

Syllabus for
HUM 202 Classical Roman Civilization
3 Credit Hours
Fall 2025

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A historical survey and worldview synthesis emphasizing philosophical, religious, political, economic, artistic, and aesthetic developments of human culture and civilization from the dawn of history to 1300 AD. Focuses on the ancient world, Greece and the classical past of the Western world, the Roman Empire, and European Middle Ages to 1300 AD.

II. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

As a result of successfully completing this course, the student will be able to do the following:

- A. Describe the ancient Mediterranean background of the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age, in which Roman civilization originated, including civilizations such as the Greeks, Phoenicians, and Etruscans.
- B. Describe the significant characteristics of the Roman Republic that led to the expansion of the Roman Republic, the development of Roman law.
- C. Discuss the rise and development of Christianity during the Roman Empire and the Early Middle Ages.
- D. Explain the reasons for the decline and fall of the Western Empire.
- E. Describe events that led to the development of Western Medieval Civilization after the fall of the Western Empire, and identify the impact of the Byzantine and Islamic civilizations.

III. ASSOCIATED PROGRAMS

This course meets degree completion requirements for the General Education program.

IV. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

A. Required Materials

Spielvogel. Western Civilization. 10th edition. There are low-cost rental options (either e-book or paper books) from the ORU Campus Store and from the publisher's website at www.cengage.com.

B. Optional Materials

- 1. Textbooks: None
- 2. Other: None

V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. University Policies and Procedures

- 1. Students and faculty at Oral Roberts University must adhere to all laws addressing the ethical use of others' materials, whether it is in the form of print,

electronic, video, multimedia, or computer software. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating involve both lying and stealing and are violations of ORU's Honor Code: "I will not cheat or plagiarize; I will do my own academic work and will not inappropriately collaborate with other students on assignments." Plagiarism is usually defined as copying someone else's ideas, words, or sentence structure and submitting them as one's own. Other forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) the following:

- a. Submitting another's work as one's own or colluding with someone else and submitting that work as though it were his or hers;
 - b. Failing to meet group assignment or project requirements while claiming to have done so;
 - c. Failing to cite sources used in a paper;
 - d. Creating results for experiments, observations, interviews, or projects that were not done;
 - e. Receiving or giving unauthorized help on assignments.
 - f. By submitting an assignment in any form, the student gives permission for the assignment to be checked for plagiarism, either by submitting the work for electronic verification or by other means. Penalties for any of the above infractions may result in disciplinary action including failing the assignment or failing the course or expulsion from the University, as determined by department and University guidelines.
2. Final exams cannot be given before their scheduled times. Students need to check the final exam schedule before planning return flights or other events at the end of the semester.

B. Department Policies and Procedures

1. **Tardies**—Tardies are an inconvenience to the other class members and the professor, and they prevent the late student from obtaining maximum value from the class. Therefore, excessive tardies may adversely affect the semester grade. It is to the student's advantage to make sure that the professor is informed immediately following the close of the class that the student was tardy and not absent. It is not the professor's responsibility to stop the class to mark the tardy; the student is the one responsible for conveying that information immediately following that class, not at a later time.
1. **Incompletes**—As stated in the University catalog, incompletes are granted only for "good cause," such as extended hospitalization, long-term illness, or a death in the family. *To qualify for an Incomplete, students must have made substantial progress in the course* prior to requesting the Incomplete. Students must petition prior to the end of classes for the session by filing a Petition for Incomplete at petitions.oru.edu. The student must also notify the instructor and discuss with the instructor plans to complete remaining work.
2. 3. **Late Work**
 - a. The student is responsible for obtaining class assignments and material covered during an absence. All work must be completed as scheduled. Late work may result in a lower grade. An absence is not an excuse for turning in late work or for being unprepared with assignments for the class following the absence. Computer or printer malfunction does not constitute an excuse for late work; students should have their work prepared in time to ensure that they can get it proofread, edited, and printed prior to the instructor's due date. These responsibilities assist the student in professional development.

