AH3021 Roman and American Slavery

Academic Year: 2009-2010
Semester: 2
Time and location: Lecture/Seminar: Thursday 10-12 (room SB2.07)
First meeting: 28-1-2010
Module coordinator: Constantina Katsari
e-mail: ck82@le.ac.uk
Room: Archaeology and Ancient History 026
Office hours: Tuesday 10-11
Thursday 10-11

Your individual appointments (e.g. tutorials, seminars):


document prepared by: Constantina Katsari, 7-1-2008
Weighting: 20 credits
Coordinator: Constantina Katsari

Other tutors:

Module outline: We will cover the development of slavery from the third century BC until the fourth century AD and later from the eighteenth century to the nineteenth century AD. In geographical terms we intend to cover the whole spectrum of the regions surrounding the Mediterranean as well as the North American lands. Despite the wide chronological and geographical span in this module we will focus only on a few themes of slavery. These themes will be treated as exemplary case studies in comparative history.

Aims: - Explore several themes pertaining to Roman and American Slavery
      - Understand comparative history (methods and theory)

Intended learning outcomes: - research a well defined topic of their choice,
                            - present their results in a written form,
                            - critically evaluate and analyse both primary evidence and modern historical theories,
                            - formulate a persuasive argument,
                            - demonstrate knowledge and understanding of slavery issues in both the Roman world and the Antebellum American South,
                            - understand and use comparative methods

Method(s) of teaching: 9 two-hour meetings, combining lectures and seminars

Method of assessment: Essay (3000 words) 40%
                       Project (4000 words) 60%
### Sem.2

#### Teaching schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teaching wk</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Topic(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>28 Jan</td>
<td>Introduction on Comparative History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>4 Feb</td>
<td>The Economics of Rural and Urban Slavery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 16</td>
<td>11 Feb</td>
<td>The Master Class Ideology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 17</td>
<td>18 Feb</td>
<td>The Treatment of the Slaves</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 18</td>
<td>25 Feb</td>
<td>Resistance and Slave Revolts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 19</td>
<td>1-5 Mar</td>
<td><em>(Reading Week)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 20</td>
<td>11 Mar</td>
<td>Resistance and Slave Revolts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 21</td>
<td>18 Mar</td>
<td>Discussion on comparative essay topics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 22</td>
<td>25 Mar</td>
<td>Pro- and Anti-Slavery Thought</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 23</td>
<td>6 May</td>
<td>Manumission- Emancipation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 24</td>
<td>13 May</td>
<td>Digital Slavery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assignments and deadlines

**Essay:** The essay will focus on Roman slavery and should be no more than 3000 words. You should present your work in accordance with the essay guidelines set out in the handbook. The deadline is **Monday 15 March 2008.** Choose one of the following topics.

a) **Female slaves in the Roman world.**


b) **The Sources of Slaves.**


W.V. Harris, ‘Demography, geography and the sources of Roman slaves’, *Journal of Roman Studies* 89 (1999), 62-75
c) Familia Caesaris.

P.R.C. Weaver, *Familia Caesaris*, Cambridge 1972


K. Hopkins, ‘Elite mobility in the Roman Empire’, *Past and Present* 1965, 12-26

**Project:** In this project you should compare aspects of Roman Slavery with similar aspects of American Slavery. The word limit is 4000 words and you should follow the essay guidelines set out in the handbook. The deadline is **Monday 3 May 2008**. Choose one of the following topics

a) **Spartacus vs Nat Turner: A case study in comparative slave revolts**

T. Urbainczyk, *Spartacus*, Duckworth 2005

B. Shaw, *Spartacus and the Slave Wars*, Boston/ NY 2001


b) **Slaves in the Roman familia and in the Southern household**


R.P. Saller, Personal Patronage under the Early Empire, Cambridge 1982


c) The legal status of Roman and American slaves


A. Watson, Roman law and Comparative Law, Georgia 1991.


For an extensive Bibliography and Sources, see the relevant documents on Blackboard