

# Course Outline: Ancient History in Modern Cinema

## DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

*Note for students: This short course outline is provided for planning purposes only. Course information is tentative and subject to change; the final course syllabus will be available by the first day of classes.*

### Course Code

AP/HIST 3163 3.0 Ancient History in Modern Cinema

### Course Description

This course examines the depiction of the civilizations of the Ancient Near East, Greece, and Rome in film from the birth of cinema to the present. Students are introduced to the historical societies and events (mis)represented in the films studied. A major focus is how modern concerns about gender, race, religion, empire, and nation affect such representations.

### Course Delivery

Delivery Mode: LECT

This is an in-person course. Lectures are scheduled for Thursdays, 2:30–4:20 pm, followed by 50-minute tutorials beginning at either 4:30 or 5:30 pm. There will be an in-person exam during the exam period.

### Course Materials

Example films: *Roman Scandals* (1933); *Gladiator* (2000).

Example reading: Mini, P. (2017), 'Representations of the Christian Female Virtue in Roman Film Epics: *The Sign of the Cross* (1932) and *Quo Vadis* (1951)', in E. Almagor and L. Maurice (eds.), *The Reception of Ancient Virtues and Vices in Modern Popular Culture*, Leiden and New York: Brill, 231–252.

## Tentative Grade Breakdown and Deadlines

Assessment	Weight	Mode	Tentative Deadline
Film Response (1 of 2)	15%	In-person	1 and 22 October
Presentation	15%	Asynchronous (pre-recorded)	Weeks 4 - 10
Essay	25%	Take-home	26 November
Participation	20%	In-person	Weekly
Exam	25%	In-person	Exam Period
	<b>100%</b>		