Empire: AD 100-450." Oxford, second edition. ISBN: 978-0198768630.
2. Brown, Peter. 1989. "The World of Late Antiquity: AD 150-750." WW Norton and Company. ISBN: 978-0393958034.
3. PDFs of additional required readings available on myaur.edu. These should not be reproduced or circulated in any way outside of this class.

Assessment Tools (see full AUR Grading Policy at the end of this syllabus)

- 10% Seminar participation, preparation
- 15% Three abstracts of articles (each 5%), due at 6pm the night before class
- 15% Oral presentation on-site
- 10% Final research paper outline and bibliography: due April 16 in class
- 30% Final research paper (1750 to 2250 words): due May 9, 2019 at 5pm
- 20% Final Exam: Tuesday, May 14, 2019; 10am-12pm

Attendance (see full AUR Attendance Policy at the end of this syllabus)

Per AUR policy, attendance is required and students must attend a minimum of 70% of classes to pass. Each student gets 1 unexcused absence.

Three Article Abstracts:

Three times during the semester, you will be required to write a succinct and informative abstract (1 paragraph, less than 500 words) for an article, assigned in advance. Your abstracts are due via GoogleDocs at 6pm the night before the class for which it is assigned. Your abstract should also include a discussion question to start the day's discussion.

Oral Presentation On-Site:

Once during the semester, each student will be expected to give an oral presentation to the class of 15-20 minutes on a pre-assigned on-site visit. The presentation might include background information, historiography, images, site plans, and/or object analysis as the topic requires. Presentations will be graded according to a standard oral presentation rubric (to be distributed in class) on verbal skills, non-verbal skills, and content.

Paper outline and bibliography:

Students will be asked to turn in a research paper proposal several weeks before the end of the semester and participate in in-class peer editing. The proposal should include a coherent and argumentative thesis, an outline of the argumentative points (including the specific ancient evidence to be used), and a brief bibliography of research sources. Full credit will be given for completion with a good-faith effort. More detailed instructions will be distributed later in the semester.

Final Research Paper:

On May 9, 2019 (Week 14), an original research paper of 1750-2250 words will be due. The topic selection is entirely open to the student, but the paper should include both primary (i.e. ancient, including both texts and images/monuments) and secondary (i.e. modern research) sources. Proper citation and adherence to AUR's Academic Integrity Policy are required. Papers will be graded according to a standard rubric, to be distributed in class. More detailed instructions and formatting requirements will be distributed later in the semester.

Papers are due by 5pm on the due date via TurnItIn on my.aur. Without my express permission and foreknowledge, late papers will be penalized by as much as a full letter grade (e.g. A→B) for each day late.

Final Exam

The final exam is scheduled for Tuesday, May 14, 2018, from 10am-12pm. It will include a number of historical dates and events, a few IDs, slide identifications, and essay question(s). Guidelines/study guides will be given out in advance. The exam will be cumulative.

Academic Integrity

Just do your own work! For this class, this includes all readings, presentations, abstracts, exams, and papers. For in-class exams, cheating is using any aid outside of your own mind. This includes paper, human, and digital resources. For the paper, cheating involves plagiarizing any ideas, phrases, or text that you did not create yourself. Proper citation is required for all papers. This class will be using TurnItIn on my.aur, per university guidelines, to ensure academic integrity. AUR requires that students sign an "Student Integrity Statement" for all papers. All acts of plagiarism will be immediately reported to the Dean. Please see "Academic Integrity" on AUR's website for more information: <https://aur.edu/node/436#ai>.

Late Work

Extensions will only be given in unusual, unavoidable circumstances, and must be requested **before** the due date or exam date. Please come and talk to me as early as possible if you are having trouble or anticipate having trouble in meeting a deadline.

Office Hours

My offices hours are Mondays, 1-3:30pm; Wednesdays, 11am-1pm; and always by appointment. You are encouraged to come with specific questions relating to course material, to discuss broader academic issues, or just to chat. Any broad or complicated, multi-part question that requires a lengthy explanation should be asked during my office hours, and not over email. Especially for those who are shy and do not speak up often in class, I recommend office hours as an additional avenue for participation.

Learning Accommodations

If you require disability-related learning accommodations in this class, please contact Dean's Office, who will then contact me to work out the details.

