



## The glory of Rome

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**Start date** April 22 2016                      **End date** April 24 2016

**Venue**                      Madingley Hall  
                                    Madingley  
                                    Cambridge

**Tutor**                      Professor Werner de Saeger    **Course code**    1516NRX092

**Director of Programmes**                      Emma Jennings  
**For further information on this**                      Public Programme Co-ordinator, Clare Kerr  
**course, please contact**                      [clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk](mailto:clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk) or 01223 746237

**To book**                      See: [www.ice.cam.ac.uk](http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk) or telephone 01223 746262

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### Tutor biography

Professor Werner de Saeger is a Tutor at the University of Oxford and Professor at the University of Brussels. He was educated at Harvard, Cambridge, Oxford, Leiden, Leuven, Brussels, and Jerusalem. His main focus is the interdisciplinary history of the Roman world of the 3<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD. He has done research at the Sorbonne, in the Vatican, and in Italy, Germany, and Turkey, on the history of the Roman Empire. Professor de Saeger is currently completing a biography of Roman Emperor Constantine for The History Press.

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## Course programme

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### Friday

Please plan to arrive between 16:30 and 18:30. You can meet other course members in the bar which opens at 18:15. Tea and coffee making facilities are available in the study bedrooms.

19:00	Dinner
20:30 – 22:00	<b>Introduction to the Roman Empire</b>
22:00	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

### Saturday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	<b>Political and military innovations</b>
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	<b>The Pantheon of Gods: Roman religion</b>
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Free
16:00	Tea
16:30 – 18:00	<b>Justice for all under Roman law</b>
18:00 – 18:30	Free
18:30	Dinner
20:00 – 21:30	<b>Engineering an empire</b>
21:30	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

### Sunday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	<b>Roman Art and Architecture I</b>
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	<b>Roman Art and Architecture II</b>
12:45	Lunch

**The course will disperse after lunch**

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## Course syllabus

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### Aims:

The aim of this course is to provide students with thorough insights in the most crucial parts of the history and legacy of Ancient Rome through an analysis of politics, religion, military innovations, law, engineering, and finally art and architecture.

On the one hand, students will acquire knowledge and an accurate understanding of the issues at play, and on the other hand students will develop critical thinking skills related to the multifaceted nature of Roman imperial history.

### Content:

Few nations left such a lasting legacy on our world as the Roman Empire. In this course we will analyse the legacy of Rome through its politics, laws, religions, military, engineering, and art and architecture. What are the crucial achievements of the Romans? How did the Romans innovate and which elements of the Roman world are still with us today?

In essence, this course gives an overview of the most interesting elements of Roman history. It will equip students with the factual knowledge and insights to understand Rome's legacy and historical importance. Although the course is structured as a *smörgåsbord* of angles and topics, the weekend structure allows us to delve deeper into some specific aspects, taking into account students' interests.

A holistic analysis will be provided and the various interlinking elements (politics and religion, art and economics, law and architecture, ...) will be clarified and this interdisciplinary focus makes the course unique.

### Presentation of the course:

We will use the traditional *ex cathedra* method with Powerpoint (images), as well as class discussion, and critical thinking exercises.

### Outcomes:

**As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:**

- Understand the multidisciplinary nature of the history of Ancient Rome.
- Grasp the non-linear and complex evolutions in the politics, law, engineering, religion, military, and art and architecture of the fascinating Roman empire.
- Acquire the ability to communicate on the multifaceted character of the various changes in Roman society throughout its history.

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## Reading and resources list

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Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course.

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Author	Title	Publisher and date
Fustel de Coulanges	<i>The Ancient City</i>	Johns Hopkins University Press, 1980
Steven Tuck	<i>A History of Roman Art (Chapters 5-12)</i>	Wiley Blackwell, 2015
David S. Potter	<i>A Companion to the Roman Empire</i>	Blackwell Publishing, 2006

## Website addresses

**Note** Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

*Information correct as of:* 12 April 2016