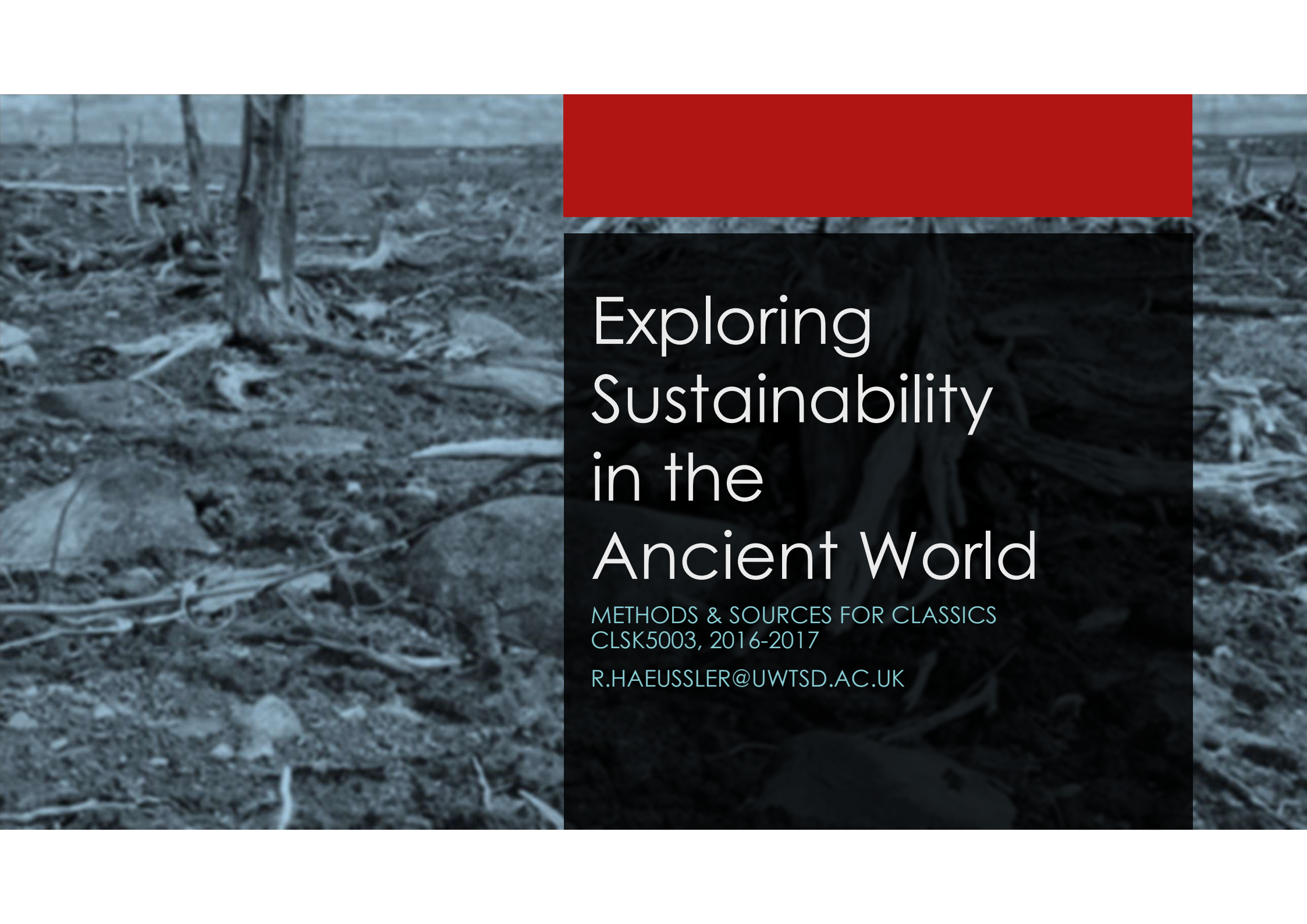




Exploring Sustainability in the Ancient World

METHODS & SOURCES FOR CLASSICS
CLSK5003, 2016-2017

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What is the point of this module ?

- ▶ Train you in working with sources and methodologies that you will need over the next two years.
- ▶ Start getting you used to researching on topics on your own.



What will we be doing?

- ▶ Understanding and using theory
 - ▶ Sustainability
 - ▶ Also: economic theory, social cohesion
- ▶ Variety of sources:
 - ▶ Literary
 - ▶ Epigraphy, papyri, graffiti,...
 - ▶ Coinage
 - ▶ Iconography, art, etc. in context
 - ▶ Archaeology



What to expect ?

- ▶ Introductions
 - ▶ Source criticism, archaeology, numismatics, epigraphy, theory and methodology....
 - ▶ How to find resources for your independent research
- ▶ You have to do:
 - ▶ A lot of independent work, reading & critical thinking! Be creative!
 - ▶ Organisation of a poster exhibition in January



What's the point...?

- ▶ 1st year provided a basic knowledge of the ancient world
- ▶ Now, you need to start working on more complex, more advanced issues.
- ▶ Providing a good foundation for further research during your BA
 - ▶ Classics Project
 - ▶ BA dissertation
- ▶ Even if you primarily study Greek and Latin, you need to do contextual analyses.