- b. Instructors have their own late-work policies that are given to students at the beginning of a course. Instructors use their own judgment in accepting late work resulting from all other absences. In cases where these absences can be anticipated, such as for non-University sponsored mission trips, the work should normally be submitted prior to the absence. In unanticipated absences, such as sickness or family crises, the instructor should be notified as soon as possible and agreement reached on due dates and possible penalties.
4. **Attendance**—Because unavoidable circumstances can prevent perfect attendance, each student is allowed to miss class the number of times per week a class meets. This allowance is for absences such as illness, personal business, and emergency. The student may consider this "sick leave." If a student has absences in excess of this number, the earned grade for the course may be affected. Attendance at each class or laboratory is mandatory at Oral Roberts University. Excessive absences can reduce a student's grade or deny credit for the course. A student who leaves class before dismissal may be marked absent. Extended illnesses are handled on an individual basis and require verification from a doctor.
5. **Administratively Excused Absences**—Only absences that are required by approved University activities are given administrative excuses. Students who must miss class for University-sponsored activities must follow these procedures:
 - a. Inform the professor before the event and make arrangement for the work to be submitted prior to the absence or at a mutually agreed upon deadline.
 - b. Present an administrative excuse form with appropriate signatures when he or she returns to class. Doctors' or nurses' notes, or letters from groups sponsoring mission trips or activities do not qualify a student for an administratively excused absence.
 - c. Obtain information covered during an absence. All work must be completed as scheduled.
 - d. Not commit to class presentation (oral reports, speeches, group presentations, etc.) on a date that the student will be gone. Makeup work is not permitted if the student voluntarily committed to a performance on the date of an administratively excused absence.
6. **Extra Credit**—Students should not expect extra credit to help raise a grade.
7. **Plagiarism** – Each student attending Oral Roberts University is required to do his or her own academic work and must not inappropriately collaborate with other students on assignments. Students must document all sources and ideas that are not their own original information by following correct MLA (Modern Language Association) documentation procedures. Failure to do this produces a plagiarized paper, which results in an F for the paper. Photocopies of sources must be turned in with research papers. Flagrant cheating results in an F for the course.
8. **Electronic Device Use during Examinations**
 - a. Laptop computers, pads, I-pods, and other portable computer or electronic devices must be put away during examinations.
 - b. **Cell phones must be put away or placed face-down on the desk during examinations. Students who have a cell phone in hand during an examination or who have a cell phone nearby and face-up on the desk will be considered in violation of this policy.**
 - c. Ear phones, ear buds, and radio watches are not allowed during examinations.

- d. The penalty for violating this policy is a zero for the examination, and possibly a failing grade for the course.

C. Course Policies and Procedures

1. Evaluation Procedures

The following scale will be used for the assignments, the final examination, and the course grade.

100% - 90% = A

89% - 80% = B

79% - 70% = C

69% - 60% = D

Below 60% = F

4. Other Policies and/or Procedures

- a. Examinations must be taken on the date and time assigned. It is the student's responsibility to contact the professor concerning missed work or examinations due to absences, and to do so promptly if possible. Late work or missed examinations, if excused, normally must be made up within one week.
- b. Submitting someone else's work as one's own is the worst type of plagiarism and will result in a failing grade for the assignment. Failure to acknowledge where paraphrased or summarized information came from is a second type of plagiarism. Using a source for information and acknowledging that source incorrectly is a third type of plagiarism. Incorrectly paraphrasing an author (even though it was footnoted) is the most common type of plagiarism. For example, many students simply change a word here or there from a sentence in the textbook or change the word order of a statement by an author. This is not paraphrasing; it is plagiarism and may result in an "F" for the assignment. A true paraphrase is done by using your own words and sentence structure.
- c. No more than two unexcused absences are allowed per semester for classes meeting two times per week, or no more than three unexcused absences are allowed for classes meeting three times per week. Additional unexcused absences may result in a reduction of grade at the instructor's discretion. If a student is late to class three times, it shall count as one absence. Students arriving to class more than 5 minutes late may be counted absent for the day. Students leaving class early without permission may be counted absent.

VI. COURSE CALENDAR

WEEK	SUBJECT	Assignments
Week 1	Course Overview and Introduction	
Week 2	Ancient Worldview	
Week 3	Ancient Mediterranean World	
Week 4	Etruscans and Early Rome	
Week 5	Early Roman Republic	
Week 6	Late Roman Republic	
Week 7	Hellenistic Civilization and the Intertestamental Period	
Week 8	Roman Imperial Civilization	
Week 9	Early Christianity in the Roman Empire	
Week 10	Romans and Christians	
Week 11	Late Roman Civilization	
Week 12	The Fall of the Western Empire	
Week 13	Early Middle Ages: Byzantium and Islam	
Week 14	Western Medieval Civilization: Germanic Kingdoms and Feudalism	
Week 15	Medieval Worldview: Theology and Philosophy, Medieval Christianity	

Primary Program: General Education
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This course contributes to the ORU student learning outcomes as indicated below:

Significant Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

Moderate Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

Minimal Contribution – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

Program Outcome alignment with University Outcomes		Significant	Moderate	Minimal
Spiritual Integrity				
Specialization Learning Outcomes 8	The student will defend the self-identified role of Christian Faith in professional practice.		X	
Personal Resilience				
Specialization Learning Outcomes 6	The student will report on functional knowledge of period from 1860 to end of Reconstruction 1877	X		
Intellectual Pursuit				
Specialization Learning Outcomes 3	The student will collaborate and work effectively in interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary teams to solve complex problems.		X	
Global Engagement				
Specialization Learning Outcomes 1	The student will incorporate research and findings regarding people and contexts into a World View		X	
Bold Vision				
Specialization Learning Outcomes 3	The student will collaborate and work effectively in interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary teams to solve complex problems			X