CC 305: ROMAN PRIVATE LIFE

Required Reading:
- J. Carcopino Daily Life in Ancient Rome
- Petronius The Satyricon (trans. William Arrowsmith)
- Plutarch The Fall of the Roman Republic (trans. Rex Warner)
- Suetonius The Twelve Caesars (trans. Robert Graves)

[Note: I would have preferred to use J. P. V. D. Balsdon. Life and Leisure in Ancient Rome, rather than Carcopino, but it is no longer in print.]

Office Hours:
Waggener 109, MWF 12-1 or by appointment

Plan of Course (by Days):

PREAMBLE
1 Introduction: the nature and aims of the course 1/20
2 The ancient evidence: its nature, extent, and limitations 1/22
3 Some history as background for the period 1/25
4 Time and space 1/27

PART I: THE STATIC SOCIETY AND ITS COMPONENTS
5 Cultures and cultural conditioning 1/29
6 The “Ages of Man”: patterns and expectations 2/1
7 Tradition and progress: forwards or backwards? 2/3
8 Continuity: fathers and family units 2/5
9 Woman as wife and mother 2/8
10 Children and education 2/10
11 Emancipated women and the “jet set” 2/12
12 Sex objects: concubines, courtesans, prostitutes 2/15
13 “Deviants”, homosexual and heterosexual 2/17
14 QUIZ THE FIRST 2/19
15 Legal criteria: slaves, slavery and freedmen 2/22
16 Romans and foreigners: racism and ethnocentrism 2/24

PART II: AS GOOD AS IT GETS
17 The way it was: daily routine 2/26
18 Upper class occupations: senators and knights 3/1
19 The lower classes in the towns: “mobs” and jobs 3/3
20 Houses and Apartments, I: the setting 3/5
21 Houses and Apartments, II: the specifics 3/15
22 The environment and its pollution 3/17
Examination Policy/Requirements

In addition to the final exam, which will be held at its officially scheduled time on the morning of Monday, May 17 and will run for 2 hrs. 15 mins. only (9.00-11.15 a.m.), there will be two quizzes, each one hour long, during the semester (Feb. 19; April 5). A student’s grade for the course will be determined by performance on the quizzes and the final. Each quiz counts for 25%, the final for 50%. I urge you to note that on this system to fail the final is to fail the course. Students will be given essay questions only. Each quiz will require you to answer 2 essays from a choice of 5. On the final examination you will need to answer 3 essays from a choice of seven (45 mins. each).