Assessments

- ▶ 50% Poster exhibition and group presentation
 - ▶ Group poster exhibition with presentation: 10th January 2017
 - ▶ 10 Themes, one for each group
 - ▶ Group responsible for a poster exhibition,
 - ▶ Every member prepares one individual poster on one particular aspect
 - ▶ Format: A1
 - ▶ Important:
 - ▶ Interdisciplinarity; use of various types of ancient sources
 - ▶ Teamwork
 - ▶ At least five minutes of group meetings need to be posted
 - ▶ Please, a different chair for every meeting!
 - ▶ Posters will be printed out by the Print Unit, Lampeter

Assessments

- ▶ 50% Poster exhibition and group presentation
- ▶ 50% Portfolio
 - ▶ All assignments support your research for the poster exhibition
 - ▶ 40% -**Abstract**, 750 words:
 - ▶ Concise discussion of the topic you have chosen for your poster; problems and controversies (use in-line references to ancient and modern sources)
 - ▶ 40% - **Literary** Review, 750 words:
 - ▶ state of research; development in scholarship (use in-line references to ancient and modern sources)
 - ▶ Group meeting minutes
 - ▶ Weekly forum posts

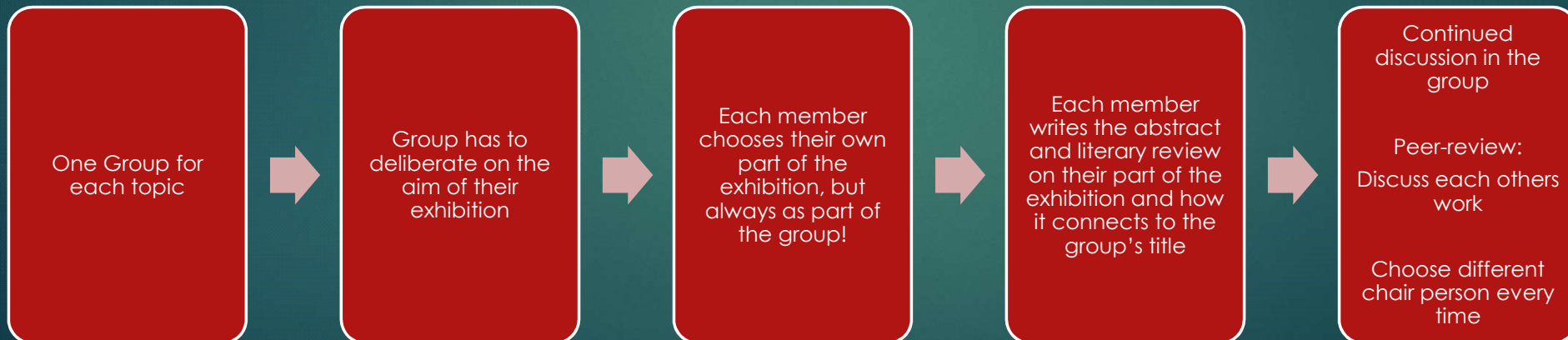
Assessments

There will be new
marking criteria for
2016-2017. I shall
keep you posted...

- ▶ What does a poster look like...

Topics and titles

- ▶ Each group will need to choose what topic they wish to work on. There are 10 themes (also see Moodle)
- ▶ Each group will need to create the specific title for their poster exhibition, and each part of the exhibition will also need its own title.
- ▶ You need to sign up for one group by **14th October**
- ▶ Post group meeting minutes and individual poster subjects on Moodle: 23rd Oct.

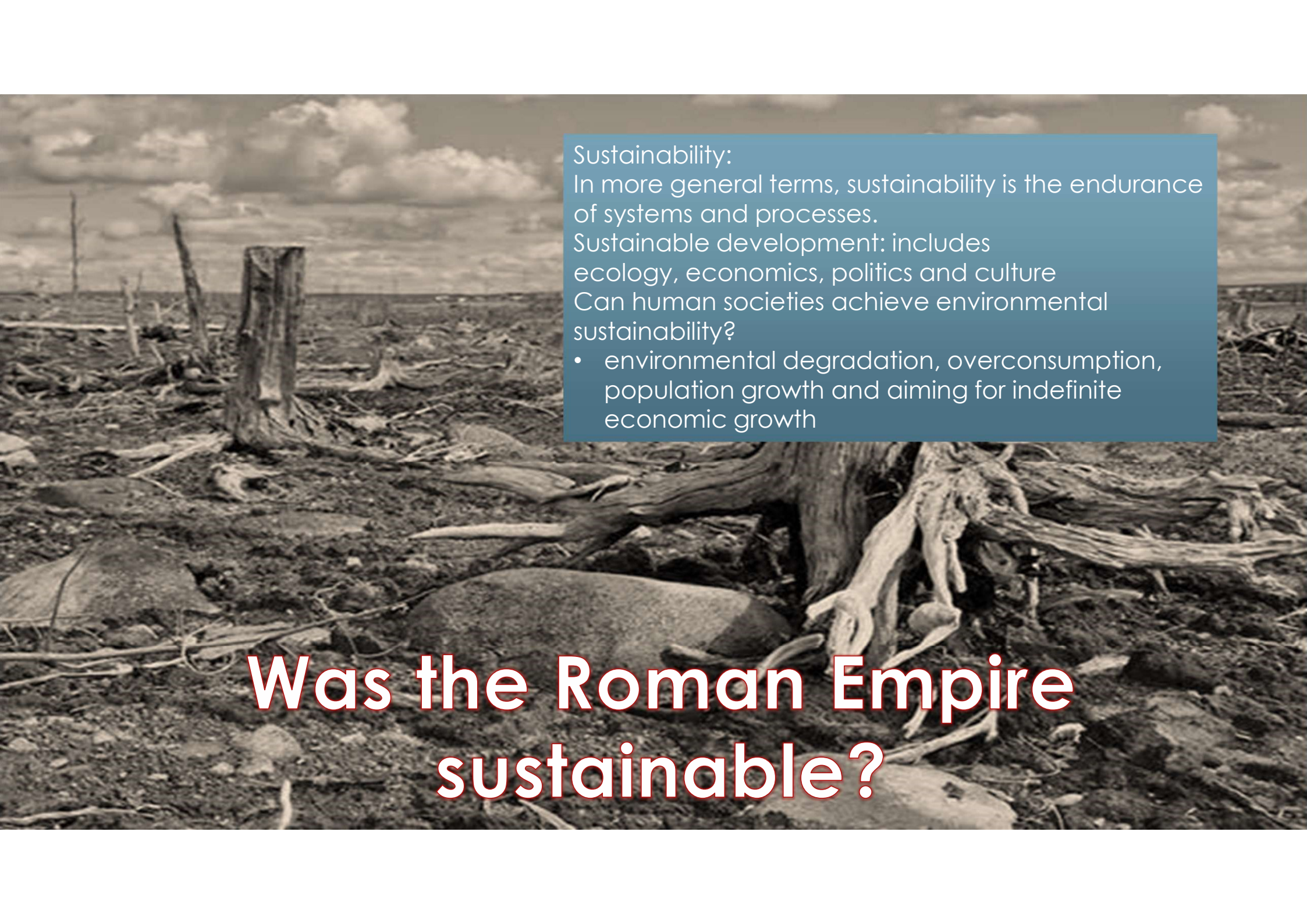


Team Work! Working as a group...

