CLST 360E: UnRoman Romans, Spring 2019, CNERS, University of British Columbia

Instructor: Siobhán McElduff

Assignment I: due in class **January 22**

Value: 10% of your final mark

Length 350-500 words including references.

Select the group or theme you want to address, and, in your own words describe that group, theme, etc., and say what you think connects them. Then talk about what **you** want to achieve and why it would be useful for other students.

**Step I:** Think about what you want to do and what sort of materials you want to work with. Do you:

a. Want to work with material already in the source book adding notes and interpretive material? Maybe you want to create learning objectives and questions to guide students as well?

b. Want to gather more ancient sources and ready them for inclusion in the reader? These could be texts already translated and in the public domain. They could be images in the public domain that will help people better understand the material. If you know Latin, they could even be new translations. (Even if you only have a semester of Latin, you can still translate inscriptions.)

c. Would you prefer to work making this material more accessible? (That could include recording some of it, or even creating interpretive podcasts, to help students with visual challenges, for example.)

**Step II:** Then, in your own words (400-500 of them, to be precise), write up what you want to do in less than and hand it in. You don’t need academic language because whatever you say needs to be understood by students like yourself and should not give them extra challenges. This should include:

1. a brief summary of what you want to do, and what you want to work on
2. a summary of what you think you might need to research to do the above work
3. a summary of the usefulness of this work for the overall aims of the course

**Step III:** In return, I will write a response, which will give you a grade and suggestions for how to proceed. You read those comments and then plan for assignment 2, which will build upon this assignment.

Please note that if your work overlaps closely with what someone else is doing I may ask you to work together so you’re not working on the same material. This does not necessarily mean group work, unless you want to, but you can

**Assignments will be graded on the following areas:**

1. Coherency: What links these things you are going to discuss? How do they connect into some larger picture of Roman society that will help a student understand their world better and understand the complexity and variety of the ancient world?
2. Clarity: How well the project is presented in ways that an undergraduate student would understand. You may model that student on yourself, of course, but at the same time you need to understand that you will have expert knowledge by the end of the course, and any students who picks this up will not know those things unless you tell them.
3. Achievability: Whether your project has a concrete goal and focus and can be reasonably achieved. You should have a specific set of texts, images or something else that you will be working on, and that should be presented clearly and with some sense for how you might go about doing this. (That can be as simple as ‘I will look for more texts on this site, and information about those texts in the *Oxford Classical Dictionary* and Livius.org.) In other words the vaguer and more handwavey your project is, the worse it will score here.

I will post a sample assignment on a fictional group in Rome, so you can get a sense for what this might look like, though obviously you are not bound to my format or presentation.