AUR Grade Point Average Policy

A student's grade point average (GPA) is computed by multiplying the quality points achieved by the number of credits for each course. The result is then divided by the total number of credit hours taken. The Cumulative or Career Total Grade Point Average (CGPA) is the grade point average for all credit hours taken at the University and at approved study abroad programs. The GPA and CGPA are calculated by truncating after the second digit after the decimal point. Transfer credits have no effect on the CGPA at AUR.

AUR Grades Policy

Grades are posted on a secure area of the University's official website and are mailed to AUR degree students only upon written request. Grades are mailed to the various study abroad programs. Grades computed in the (GPA) reflect the following grade equivalents:

GRADE		GPA	
A	Excellent	4.00	94 – 100 points
A-		3.70	90 – 93.99 pts
B+	Very Good	3.30	87 – 89.99
B	Good	3.00	83 – 86.99
B-		2.70	80 – 82.99
C+		2.30	77 – 79.99
C	Satisfactory	2.00	73 – 76.99
C-	Less than Satisfactory	1.70	70 – 72.99
D	Poor	1.00	60 – 69.99
F	Failing	0.00	59.99 – 0
WU	Unofficial withdrawal counts as an F	0.00	
P	Applicable to development courses	0.00	
<i>Grades not computed into the grade point average are:</i>			
W	Withdrawal		
AUDIT (AU)	Only possible when the student registers for a course at the beginning of the semester as an audit student		
I	Incomplete work must be completed within the ensuing semester. Failure to do so results in automatically converting the I grade to the default grade, which is then computed into the grade point average		
P	Pass grade is applicable to courses as indicated in the catalog.		
WIP	Work in progress		

AUR Attendance Policy

In keeping with AUR's mission to prepare students to live and work across cultures, the University places a high value on classroom experience. As a result attendance is expected in all classes and attendance records are maintained. The University's attendance policy is as follows:

1.0. Minimum Attendance Requirement: Students must attend a minimum of 70% of a course in order to be eligible to be considered for a passing grade.

1.1. Automatically Accepted Absences

Students will not be penalized for 1 absence from classes meeting 1x a week;
Students will not be penalized for 3 absences from classes meeting 2x a week;
Students will not be penalized for 4 absences from classes meeting more than 2x week, as in the case of some intensive courses.

1.2. If further absences are recorded, grade penalties will be applied according to the Instructor's specific attendance policy, as stated in the syllabus, and following the institutional parameters given in the Note* below.

1.2.1. If the Instructor does not specify an attendance policy, there will be no grade penalty other than that attached to the minimum attendance requirement, and any penalized absences recorded above the basic 70% attendance requirement for the course will be invalidated.

1.3. During Summer sessions where courses are taught more intensively over a shorter period the following applies:

- Students will not be penalized for two absences from class.

2.0. Tolerated Absences

Certain categories of absence will not be penalized but they will be counted as an absence (for a 3-credit course meeting twice a week). These absences are:

- The Model United Nations (MUN);
- Permit to Stay,
- SG's "Ambassador Program" (Student Government initiative)
- Religious Holidays: The American University of Rome makes all reasonable efforts to accommodate students who must be absent from classes to observe religious holidays. (Please verify with the Dean's Office for the list of accepted absences for religious holidays). Not attending a class due to the observance of a religious holiday will not be penalized but will be counted as an absence. Students who will need to miss class in order to observe religious holidays must notify their Instructors by the end of the Add/Drop period (first week of classes), and must make prior arrangements with their Instructors to make up any work missed.

2.1. The list does NOT include academic field trips because these (including arrangements for travel) must not overlap with other classes.

3.0. Cases of prolonged absences caused by an emergency or a medical condition may require students to withdraw from some or all of their courses. Under such circumstances students should first consult their academic advisors.

*Note: No instructor may penalize a student more than one-third of a letter grade for each absence beyond the tolerated limit (e.g. from A- to B+).

Schedule

Readings and assignments may be subject to change.
Dates of site visits, papers, and final are fixed.