- ▶ Each person is marked individually, but 50% of the mark relates to their group-work.
- ▶ So, you need to work as a group from the beginning and throughout.
- ▶ Your group-work mark is based upon:
 - ▶ My observations in class
 - ▶ Your group meeting **minutes** on Moodle
 - ▶ The overall **cohesion of your poster exhibition** and argument
- ▶ A group meeting minutes template is available on Moodle.

The image features a large, detailed stone relief sculpture in the foreground, depicting a battle scene. Several Roman soldiers in armor are shown in various poses of combat. In the background, a mosaic is visible, showing a figure on horseback. The entire scene is set against a backdrop of a cloudy sky and a field of dry grass.

Was the Roman Empire
sustainable?

A desolate landscape with dead trees and driftwood under a cloudy sky. The ground is covered in dry, brown vegetation and scattered rocks. In the background, a few skeletal tree trunks stand against a pale, overcast sky. The overall tone is somber and evocative of environmental degradation.

Sustainability:

In more general terms, sustainability is the endurance of systems and processes.

Sustainable development: includes ecology, economics, politics and culture

Can human societies achieve environmental sustainability?

- environmental degradation, overconsumption, population growth and aiming for indefinite economic growth

Was the Roman Empire sustainable?

10 THEMES for group poster exhibitions --- 1st – 3rd century AD (4th...)

- 1. Feeding the cities: the role and impact of long-distance exchange
- 2. Changing Europe's countryside: exploitation & centuriation
- 3. De-forestation and its consequences
- 4. River pollution in the Roman empire
- 5. Air pollution in Roman cities
- 6. Animal protection in the empire
- 7. How reliable was the Roman economy on slavery?
- 8. Sustaining the Roman army along the Rhine-Danube Limes
- 9. Inflation and Roman economic crises
- 10. Sustaining the empire: Gender, Ethnicity & Imperialism in Roman literature

**Was the Roman Empire
sustainable?**

10 THEMES for group poster exhibitions --- 1st – 3rd century AD (4th...)

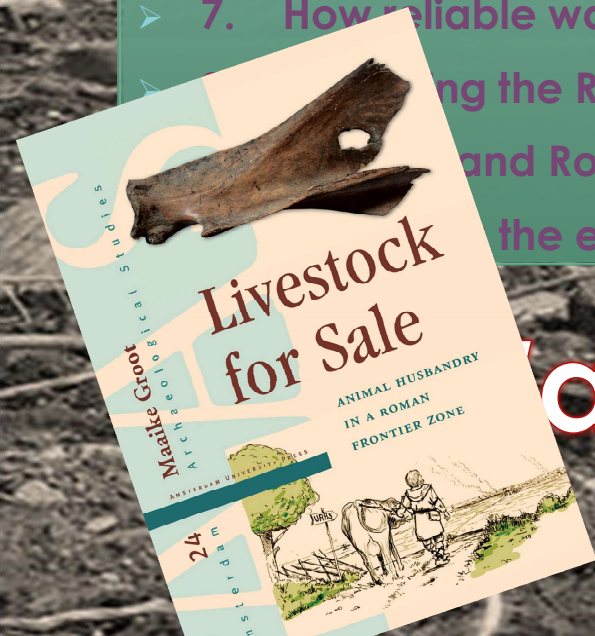
- 1. Feeding the cities: the role and impact of long-distance exchange
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- 5. Air pollution in Roman cities
- 6. Animal protection in the empire
- 7. How reliable?
- 8. Sustaining the Roman Empire? Limes
- 9. Inflation and the Roman Empire
- 10. Sustaining the Roman Empire



sustainable

10 THEMES for group poster exhibi

- 1. Feeding the cities: the role and impact of
- 2. Changing Europe's countryside: explo
- 3. De-forestation and its consequences
- 4. River pollution in the Roman empire
- 5. Air pollution in Roman cities
- 6. Animal protection in the empire
- 7. How reliable was the Roman economy



as

Sustainable

10 THEMES for group poster exhibitions --- 1st – 3rd c

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- 2. Changing Europe's countryside: exploitation & centuriation
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- 7. How reliable was
- 8. Sustaining the Ro
- 9. Inflation and Rom
- 10. Sustaining the er

The effects of deforestation

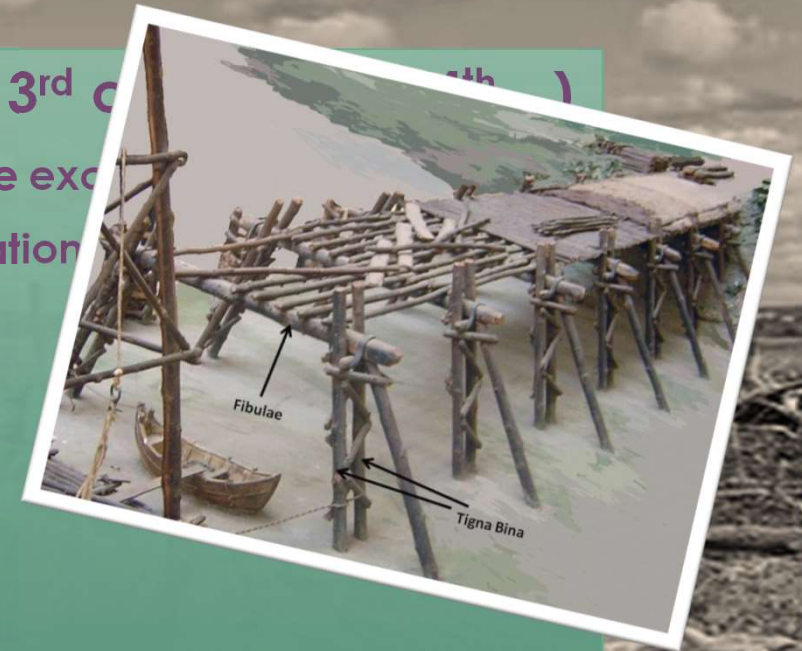
On the landscape of Attica (central Greece), Plato commented:

