The Edge of Empire: The Archaeology of Roman Frontiers

Hadrian’s wall is one of the best known monuments of the Roman empire, but was it a frontier? This module will address the various aspects of the Roman empire’s boundaries, be they physical, political, economic, ideological, cultural, military, symbolic, territorial, or combinations thereof. The purpose of this module is to introduce students to the major intellectual themes in the study of Roman frontiers.

The syllabus adopts a thematic approach to the topic in order to build a strong and detailed knowledge of relevant case studies and archaeological sites near the edges of the Roman empire. This module is grounded in a strong theoretical framework, including approaches from the fields of history and anthropology, and will also encourage students to deal with material from outside Roman territory in order to address questions of interaction across frontiers and how we might better assess Roman relations with those outside their direct control.

**Recommended reading**