

Suggested Paper Topics

Roman Law

Autumn, 2021

Wed., 20 Oct.	Archaic procedure
Mon., 25 Oct.	Archaic family <i>or</i> succession <i>or</i> guardianship
Wed., 27 Oct.	Archaic slavery, <i>or</i> patronage, <i>or</i> <i>nexum</i>
Mon., 1 Nov.	Archaic property
Wed., 3 Nov.	Archaic delict <i>or</i> the place of the XII Tables in legal history <i>or</i> could one have predicted that the Romans would be good lawyers?
Mon., 8 Nov.	Classical Marriage and Family Property: <i>manus</i> , <i>or</i> dowry, <i>or</i> the “emancipation of women.”
Wed., 10 Nov.	Classical Delict (<i>lex Aquilia</i>)
Mon., 15 Nov.	The Unspoken Law of Persons: the poor and the praetor <i>or</i> <i>honestiores</i> and <i>humiliores or iniuria</i>
Wed., 17 Nov.	Classical Contract: gratuitous contract <i>or</i> <i>societas</i> (Other possible topics include: sale <i>or</i> the general notion of contract)
Mon., 22 Nov.	Classical Property: lease <i>or</i> servitudes
Mon., 29 Nov.	The Role of General Notions in Classical Law: <i>iusticia</i> , <i>or</i> <i>ius gentium</i> , <i>or</i> <i>ius naturale</i> , <i>or</i> <i>regulae iuris</i>
Wed., 1 Dec.	Roman Jurists and Roman Orators: Was there an “oratorical” understanding of law different from that of the jurists?

To repeat:

- (1) No more than 5 pp. exclusive of notes.
- (2) Analyze one or two *primary sources* leading to an idea.
- (3) First draft to be [emailed](#) to CD on the day on which we cover the topic in class.
- (4) Final draft (on basis of comments and class discussion) [emailed](#) to CD no later than 4:30 p.m. on Fri., 17 Dec.

To add:

- (1) Topic of your choosing but see us if it is outside the above.
- (2) We will be happy to help with bibliography, but the first draft should start with primary sources not with secondary literature. More about this in [Select Bibliography](#).
- (3) Please let CD know by [email](#) what your topic is by class time on Mon., 18 Oct.