“what now remains compared with what then existed is like the skeleton of a sick man, all the fat and soft earth having wasted away, and only the bare framework of the land being left”

Critias 111B

Was the Roman sustainable

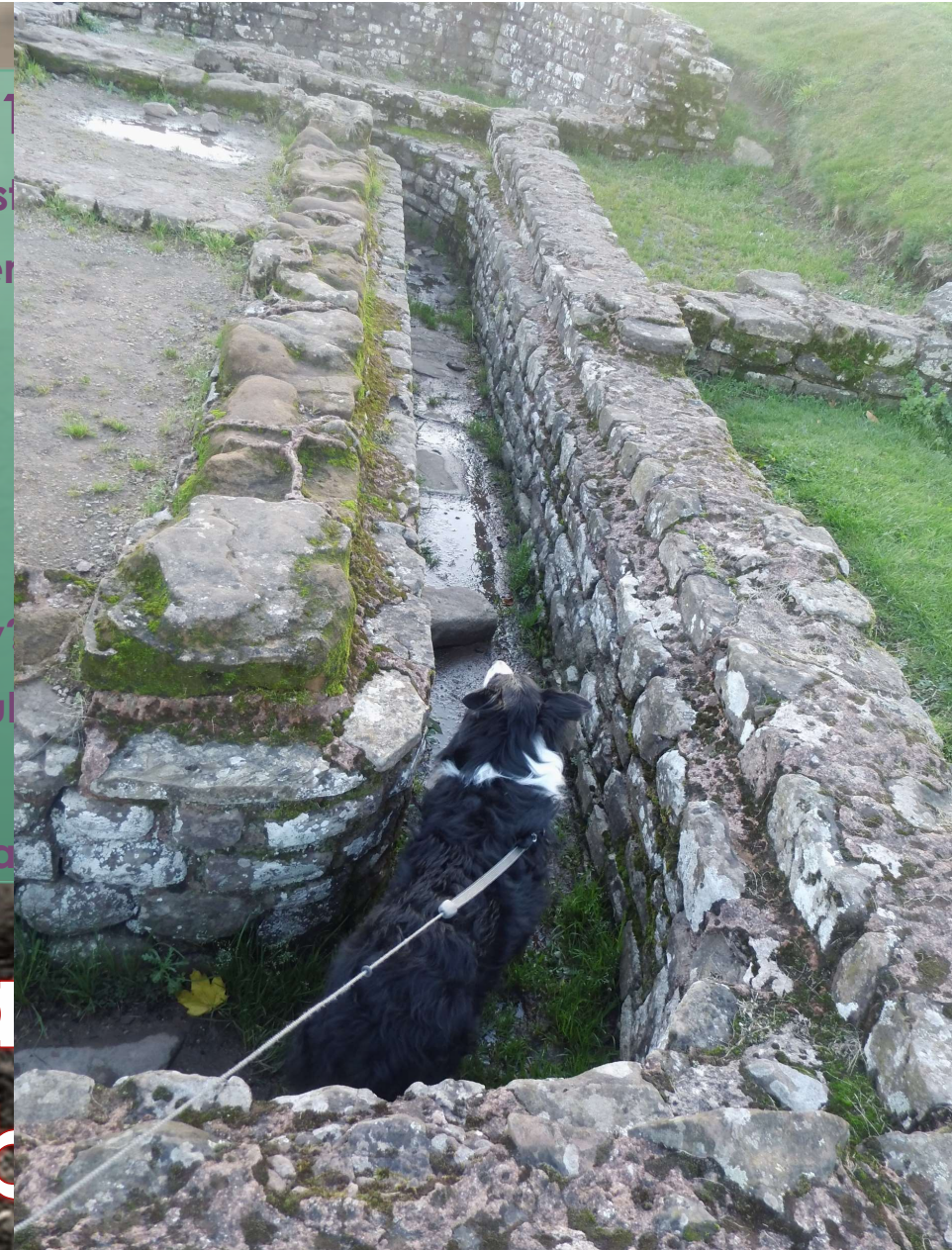
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deforestation_during_the_Roman_period



