



## Course Outline

<b>Course number</b>	RBE335				
<b>Course title</b>	Roman Law				
<b>Credit points</b>	3 ECTS (2 LV)				
<b>Total hours</b>	80				
<b>Contact hours</b>	32				
<b>Independent studies</b>	48				
<b>Course level</b>	Bachelor				
<b>Prerequisites</b>	n/a				
<b>Category</b>	Mandatory		Restricted elective	X	Free elective

### COURSE RESPONSIBLE

<b>Name</b>	<b>Academic degree</b>	<b>Academic position</b>
Tjaco Theo van den Hout	LLM (Leiden)	Visiting lecturer

### COURSE TEACHERS

<b>Name</b>	<b>Academic degree</b>	<b>Academic position</b>
Tjaco Theo van den Hout	LLM (Leiden)	Visiting lecturer

### COURSE ABSTRACT

This course offers students an introduction to Roman law. It covers the Roman legal system, the law of persons, the law of property and inheritance as well as the law of obligations. The course concludes with a reflection on Roman law and the modern world, focusing in particular on the legacy of Justinian's codification of Roman Law in the 'Dark Ages' and Roman Law's second life. In this respect, it addresses the ways in which the historical evolution of modern systems has been affected by Roman law.

In the final pages of his masterpiece *Roman Law in European History* (see under course literature below) Peter Stein writes: "When, after the collapse of communism, the countries of Eastern Europe were concerned to re-establish their credentials as participants in the tradition of Western legal culture, they revived the study of Roman law and gave it more prominence in the curricula of law faculties." This course is an attempt to fill that particular lacuna in RGSL's Bachelor's Programme.

## GRADING CRITERIA

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
Homework/assignments and class participation (a)	20%
Quizzes (b)	30%
Final exam (c)	50%

Homework/assignments and class participation constitute the first grading criterion. They are interconnected. Assignments should be submitted within stated deadlines and have been purposely scheduled *before* the lecture in question. A student's class participation is, therefore, to a large extent, a function of (the quality of) his/hers timely (!) submission. The grades for each of the two components are on a scale between 0 and 10. They are then added together. Students can acquire a maximum of 20 points (a).

Quizzes are timed online tests taken periodically over the duration of the course, immediately after the teaching of a particular topic has been completed, e.g. sources of Roman law; litigation; Roman law of persons; Roman law of property; Roman law of obligations; etc. This criterion ensures that there is an objective metric to test the student's knowledge during the course. After completion of each quiz, the student will see his/her score in real-time. These topic-based quizzes are an important tool in assisting students in their studies. The average of a student's quiz scores is converted to a number between 0 and 30. Students can achieve a maximum of 30 points.

The Final Exam is the third grading criterion and has a weight of 50% of the course grade. The Exam is broad in scope and its questions cover all the topics dealt with in reading materials and lectures over the duration of the course from beginning to end. Given the broad scope, the questions are of the multiple-choice variety. The Exam consists of approximately 100 questions for which students will have 90 minute to complete. Their exam score is on a scale of 0 to 10 and converted to a number between 0 and 50. Students can acquire a maximum of 50 points.

Course grade =  $a+b+c$

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Given the nature of this course, class attendance is, in principle, mandatory. Class participation is assured by continuously monitoring online submissions of homework assignments given in preparation for the next lecture. Quality of class participation is measured by calling on individual students in **the** class to address a particular issue covered in the reading materials or previously covered in class. Whether in class or online, the approach is the same. To pass this course, students are required to have satisfactory grades for 1) class preparation and participation, 2) the quizzes and 3) the final exam. Students who have unsatisfactory grade for class preparation and participation (determined by the teacher) are not allowed to sit for the final exam.

**COURSE PLAN – MAIN SUBJECTS**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Main subjects</b>	<b>Planned hours</b>
1	Introduction to the course; course requirements	2
2	Sources of Roman law; litigation	4
3	Roman law of persons	4
4	Roman law of property	6
5	Roman law of obligations	4
6	European ius commune	4
7	Roman Law's effect on existing legal systems	4
8	Recap, classroom exercises, tests and writing; preparation for final exam	4