

Concept course programme 2024 – The Making of Europe: Rise of Civilization

In this syllabus you find the course schedule and literature. We would like to ask you to read Christopher Hibbert, *Rome: The Biography of a City*, London: Penguin Books, 1987 ([buy online](#)) prior to the course. Each course day focuses on one or more chapters from Hibbert. In preparation for each course day, you are also required to read one or two articles, which are indicated in the programme and will be provided by the course directors.

Lectures take place at the **Centro Congressi Cavour (Via Cavour, 50/a, 00184 Roma)** and excursions are on location in the city. This course has two assignments: (1) a presentation on location on a topic of your choice and (2) a final essay (2,500 words excl. footnotes). You will hear more about these assignments on the first day of the course.

Course directors:

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Caspar van Wittel (1653–1736), *The Colosseum seen from the southeast*, circa 1700. *Wikimedia Commons*.

Week 1

| Monday, 8 July | | Theme: Prehistory & Antiquity |
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| Time | Activity | Description |
| 10:30-11:30 a.m. | Start course | Practical matters |
| 12:00-1:00 p.m. | Introductory lecture | <i>Rome and the Capitoline Hill: A Bird's-eye View of the History of the Caput Mundi.</i> |
| 3:00-5:00 p.m. | Excursion | Capitoline Hill and the Capitoline Museums |
| 6:00-7:30 p.m. | Excursion | Colosseum |
| Literature Hibbert, Chapter 1: 'Myths, Monarchs and Republicans'. P. Burke, 'How to Write a History of Europe: Europe, Europes, Eurasia', <i>European Review</i> , 14.2 (2006), pp. 233-239. R.J.B. Bosworth, 'Rome and the Romes Across Time', in idem, <i>Whispering City. Rome and Its Histories</i> , New Haven: Yale University Press, 2011, pp. 10-31. | | |

| Tuesday, 9 July | | Theme: Antiquity (Imperial Rome) |
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| Time | Activity | Description |
| 9:00-11:30 | Excursion | Palatine Hill and Forum Romanum |
| 1:30-3:00 | Lecture | <i>Imperial Imagery from Augustus to Constantine the Great.</i> |
| 5:00 | Introductory drinks | Get to know each other! |
| Literature Hibbert, Chapters 2 and 3: 'Imperial Rome'; 'Bread and Circuses'. Watch episode 1 ('All Roads Lead to Rome') of the BBC documentary <i>Meet the Romans with Mary Beard</i> . Primary literature (optional): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Virgil, <i>Aeneid</i>, book 8 (Aeneas' visit to Pallantium, site of future Rome).• Livy, <i>History of Rome</i>, book 1 (legendary founding of Rome). | | |

| Wednesday, 10 July | | Theme: Antiquity/Early Christianity |
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| Time | Activity | Description |
| 9:30-14:00 | Excursion | Via Appia and Catacombs of San Sebastiano and San Callisto |
| 15:00-17:00 | Excursion (optional) | Baths of Caracalla |
| <p>Literature</p> <p>Hibbert, Chapter 4: ‘Catacombs and Christians’.</p> <p>R. Taylor, K. Rinne and S. Kostof, Chapter 14 ‘Tetrarchic and Constantinian Rome’ and Chapter 15 ‘Trophies and <i>Tituli</i>: Christian Infrastructure before Constantine’, in idem, <i>Rome: An Urban History from Antiquity to the Present</i>, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016, pp. 132-150.</p> | | |

| Thursday, 11 July | | Theme: Middle Ages |
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| Time | Activity | Description |
| 10:00-11:30 | Lecture | <i>Mediaeval Mosaics and the Transformation of Rome from a Secular to a Christian Capital.</i> |
| 2:00-5:30 | Excursion | Churches: San Giovanni in Laterano, San Clemente, Santa Prassede, Santa Maria Maggiore (and Concezione dei Cappuccini) |
| 7:00-9:00 | Excursion (optional) | Gregorian chants performed by monks at the Sant’Anselmo on the Aventine Hill (start 7:15 p.m.) |
| <p>Literature</p> <p>Hibbert, Chapter 5: ‘Infamy and Anarchy’.</p> <p>D. Kinney, ‘Communication in a Visual Mode: Papal Apse Mosaics’, <i>Journal of Mediaeval History</i>, 44.3 (2018), pp. 311-332.</p> | | |

| Friday, 12 July | | Theme: Middle Ages |
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| Time | Activity | Description |
| 10:00-11:30 | Lecture | <i>Popes and Pilgrims: Travelling to and through Rome in the Middle Ages.</i> |
| 1:00-6:00 | Excursion | Walk through Mediaeval Rome: Piazza del Popolo, Castel Sant'Angelo, Pantheon, Campo de' Fiori and Basilica of Santa Maria in Trastevere |
| 6:30 | Aperitivo (optional) | Foods and drinks in Trastevere! |
| <p>Literature</p> <p>Hibbert, Chapter 6: 'Saints, Tyrants and Anti-Popes'.</p> <p>B. Wisch, 'The Matrix: <i>Le sette chiese di Roma</i> of 1575 and the Image of Pilgrimage', <i>Memoirs of the American Academy in Rome</i>, 56/57 (2011/2012), pp. 271-303.</p> <p>Primary literature (optional): <i>Mirabilia urbis Romae</i> (<i>Marvels of the City of Rome</i>). (excerpts)</p> | | |

