The Roman Empire

Lifelong Learning course

Winter 2015

Dr. Douglas Kenning

Syllabus

Class 1–2: The Augustan Age, the Principate (27 BCE–192 CE). Augustus “Golden Age” and the Julio-Claudian Dynasty, 14-68 CE; the Flavian Emperors, 69-96 CE; and the Adoptive Emperors 96-192 CE, called the “Silver Age”. Rome as imperial capital, the Empire as a unity.

Class 3: Roman Religion and Philosophy. State religion plus the major cults and mystery religions (Eleusis, Cybele, Isis, Mithras). The major secular schools, including Stoicism, Epicureanism, and Neo-Platonism,


Class 7: Life in the Provinces. Where most folks lived, including Africa, Hispania, Illyria, Asia, Gaul, and Britannia.

Class 8: Empire in decline (after 192 CE), Military revolution and government, the “Barracks Emperors”, the split of Empire, the rise of Christianity, and the end of the Roman Empire in the West.