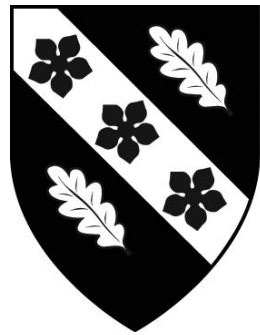


SCHOOL OF CLASSICS

UNIVERSITY OF WALES, TRINITY SAINT DAVID



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Trinity Saint David

CLAH7002

**JULIUS CAESAR AND HIS TIMES
(MODULE BOOKLET)**

INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION

Credit points: 20
Tutor: Dr Marta Garcia Morcillo

AIM(S)

- To enable students to demonstrate a detailed and critical understanding of the career of C. Julius Caesar, both in the context of the times in which he lived and in the light of modern theories and debate about the nature of public life in Rome in the second and first centuries BC.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this module all students should be able to:

- draw upon a broad but also detailed knowledge of the life of C. Julius Caesar and of the social, cultural and political context of his times in order to analyse the events of his career in a critical manner;
- reformulate and apply modern debate about public life in Rome in the second and first centuries BC and about the nature of the Roman state to the interpretation of Julius Caesar's career;
- demonstrate not only an understanding of the major trends in modern scholarship but also an awareness of the importance of the historical context of those trends, and to engage with modern scholarship in a critical manner.

CONTENT

This module is a comprehensive study of the fascinating figure of C. Julius Caesar (100 – 44 BC), a Roman statesman, general, and intellectual, whose extraordinary achievements have prompted deep interest through the centuries, and not just among ancient historians. The module will not simply cover the biography of Caesar, his political and military achievements, and the seminal political experiment marked by his dictatorship, but will also examine the context in which Caesar's career unfolded, and the structural factors that made Caesar's success and the fall of the Roman Republic possible. The module will draw, in particular, upon the works written by Caesar himself, the Commentaries on the Gallic War and those on the Civil War. The evidence provided by an illustrious contemporary, M. Tullius Cicero, will also be at the forefront. The module aims to try to make sense of the remarkable personality of this man, and at the same time to explain Caesar's success within a longer-term account of Roman history. While the module is primarily historical in nature, much of the material that it covers will also be of value and interest to students of Latin literature and Roman religion.

Residential students are expected to contribute to discussion in the seminars. Distance students will be provided with material for each unit, and are asked to submit two pieces of formative written work on which the module tutor will provide feedback and comments.

ASSESSMENT

Course work

One 5,000 word essay (100%)

Essay topics are chosen in consultation with the module tutor. Topics on which essays have been written include: the relationship between Caesar and Pompey; the ideological background to Roman politics of Caesar's time; *clementia* in Caesar's writings.

HOW TO CONTACT ME

Please feel free to come and see me if you would like to discuss any problems you may have concerning this module. Try, if at all possible, to come during my office hours. My office hours are Tuesday, 13.15-14.15; Wednesday, 15.15-16.15; and Thursday, 15.15-12.15. If you come to see me at another time and I am not in because of teaching or other commitments, please email me (m.morcillo@tsd.ac.uk). It is also possible to ask questions (not confidential) in the discussion forum available in the Moodle space for this course.

STRUCTURE AND ORGANISATION

This 20-credit module has 10 units. You should aim to do approximately one unit per week.

1. Unit 1: The slow and by no means inevitable rise of Gaius Julius Caesar
2. Unit 2: Dirty hands, or: Caesar and Catiline
3. Unit 3: The First Triumvirate
4. Unit 4: Caesar in Gaul
5. Unit 5: Caesar as a writer
6. Unit 6: Talking to Rome
7. Unit 7: Before the Rubicon
8. Unit 8: In the thick of the Civil War
9. Unit 9: After Pharsalus: Building a Mediterranean Empire
10. Unit 10: Caesar's monarchy

BOOKS

Access to good translations of the following will be useful, although many of the key passages are included on the handouts for each unit.

You should be able to find translations of these on the internet (e.g. the Perseus Digital Library <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/>)

or Lacus Curtius (<http://penelope.uchicago.edu/Thayer/E/Roman/home.html>) , but translations are plentiful and should be available in most libraries or can be picked up quite cheaply second-hand.

Caesar's, The Gallic War and The Civil War, as well as several speeches by Cicero are available further in:

<http://classics.mit.edu>

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Essential

L. Canfora, *Caesar. The People's Dictator*, Edinburgh 2007.

M. Gelzer, *Caesar. Politician and Statesman*, Oxford 1968.

E. S. Gruen, *The Last Generation of the Roman Republic*, Berkeley-Los Angeles-London 1974.

C. Meier, *Caesar*, London 1995.

Recommended

C. Habicht, *Cicero the Politician*, Baltimore-London 1990.

R. M. Kallet-Marx, *Hegemony to Empire. The Development of the Roman Imperium in the East from 148 to 62 B.C.*, Berkeley 1995.

A. Keaveney, *Sulla the Last Republican*, second edition, London 2005.

F. Millar, *The Crowd in Rome in the Late Republic*, Ann Arbor 1998.

J. Osgood, *Caesar's Legacy: Civil War and the Emergence of the Roman Empire*, Cambridge 2006.

E. D. Rawson, *Cicero. A Portrait*, Bristol 1985.

A. Riggsby, *Caesar in Gaul and Rome: War in Words*, Austin 2006.

F. Santangelo, *Sulla, the Elites and the Empire. A Study of Roman Policies in Italy and the Greek East*, Leiden-Boston 2007.

D. Stockton, *Cicero. A Political Biography*, Oxford 1971.

R. Seager, *Pompey. A Political Biography*, Oxford 1979.

R. Syme, *The Roman Revolution*, Oxford 1939.

W. J. Tatum, *The Patrician Tribune: P. Clodius Pulcher. Studies in the History of Greece and Rome*, Chapel Hill 1999.

L. R. Taylor, *Party Politics in the Age of Caesar*, Berkeley-Los Angeles-London 1961.
Weinstock, *Divus Julius*, Oxford 1971.

T. P. Wiseman, *New Men in the Roman Senate*, Oxford 1971.

G. Woolf, *Becoming Roman. The Origins of Provincial Civilisation in Gaul*, Oxford 1998.

Z. Yavetz, *Julius Caesar and his Public Image*, London 1983.

K. Welch-A. Powell (eds.), *Julius Caesar as Artful Reporter. The War Commentaries as Political Instruments*, Swansea 1998.

J. H. C. Williams, *Beyond the Rubicon: Romans and Gauls in Republican Italy*, Oxford 2001.

M. Wyke (ed.), *Caesar in Western Culture*, Malden (Mass.) 2006.

Please check **Moodle** for a complete bibliography of the course as well as to access electronic versions of chapter and papers relevant to each unit.

PROGRESS

At the end of each unit there is a selection of short (non-assessed) assignments. Distance students are required to complete **two** of these short assignments. Which of the assignments you choose is entirely up to you, although please do not go for an assignment on the same topic as the one on which you plan to write your essay. These assignments are formative, and so are not assessed. Please submit these to me as an email attachment, and as you work through the materials (and not together with your essay at the end of the course).

ESSAY

Assessment is by one 5,000-word essay on a subject related to the content of the module and chosen by you, **but in consultation with me**. Distance students should not start their essay for this module until they have completed both short assignments.

In your essay you will need to show detailed knowledge of both primary sources and modern scholarship. Essays should be edited in accordance with the conventions set out in the School's Reference Guidance Handbook.

If you are unsure about something in relation to your essay, please contact me to discuss it and do please feel free to contact me if anything is at all unclear.