

CAHE20052

The Roman Empire 31BC – AD313: Rome's Golden Age



Semester 2, 2023/2024

Course Summary:

This course aims to give you a general overview of the political, social, economic, cultural, and religious developments of the Roman Empire from the establishment of the system known as the principate under the Emperor Augustus to the Edict of Milan in AD313. The lectures will consist of a combination of contextualising lectures offering political outlines and thematic treatments of major topics, while the seminars will offer you the opportunity to study a number of issues, mainly of a social nature, in more detail. By the end of the course you should have an understanding of how politics at the centre of the Roman Empire functioned, how its provinces were managed, and of the different social classes found in it. You will also have been introduced to the important aspects of everyday life in the empire and how these affected its different peoples: religion, social and cultural history, women and marriage, life in cities and on the country side are very much part of this course unit. Remember, the Roman Empire was a big place, so different parts were quite different from one another.

There are two lectures and one seminar every week.

Assessment:

- Summative course work essay (1200-1500 words) worth 30 % of the final mark.
- Examination: one three-hour final exam worth 70 % of the final mark.

Preparation: The course has no formal pre-requisites.

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