10 THEMES for group poster exhibitions --- 1

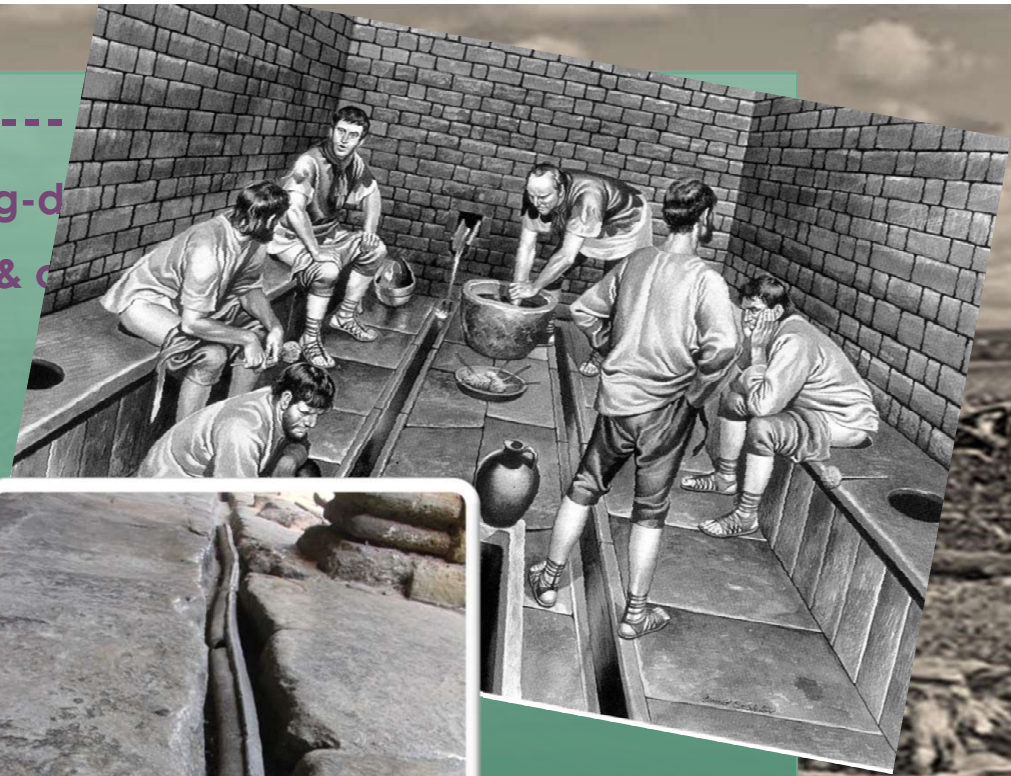
- 1. Feeding the cities: the role and impact of long-distance trade
- 2. Changing Europe's countryside: exploitation & cereals
- 3. De-forestation and its consequences
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- 5. Air pollution in Roman cities
- 6. Animal protection in the empire
- 7. How reliable was the Roman economy on slavery?
- 8. Sustaining the Roman army along the Rhine-Danube
- 9. Inflation and Roman economic crises
- 10. Sustaining the empire: Gender, Ethnicity & Imperialism

Was the Roman
sustainable?



10 THEMES for group poster exhibitions ---

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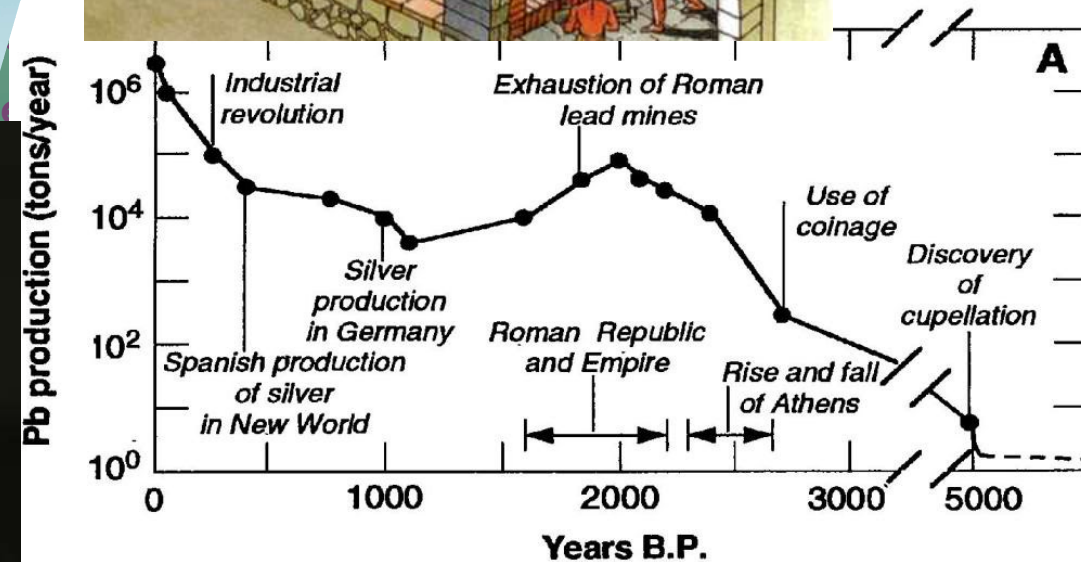
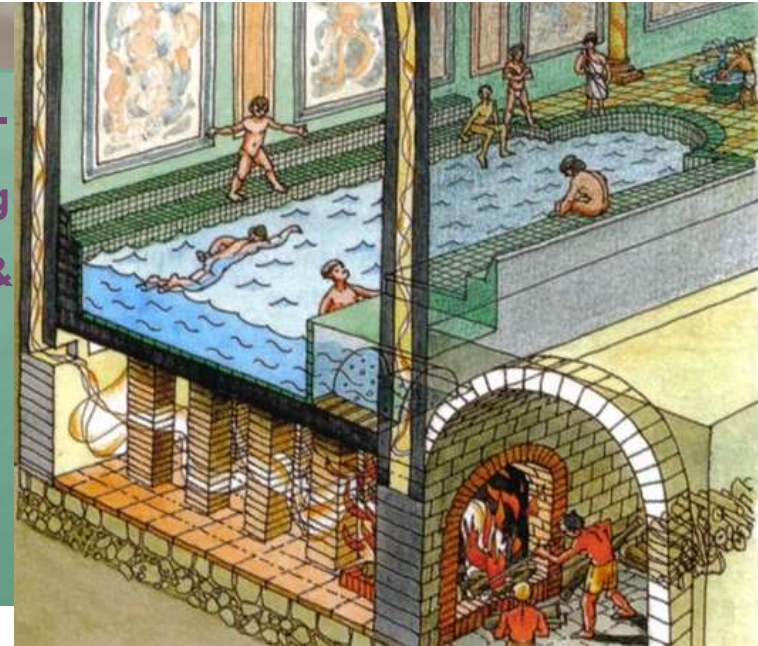


Was the Roman Empire sustainable?

