DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS - ROYAL HOLLOWAY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

**CL5192 – THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF ROMAN WATER – 2016**

**COURSE TUTOR:** Dr Zena Kamash (office IN148) zena.kamash@rhul.ac.uk

**TEACHING ARRANGEMENTS**

Autumn Term ONLY - 10 weekly 2-hour classes

Day and time: Tuesdays 10-12

Place: Moore 0-06 (Royal Holloway, Egham Campus)

**COURSE SUMMARY**

This course aims to explore the varied roles that water played in ancient lives with a focus on the Roman world. During the course, we will look at the various technologies that were employed in the capture, supply and management of water in the ancient world, examining both the technological and social implications of these methods. In the first part of the course, we will investigate the key technologies (e.g. aqueducts, dams, reservoirs, bathhouses) in both rural and urban settings via a series of in-depth case studies of particular sites and regions. In the second part of the course, we will explore the social meanings behind these technological choices, drawing on material from Anthropology and Science and Technology Studies, and setting them within e.g. the wider context of debates on the ancient economy and supposed technological stagnation in the ancient world.

**AIMS**

This course aims to introduce you to, and provide opportunities for you to explore:

* The range of sources of evidence relevant to the archaeology of water
* Issues and problems of interpretation relating to the archaeology of water
* Key debates in the archaeology of water and technology.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

* Identify the main water technologies in the ancient world
* Discuss the technological challenges faced by people in the ancient world
* Discuss the social implications of technological choices
* Show an awareness of the key sites and archaeological examples of water technology in the ancient world
* Show an awareness of the main theoretical debates in understanding modern technologies and how these apply to the ancient world
* Show an awareness of how the archaeology of water can inform other archaeological debates.

**COURSEWORK and ASSESSMENT**

***Final assessment*** is via a 5000-word essay on a topic of your choice. You will discuss your title and topic in advance with Dr Kamash and submit a formative essay plan of 1000 words.

You will also be expected to make regular contributions to classes via presentations and general group discussion.