Week 1: Jan 29

Introduction and Rome in the Imperial Period

Week 2: Feb 5

The 3rd Century: The Severans, The 3rd c. Crisis, The Tetrarchy

- Brown, *The boundaries of the classical world: c. AD 200* and *The new rulers: 240-350* (p. 11-33)
- Elsner, *Introduction* (p. 1-22)
- (PDF my.aur) Stewart (2008), *The Social History of Roman Art* (p. 1-9 & 143-172)
- (PDF my.aur) Kitzinger (1995), *Byzantine Art in the Making*, “Ancient Art in Crisis” (p. 1-21)

Week 3: Feb 12: SITE VISIT

Roman Forum in 3rd Century

- *Arch of Titus, Arch of SS, Decennalia Base, Arch of Argentarii*
- *Meet at 9am at Arch of Titus inside Roman Forum*
- €12
- Elsner, *A Visual Culture* (p. 24-46)
- Elsner, *Art and Imperial Power* (p. 48-81)
- (PDF) Ramage and Ramage (2009), *Roman Art*, Chapters 9-10 (p. 283-324)
- (PDF) Kleiner, D. 1992. “The Severan Dynasty” in *Roman Sculpture*. Yale (317-355).

Week 4: Feb 19: SITE VISIT

Tetrarchic Palace Culture, Reuse

- *Baths of Diocletian, Basilica of Maxentius, Arch of Constantine*
- *Meet at 9am at the McDonalds in the portico of P.zza della Repubblica*
- €12 + metro ticket
- Brown, *A world restored: Roman society in the fourth century* (p. 34-47)
- Elsner, *Art and the Past* (p. 156-183)
- (PDF) Ramage and Ramage (2009), *Roman Art*, Chapters 11-12 (p. 325-365)
- (PDF) Ćurčić, S. 1993. “Late-Antique Palaces: The Meaning of Urban Context.” *Ars Orientalis* 23 (67-90).
- (PDF) Yegul, F. 1992. “Baths and Bathing in the Late Antique and Early Byzantine World” in *Baths and Bathing in Classical Antiquity*. MIT Press (p. 314-349).

Week 5: Feb 26

3rd-4th c. Religious Climate and Early Christian Art

- Brown, *Religion* (p. 49-114)
- Elsner, *Art and Religion* (p. 185-220)
- (PDF) Kiilerich, B. 2015. "The State of Early Christian Iconography in the Twenty-First Century." *Studies in Iconography* 36 (99-134).
- (PDF) Altawell, M. and Squitieri. 2018. "The rise of shared and universal religions" in *Revolutionizing a World: From Small States to Universalism in the Pre-Islamic Near East*. UCL Press (240-252).
- (PDF) Sommer, M. 2016. "Acculturation, Hybridity, Créolité: Mapping Cultural Diversity in Dura-Europos" in *Religion, Society and Culture at Dura-Europos*, ed. T. Kaizer. Cambridge (p. 57-67).

Week 6: March 5: SITE VISIT

Christian and Pagan Burials: try for catacombs on Friday, March 8?

- *Catacombs of Domitilla and S. Callisto*
- *Meet at 9:30am at Catacomb of Domitilla (Via delle Sette Chiese, 282, 00147)*
- €8 + €8
- Elsner, *Art and Death* (p. 135-154)
- (PDF) Bodel, J. 2008. "From Columbaria to Catacombs: Collective Burial in Pagan and Christian Rome" in *Commemorating the Dead: Texts and Artifacts in Context.*, eds. L. Brink and R. Saller. De Gruyter (p. 177-242).
- (PDF) Zimmermann, N. 2013. "The healing Christ in early Christian funeral art: the example of the frescoes at Domitilla catacomb," in *Miracles Revisited: New Testament Miracle Stories and their Concepts of Reality, SBR 2*, eds. S. Alkier and A. Weissenrieder. De Gruyter (251-274).

Week 7: March 12: SITE VISIT

Death and Imagery

- *Vatican Museums: Pius Christian, Pio Clementino, Christian, (Excavations of St. John the Lateran, Gregorio Profano)*
- *Meet at 9am at Entrance to Vatican Museums ("Skip the Line")*
- €12
- (PDF) Koortbojian, M. 2015. "Roman Sarcophagi" in *A Companion to Roman Art*, ed. B. Borg. Blackwell (p. 286-300).
- (PDF) Dresken-Weiland, J. 2018. "Christian Sarcophagi from Rome" in *The Routledge Handbook of Early Christian Art*, eds. R. Jensen and M. Ellison. Routledge (56-72).
- (PDF) Grig, L. 2004. "Portraits, Pontiffs and the Christianization of Fourth-Century Rome." *Papers of the British School at Rome* 72 (203-230).

Spring Break: March 18-22: NO CLASS!!!!