10 THEMES for group poster exhibitions -

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- 7. How reliable was the Ro
- 8. Sustaining the Roman an
- 9.
- 10.

Smog



10 THEMES for group poster exhibition

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- 3. De-forestation and its consequences
- 4. River pollution in the Roman empire
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- 6. Animal protection in the empire
- 7. How sustainable was the Roman economy or
- 8. The Roman army along the Rhine-Danube l
- 9. Roman economic crises



Imperialism

man



Porphyry, On abstinence from animal food

http://www.tertullian.org/fathers/porphyry_abstinence_00_eintro.htm



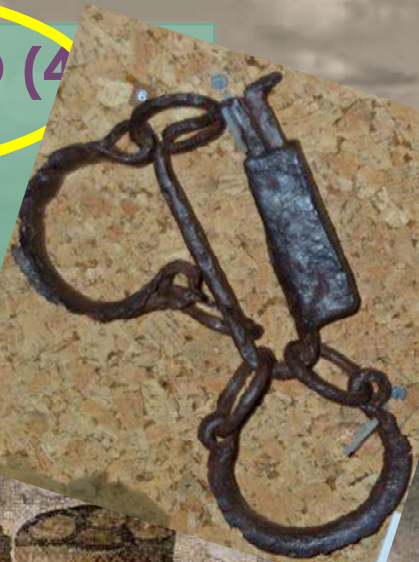
Exhibitions --- 1st – 3rd century AD (4th century AD)

Impact of long-distance exchange

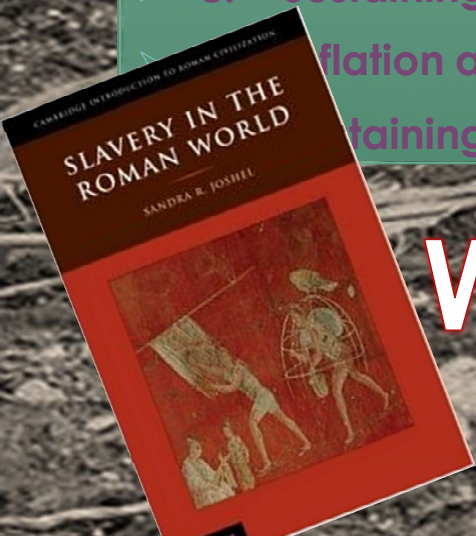
Exploitation & centuriation

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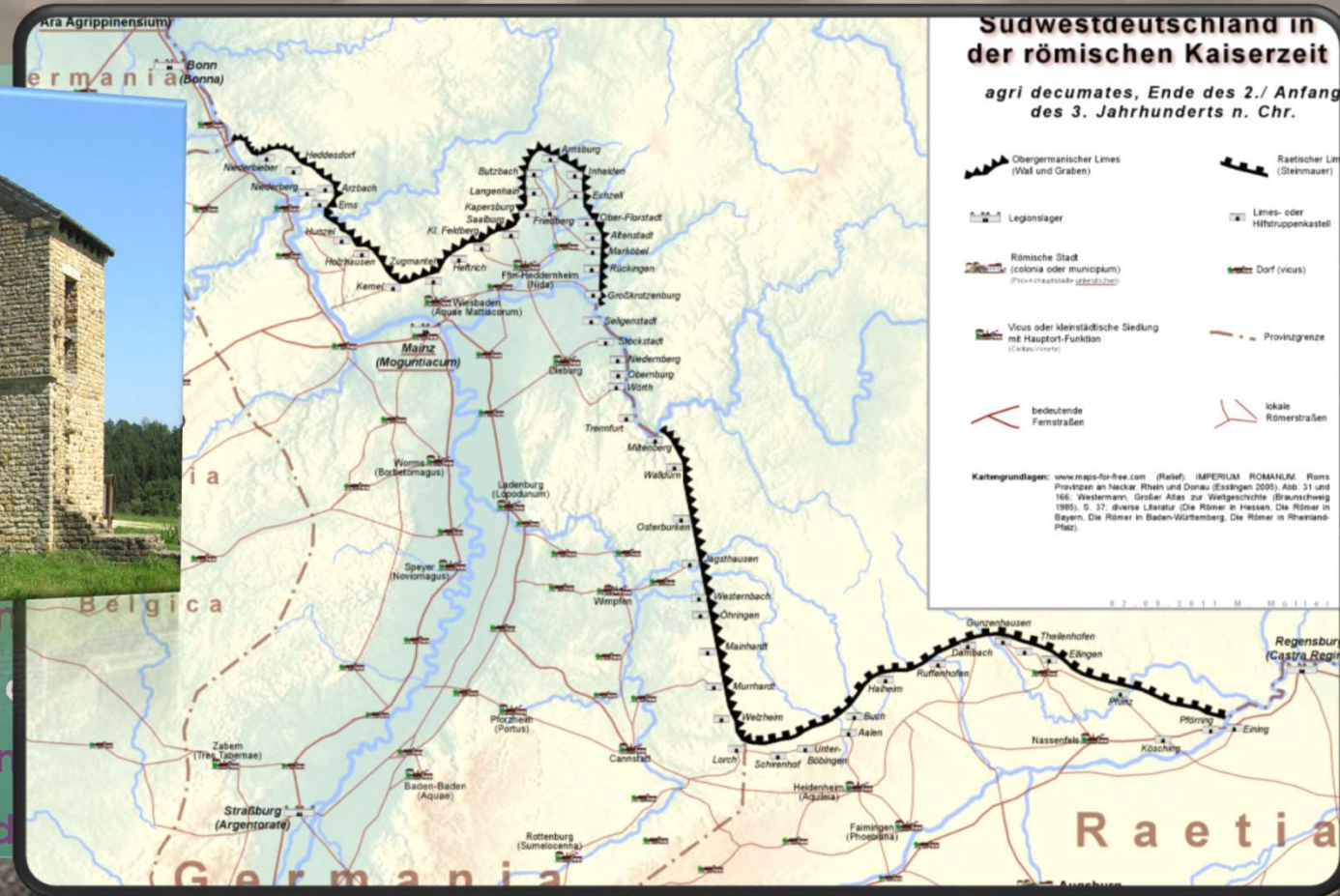


- 7. How reliable was the Roman economy on slavery?
- 8. Sustaining the Roman army along the Rhine-Danube frontier
- Inflation and Roman economic crises
- Sustaining the empire: Gender, Ethnicity & Imperialism



Was the Roman economy sustainable?





