

**Rome and the Mediterranean**  
**Dr E Bispham**  
**TT 2024**

**1. Laying the Ghost of Holleaux**

This lecture sets out to question the importance of the First Illyrian War as representing the 'beginnings' of Roman imperial expansion (as per Polybios), by looking at the evidence for Roman presence and connectivity in the Mediterranean in the fourth and third centuries BC, military, diplomatic and cultural, and at how Greeks saw Italians and Romans in this period.

**2. Provinces**

This lecture looks at what provinces were, how the meaning of the term changed over time (and has been reviewed in scholarship); at how provinces came to be, and what we can infer about their changing purposes; and what the responsibilities of the governor were.

**3. *Negotiatires***

This lecture looks at the evidence for the presence and activities of Roman businessmen in the Mediterranean, on Delos but also elsewhere in the Greek East; and at the nature and impact of the business conducted, and assesses the relative importance of the impacts of commercial vs military imperialism.

**4. *Publicani***

This lecture looks at three contexts in which *publicani* impacted on the autonomy, political life and economic activities of provincial communities in Asia Minor, especially Termessos; Pergamon and the province of Asia as a whole, via the *lex portorii Asiae*.