

Explaining the World

(JS)

Module Code	CLU33211
Module Name	Explaining the World
ECTS Weighting	10 ECTS
Semester taught	Semester 1
Module Coordinator/s	Dr Hannah Mitchell
Module Learning Outcomes with embedded Graduate Attributes	<p>On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:</p> <p>LO1. Demonstrate sound knowledge of the history, geography, culture, and society of the middle Roman Republic and its Mediterranean context.</p> <p>LO2. Analyse critically the primary sources relevant to this module.</p> <p>LO3. Evaluate the major theoretical approaches, debates, and scholarship relevant to the module topic.</p> <p>LO4. Discuss the above, both orally and in writing, in a clear and scholarly manner.</p> <p>LO5. Work effectively in small groups.</p>
Module Content	<p>When Polybius of Megalopolis began to write his <i>Histories</i> in the middle of the second century BCE, he was inspired by the fact that his world – the Mediterranean World – seemed to have been completely transformed in the space of the last fifty-three years (220 – 168/7 BCE). The chief actors were the Romans, who had suddenly and comprehensively exerted their dominance. Polybius said that they had transformed the history of the Mediterranean from a series of independent stories to one universal story: Roman rule.</p> <p>In this module we will examine this time period through the witnesses of this transformation (Polybius, Cato the Elder, Plautus, and others), and through a series of frameworks they applied to try to understand it (religious, cultural, philosophical, and historical). The witnesses not only tried to explain the world as it now was – dominated by Rome – but tried to explain the Romans to the rest of the world. Who were they? How had they succeeded?</p>

	<p>This period raises fascinating questions of cultural interaction and diversity, and of power, justice, and freedom. Through it, we will question how narratives are created and who they serve.</p>																									
<p>Teaching and Learning Methods</p>	<p>This module is taught through twenty-two one-hour lectures and five seminar discussions.</p>																									
<p>Assessment Details¹</p> <p>Please include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment Component • Assessment description • Learning Outcome(s) addressed • % of total • Assessment due date 	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Assessment Component</th> <th>Assessment Description</th> <th>LO Addressed</th> <th>% of total</th> <th>Week due</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.</td> <td>Essay</td> <td>LO1-4</td> <td>20%</td> <td>Week 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.</td> <td>Group Creative Project</td> <td>LO1-5</td> <td>30%</td> <td>As scheduled</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.</td> <td>Written Reflection</td> <td>LO1-4</td> <td>20%</td> <td>Week 12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.</td> <td>Exam (2 hours)</td> <td>LO1-4</td> <td>30%</td> <td>Exam Week</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Assessment Component	Assessment Description	LO Addressed	% of total	Week due	1.	Essay	LO1-4	20%	Week 6	2.	Group Creative Project	LO1-5	30%	As scheduled	3.	Written Reflection	LO1-4	20%	Week 12	4.	Exam (2 hours)	LO1-4	30%	Exam Week
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<p>Reassessment Requirements</p>	<p>Identical to original assessment. Only failed components are reassessed.</p>																									
<p>Contact Hours and Indicative Student Workload</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Contact hours: 27 (22 lectures and 5 seminars)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independent Study (preparation for course and review of materials): 114</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independent Study (preparation for assessment, incl. completion of assessment): 114</td> </tr> </table>	Contact hours: 27 (22 lectures and 5 seminars)	Independent Study (preparation for course and review of materials): 114	Independent Study (preparation for assessment, incl. completion of assessment): 114																						
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¹ [TEP Guidelines on Workload and Assessment](#)

Recommended Reading List	<p>Leigh, M. 2004. <i>Comedy and the Rise of Rome</i>, Oxford.</p> <p>McGing, B.C. 2010. <i>Polybius' Histories</i>, Oxford.</p> <p>Prag, J. & Quin, J. (eds). 2013. <i>The Hellenistic West</i>, Cambridge.</p> <p>Rosenstein, N. 2012. <i>Rome and the Mediterranean 290 to 146 BC: the Imperial Republic</i>, Edinburgh.</p> <p>Sciarrino, E. 2011. <i>Cato the Censor and the Beginnings of Latin prose: From Poetic Translation to Elite Transcription</i>, Ohio.</p>
Module Pre-requisite	<p>N/A</p>
Module Co-requisite	<p>N/A</p>
Module Website	
Are other Schools/Departments involved in the delivery of this module? If yes, please provide details.	<p>No</p>