| Saturday, 13 July | | |
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| Time | Activity | Description |
| Morning | Self-study | Preparing presentations for week 2 Let us know if you have any questions! |
| Evening | Optional programme | Dinner & drinks |

| Sunday, 14 July | | |
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| Time | Activity | Description |
| Free time | Suggestions for activities: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Galleria Borghese (stunning collection of art, sculptures and antiquities) ● Centrale Montemartini (exhibition space for the Capitoline Museums in a former thermoelectric centre) ● Galleria Nazionale d'arte moderne e contemporanea (19th & 20th century art) ● MAXXI – National Museum of 21st century art (huge collection of contemporary art and architecture) ● Take a trip <i>outside</i> Rome: visit Ostia Antica (port of ancient Rome) or Tivoli (town of villas and gardens)! |

Week 2

| Monday, 15 July | | Theme: Renaissance |
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| Time | Activity | Description |
| 09:30-11:00 | Lecture | <i>On Raphael's Stanza della Segnatura (Vatican) and the Appropriation of Ancient and Mediaeval Traditions.</i> |
| 1:00-6:00 | Excursion | Vatican Museums & St. Peter's Basilica |
| <p>Literature</p> <p>Hibbert, Chapters 7, 8 & 9: 'The Refuge of All the Nations'; 'Renaissance and Decadence'; 'Patrons and Parasites'.</p> <p>D. Karmon, 'Inventing a Preservation Program in Fifteenth-Century Rome', in idem, <i>The Ruin of the Eternal City. Antiquity & Preservation in Renaissance Rome</i>, Oxford University Press, 2011, pp. 47-75; 244-252.</p> <p>D. Rijser, 'Tradition and Originality in Raphael: The Stanza della Segnatura, the Middle Ages and Local Traditions', in K.A.E. Enenkel and K.A. Ottenheim eds., <i>The Quest for an Appropriate Past in Literature, Art and Architecture</i>, Leiden: Brill, 2019, pp. 106-126.</p> | | |

| Tuesday, 16 July | | Theme: Renaissance & Baroque |
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| Time | Activity | Description |
| 09:30-10:30 | Lecture #1 | <i>'Restauratio urbis Romae': The Quest for Creating a New Rome.</i> |
| 11:00-12:00 | Lecture #2 | <i>The Baroque Era: Reformation and Counter-Reformation in Rome.</i> |
| 2:00-6:00 | Excursion | Villa Medici and Roman fountains (Fountain of the Boat, Fontana del Tritone, Trevi Fountain, Fountain of the Four Rivers and Turtle Fountain) |
| <p>Literature</p> <p>Hibbert, Chapters 11 & 12: 'Recovery and Reform'; 'Bernini and the Baroque'.</p> <p>W. Dragoni, 'Rome's Fountains: Beauty and Public Service from Geology, Power and Technology', in: A.J. Hynynen et al. eds., <i>Water Fountains in the Worldscape</i>, 2012, pp. 18-33.</p> <p>Watch the iconic Trevi Fountain scene from the all-time classic <i>La Dolce Vita</i> (Federico Fellini, 1960).</p> | | |

| Wednesday, 17 July | | |
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| | | 19th Century: Romanticism & Risorgimento |
| Time | Activity | Description |
| 10:00-11:30 | Lecture | <i>Romanticism, Neoclassicism & Risorgimento.</i> |
| 1:30-3:30 | Excursion | Villa Torlonia |
| Afternoon | Self-study | Preparing presentations |
| <p>Literature</p> <p>Hibbert, Chapters 13 & 15: ‘Il Settecento’; ‘The Risorgimento and the Roman Question’.</p> <p>R. Forlenza and B. Thomassen, ‘Resurrections and Rebirths: How the Risorgimento Shaped Modern Italian Politics’, <i>Journal of Modern Italian Studies</i>, 22.3 (2017), pp. 291-313.</p> <p>Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, <i>Italian Journey 1786-1788</i>, London: Penguin Books, 1982. (excerpts)</p> | | |

| Thursday, 18 July | | |
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| | | 20th Century: Fascism |
| Time | Activity | Description |
| 10:00-11:30 | Lecture | <i>Mussolini's Fascist Urban Planning</i> |
| 2:00-5:00 | Excursion | Exploring EUR |
| <p>Literature</p> <p>Hibbert, Chapter 17: ‘Roma Fascista’; ‘Epilogue: The Eternal City’.</p> <p>B.W. Painter, Chapter 1 ‘Mussolini’s Obsession with Rome’, in idem, <i>Mussolini’s Rome: Rebuilding the Eternal City</i>, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005, pp. 1-19.</p> <p>P. Baxa, ‘Piacentini’s Window: The Modernism of the Fascist Master Plan of Rome’, <i>Contemporary European History</i>, 13.1 (2004), pp. 1-20.</p> | | |

| Friday, 19 July | | |
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| Time | Activity | Description |
| 10:00-12:00 | Presentations on location #1 | Student presentations |
| 2:00-4:00 | Presentations on location #2 | Student presentations |
| 6:00 | Closing session | Evaluation of the course and concluding drinks/pubquiz! |