CAHE 20441/30441 Families in the Greek and Roman Worlds



Semester 1, 2020/2021

Course Summary:

Families and family life are vital to understand ancient society.

After a methodological introduction, we will focus on items as demography, archaeology of the house, domestic economy, legal issues, and the human life course in the context of the family (from birth to funeral) in connection with domestic religion. Special attention will be given to outsiders or 'special' family members: the ill and the disabled, domestic slaves, and singles. The approach will be comparative. While classical Athens and late-Republican early imperial Rome will be at the centre, due attention will be paid to sources from 'other' regions, as well as to the comparison between the Greek and the Roman worlds.

There are two lectures and one seminar every week.

Assessment:

- Coursework: one source-based essay, worth 30% of the final mark.
- Examination: one two-hour final exam worth 70% of the final mark.

Preparation: The course has no formal pre-requisites, but knowledge of Roman and Greek history could be helpful.

Questions? Contact the course convenor: christian.laes@manchester.ac.uk