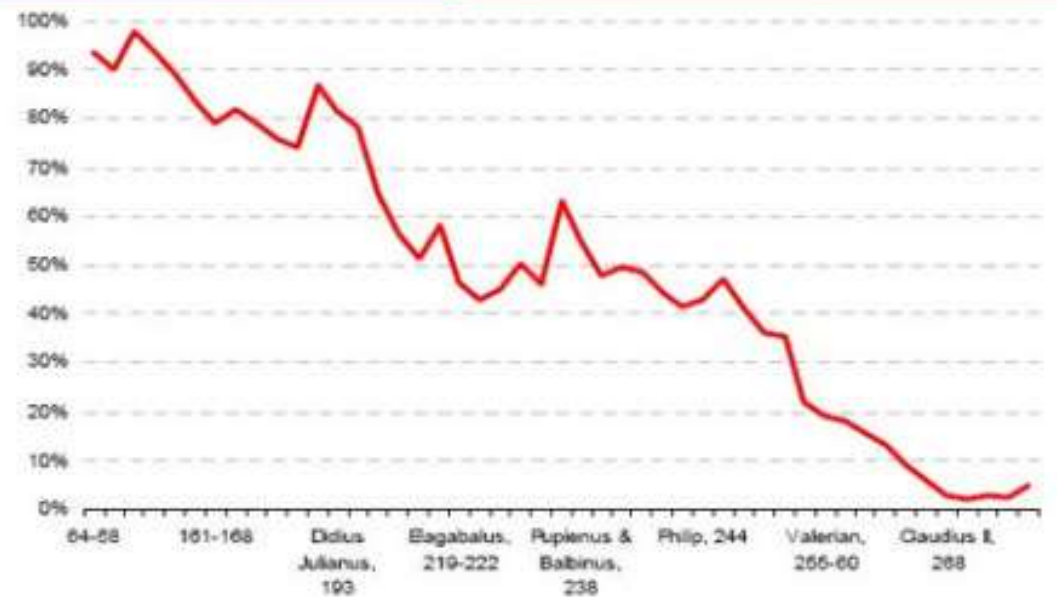
Was the Roman Empire sustainable?

10 THEMES for group poster ex

Monetary System of Augustus



Silver content of a Roman denarius



- 8. Sustaining the Roman army along f
- 9. Inflation and Roman economic crises
- 10. Sustaining the empire: Gender, Ethnic

Was the Ro
susta

Inflation gone bad

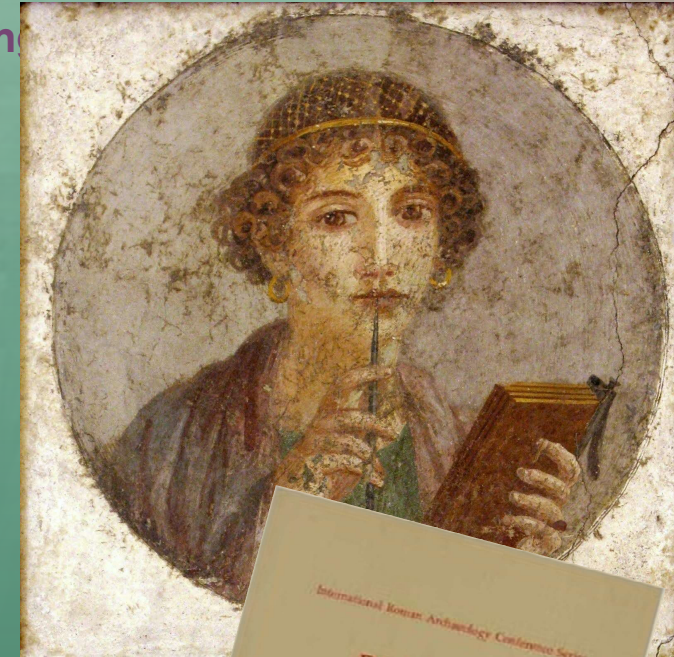
10 THEMES for group p

- 1. Feeding the cities: the



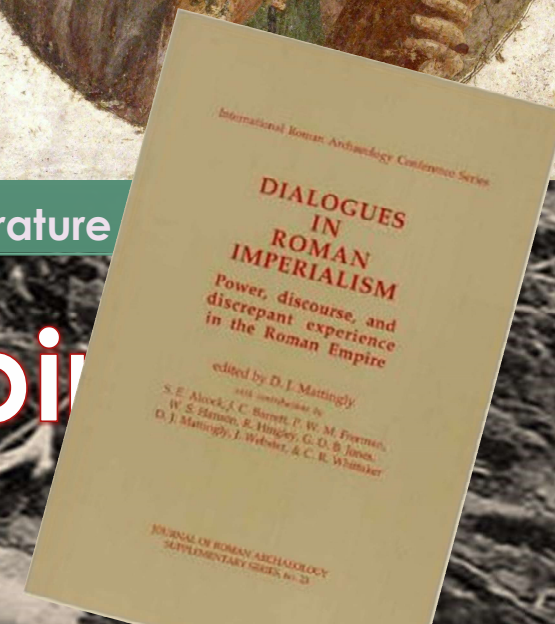
Septimius Severus, Julia Domna and their sons Caracalla and Geta

Century AD (4th...)



- 10. Sustaining the empire: Gender, Ethnicity & Imperialism in Roman literature

Was the Roman Empire sustainable?