Week 8: March 26

4th c. Architecture and Imperial Capitals: Rome and Constantinople

- Brown, *The western revival, 350-450* (p. 115-125)
- Elsner, *Centre and Periphery* (p. 107-134)
- (PDF) Krautheimer, R. (1983). "Rome" in *Three Christian Capitals: Topography and Politics*. University of California Press (p. 7-40).
- (PDF) Krautheimer, R. (1983). "Constantinople" in *Three Christian Capitals: Topography and Politics*. University of California Press (p. 41-68).

Week 9: April 2: SITE VISIT

Rome's Early Churches

- *St John in Lateran, S. Clemente, (SS Giovanni e Paolo, Sta. Sabina)*
- *Meet at 9am in front of St. John in Lateran*
- €10
- (PDF) Krautheimer, R. (1980). "The Christianization of Rome and the Romanization of Christianity" in *Rome: Profile of a City, 312-1308*. Princeton (p. 32-58).
- (PDF) Krautheimer, R. 1986. Selections from *Early Christian and Byzantine Architecture*. Yale University Press (pages TBD).

Week 10: April 9: SITE VISIT

Early Christian Mosaics and Wall Painting

- *Sta Agnese, Sta Costanza, Sta. Pudenziana, Sta. Maria Maggiore*
- *Meet at 9am at Porta Pia*
- €8 + €5
- (PDF) Leatherbury, S. 2018. "Christian Wall Mosaics and the Creation of Sacred Space" in *The Routledge Handbook of Early Christian Art*, eds. R. Jensen and M. Ellison. Routledge (86-103).
- (PDF) Osborne, J. and Claridge, A. 1996. Selections from *Early Christian and Medieval Antiquities. Volume One. Mosaics and Wall Paintings in Rome Churches*. Harvey Miller. (pages TBD)
- Wilson, R. J. A. 1983. *Piazza Armerina*. Granada (p. 13-68).

Week 11: April 16

Paper Outline and Bibliography due for peer editing in class

5th c. and the Imperialization of Christianity; Late Antique Portraiture

- Brown, *The price of survival: western society, 450-600* (p. 126-136)
- Brown, *The ruling city": the eastern empire from Theodosios II to Anastasius, 408-518* (p. 147-149)
- (PDF) Cameron, A. 2013. "The Origin, Context and Function of Consular Diptychs." *JRS* 103 (174-207)
- (PDF) Smith, R.R.R. 1999. "Late Antique Portraits in a Public Context: Honorific Statuary at Aphrodisias in Caria, A.D. 300-600." *JRS* 89 (155-189)
- (PDF) Sande, S. 1993. "The icon and its origin in Graco-Roman portraiture." In *Aspects of late antiquity and early Byzantium*, eds. Ryden and Rosenqvist. Stockholm (75-84).

Week 12: April 23

6th c. and the Growing East/West Divide: Theodoric, Justinian, Ravenna

- Brown, *La gloire: Justinian and his successors, 527-603* (p. 150-159)
- Brown, *The empires of the East: Byzantium and Persia, 540-640* (p. 160-171)
- Elsner, *The Eurasian Context* (p. 221-242)
- (PDF) Cormack, M. 2018. "In the Shadow of St. Sophia: Byzantine Art in the Sixth Century and its Aftermath 527-680" in *Byzantine Art*. (33-68).
- (PDF) Johnson, M. 1988. "Toward a History of Theodoric's Building Program." *Dumbarton Oaks Papers* 42 (73-96).

Week 13: April 30: SITE VISIT

Rome between Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages

- *Crypta Balbi Museum, SS. Cosma e Damiano*
- *Meet at 9am at Crypta Balbi Museum (Via delle Botteghe Oscure 31)*
- €7
- Brown, *The death of the classical world* (p. 172-188)
- Brown, *Muhammad and the rise of Islam* (p. 189-193)
- Brown, *The Late Antique world under Islam, 632-809* (p. 194-203)
- Elsner, *Afterword: Some futures of Christian Art* (p. 255-262)
- (PDF) Kiilerich, B. 1993. "Sculpture in the round in the Early Byzantine Period- Constantinople and the east." In *Aspects of late antiquity and early Byzantium*, eds. Ryden and Rosenqvist. Stockholm (85-97).
- (PDF) Vendittelli, L. ed. 2012. *Crypta Balbi Guide*. Mondatori Electa (p. 7-59).

Final Paper due: Thursday, May 9, 5pm

Final Exam: Tuesday, May 14, 10am-12pm