

CLEOPATRA
01:190:318 Spring 2006
Mon, Wed 1:10-2:30 pm (4th Period)
Campbell Hall-A4 CAC

Leah Kronenberg
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Office Hours: Thurs. 3:00-4:00 pm

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Course Description

Who was the “real” Cleopatra? She is one of the most famous women in world history, but the many different conflicting images of her and stories about her life make the “real” Cleopatra an elusive figure. In this course, we will be interested both in the “real” Cleopatra and in the many constructions of Cleopatra in literature, art, and film through the ages. Thus, we will attempt to dispel myths about her life as well as to examine those myths for what they can say about the cultures that created them.

Course Website

The course website is accessible through the WebCT homepage. Go to <https://webct.rutgers.edu> and follow the instructions for logging in as a student. You will need to have a NetID and password to access the website.

Required Texts (available at Rutgers Ferren Mall Bookstore)

1. *Cleopatra*. Michael Grant. 1972.
2. *Cleopatra and Rome*. Diana E. E. Kleiner. Harvard University Press 2005

Note: selected readings will also be assigned which are available on the internet

Grading and Evaluation

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|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Midterm (Feb 27) | 40% |
| 2. Final (Tues May 9, 12-3 pm) | 60% |

Note: I will be strict about providing makeup exams only when there has been a documented emergency situation or other similar type of valid excuse (eg, religious holiday, sickness)

Tentative Schedule (note: readings are due on the day they are listed)

Week 1

Wed Jan 18: Introduction

PART ONE: The Historical Cleopatra

Week 2

Mon Jan 23: The Hellenistic World and the Ptolemies
Read Grant pp 3-29; Kleiner 1-15

Wed Jan 25: The Roman World of the Late Republic
Read Kleiner pp 29-67

Week 3

Mon Jan 30 Cleopatra's First 21 Years
Read Grant: 30-58; Kleiner 16-28

Wed Feb 1 Cleopatra and Caesar: Egypt
Read Grant: 61-82

Week 4

Mon Feb 6 Cleopatra and Caesar: Rome and after Caesar's Death
Read Grant 83-105

Wed Feb 8 Cleopatra and Antony: Summoned and Abandoned by Antony
Read Grant 109-134

Week 5

Mon Feb 13 Cleopatra and Antony: Cleopatra Revives her Kingdom
Read Grant 135-160

Wed Feb 15 Cleopatra and Antony: Queen of Kings
Read Grant 161-181

Week 6

Mon Feb 20 Cleopatra against Rome: Enemy and Actium
Read Grant 185-215

Wed Feb 22 Cleopatra against Rome: Death
Read Grant 216-238

Week 7

Mon Feb 27 **MIDTERM**

PART TWO: Cleopatra in the Literature and Art of Republican Rome

Wed Mar 1 Cleopatra and Augustan Poetry: Horace and Augustan patronage
Read Horace *Epode* 9 and *Ode* 1.37 (internet)

Week 8

Mon Mar 6 Cleopatra and Augustan Poetry: Propertius and elegy
Read Propertius 2.1, 2.15, 2.16, 3.11, 4.6 (internet)

Wed Mar 8 Cleopatra and Augustan Poetry: Virgil's *Aeneid*
Read Book 4, 8.626-731 (internet)

Week 9

Mon Mar 13 **SPRING BREAK**

Wed Mar 15 **SPRING BREAK**

Week 10

Mon Mar 20 Cleopatra and Roman Art: Cleopatra's Building Projects
Read Kleiner 68-101

Wed Mar 22 Cleopatra and Roman Art: Propaganda Wars
Read Kleiner 102-134

Week 11

Mon Mar 27 Cleopatra and Roman Art: Propaganda Wars
Read Kleiner 135-162

Wed Mar 29 Cleopatra and Roman Art: Her Influence on Rome
Read Kleiner 163-199

Week 12

Mon Apr 3 Cleopatra and Roman Art: Her Influence on Rome
Read Kleiner 200-241

Wed Apr 5 Cleopatra and Roman Art: Her Influence on Rome
Read Kleiner 242-282

PART THREE: Cleopatra through the Ages

Week 13

Mon Apr 10 Roman Empire: Plutarch's *Life of Antony*
Read *Life of Antony* (internet)

Wed Apr 12: Roman Empire
Read selections from Lucan, Appian, Suetonius, Dio Cassius (internet)

Week 14

Mon Apr 17 Elizabethan England: Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*
Read *Antony and Cleopatra* (internet)

Wed Apr 19 Elizabethan England: Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*

Week 15

Mon Apr 24 Victorian England: Shaw's *Caesar and Cleopatra*
Read *Caesar and Cleopatra* (internet)

Wed Apr 26 Victorian England: Shaw's *Caesar and Cleopatra*

Week 16

Mon May 1 Modern Cleopatras: Hollywood and Beyond