10 THEMES for group poster exhibitions --- 1st – 3rd century AD (4th...)

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- 10. Sustaining the Roman economy: Technology & Imperialism in Roman

Engage in controversies in modern scholarship

It is important that your individual topic still makes use of a variety of ancient sources, e.g. inscriptions, coins, archaeology, literature, etc.

You should have done sufficient reading (starting with modern scholarship) before you decide on an individual topic for your individual paper

Team Work !!!
Rotating jobs within the group

Was the Roman Empire sustainable?

10 THEMES for group poster exhibitions --- 1st – 3rd century AD (4th...)

- 1. Feeding the cities: the role and impact of long-distance exchange
- 2. Changing E
- 3. De-forestation
- 4. River pollution



Choose your GROUP here

This is where you choose your group. A group should be 3-4 people, but no more. You need to make this choice by the end of the first week of the semester. Please do remember that you will be working with your group, not only for the assessment, but for the whole of the module.

Choose your GROUP here

[Return to: Introduction &a... ↗](#)

Visible groups

View 0 responses

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- ☐ Group 1
- ☐ Group 2
- ☐ Group 3
- ☐ Group 4
- ☐ Group 5
- ☐ Group 6
- ☐ Group 7
- ☐ Group 8
- ☐ Group 9
- ☐ Group 10

[Save my choice](#)

Roman literature

Empire

sustainable?



Do not just focus on Italy and the West.
Also search for examples from the
Greek-speaking world during the 1st-3rd
century AD, as well as from:

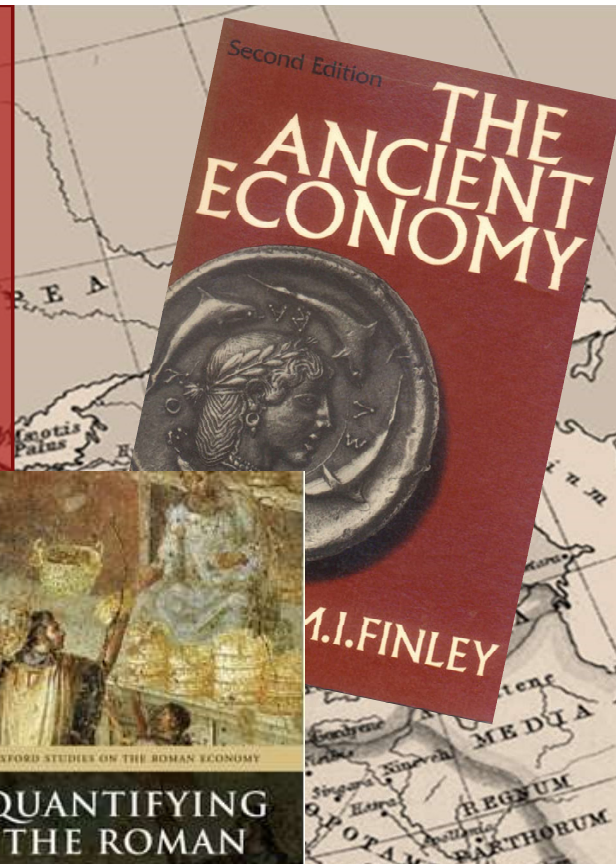
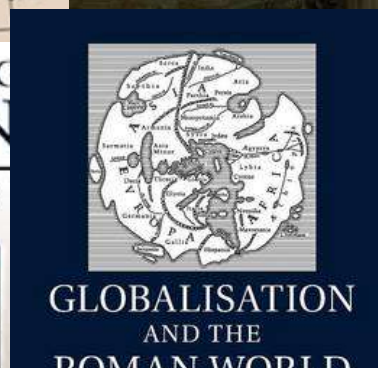
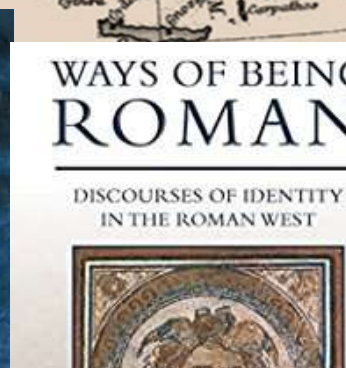
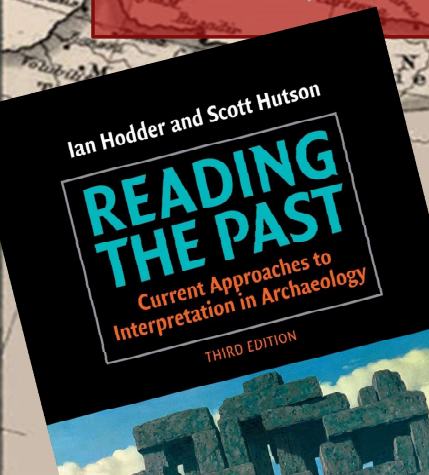
- Asia Minor, Syria, Judaea,
- Roman Egypt, North Africa,....

Different regions / provinces,
Different problems and challenges...

ROMAN EMPIRE
AT ITS GREATEST EXTENT
THIRD CENTURY A.D.
English Miles

Lectures: Methods & Sources

- ▶ Introductions to
 - ▶ Epigraphy / Inscriptions
 - ▶ Numismatics / Coinage / Statistical analysis
 - ▶ Archaeological Evidence
 - ▶ Environmental archaeology, pollen studies, etc.
 - ▶ Theoretical approaches



Bibliography

▶ ON MOODLE



Today: evidence & sources to study ECONOMIC BOOM in the Roman empire, 1st-3rd c.



- ▶ Chronology of boom ...and bust!
- ▶ Question for you:
 - ▶ What sources can we use?
 - ▶ What evidence is there?
 - ▶ Archaeology.
 - ▶ Coinage
 - ▶ Inscriptions
 - ▶ Literary texts
 - ▶ Economic Theory

Question:

Was there an economic boom across the Roman empire?

1st-2nd century AD

