Biography

Ray Laurence is Professor of Ancient History at Macquarie University (Australia), previous to his move to Macquarie University – he was Professor of Roman History and Archaeology at the University of Kent (UK). His work based in Archaeology, History and Classics is characterised by a cross-disciplinary aspect that causes it to be accessible to architects, landscape historians, geographers and urbanists. He has published books and articles on urbanism at Pompeii and across the Western half of the Roman Empire.

His research falls into three areas:

The Roman City

Communications and Mobility – especially Roman roads

Age and Ageing in the Roman World

Top 5 Publications on the Roman City


Top 5 Publications on Communications and Mobility


Top 5 Publications on Age and Ageing in the Roman World


He has also been involved in the production of animated films based on his research.

Research outputs

Mediterranean timescapes: chronological age and cultural practice in the Roman empire
A cultural history of shopping: in antiquity

Children and public space in early Imperial Rome

Home and family

Introduction

What was it like to be old in ancient Rome?

Roads and communications

都市のリスク管理

HHpXRF study of recent zinc and lead pollution on lava stepping stones from Pompeii: tourist footfall, tyre dust and leaded petrol

The Temple of Peace in Rome
Laurence, R., Jul 2020, In: American Journal of Archaeology. 124, 3

City Walls in Late Antiquity: an empire wide perspective

Ostia between Rome and the world

Shops and shopping in ancient Ostia

Streets, gates, and traffic in ancient Ostia

The local and the global: the use of formulae in the epitaphs of Ostia
The meaning of roads: a reinterpretation of the Roman Empire

Vixit Annos: mortality, childhood, and disease at Ostia

The fortifications of Pompeii and ancient Italy

The Roman retail revolution: the socio-economic world of the Taberna

MQ Ancient History: City of Rome Blog
Coopey, E., Jones, J., Twyford, O. & Laurence, R., 25 Feb 2019

City boundaries and urban development in Roman Italy

From research on Roman history to cartoons and outreach in UK schools

Ostia Rooman ja maailman välissä
Trajan's Forum (Hemicycle) and the Via Biberatica (Trajan's Markets): an HHpXRF study of the provenance of lava paving in Ancient Rome (Italy)

Teen life in Ancient Rome
Laurence, R., 21 Nov 2018

Teen life in Ancient Rome: part 2
Laurence, R., 21 Nov 2018

Animation, history and university research

Trade and taboo: disreputable professions in the Roman Mediterranean

Blog: Teaching Roman daily life through animation: spotlight on Ray Laurence

Review: Rome: City and Empire at the National Museum of Australia

The Traffic Systems of Pompeii
Laurence, R., Apr 2018, In: American Journal of Archaeology. 122, 2

Life on the Streets of Pompeii
Laurence, R., 14 Mar 2018

The Economy of Pompeii
Laurence, R., Jan 2018, In: American Journal of Archaeology. 122, 1

Roman geographies of the Nile: from the Late Republic to the Early Empire

Geochemical methods for sourcing lava paving stones from the Roman roads of Central Italy

Augustus senex: old age and the remaking of the Principate

Creating believable worlds
Laurence, R., 13 Sep 2017, Lucius’ Romans.

A father’s advice – Cicero De Officiis (On Duties)
Laurence, R., 13 Aug 2017, Lucius’ Romans.

A day in the life of a Roman client
Laurence, R., James, M. & Powell, K., 14 Apr 2017

Children and the urban environment: agency in Pompeii
Growing up in Pompeii: Roman childhood and adolescence

The sounds of the city: from noise to silence in ancient Rome

Review of The Roman Forum: A Reconstruction and Architectural Guide

Stationes

How immigration shaped Britain part 1
Laurence, R., Anderson, J. & Eckardt, H., 2 Feb 2016

Pompeii and the ager pompeianus

Ancient roads take the lead

Ancient Rome: mobility in Europe's first metropolis

Connectivity, roads and transport: essays on Roman roads to speak to other disciplines?

Callejeros: La circulación y la vida a pie de calle en la capital
Laurence, R., Aug 2015, Arqueologia e Historia, 2.

Age, agency and disability: Suetonius and the emperors of the first century CE

Bread and circuses: urbanism and pleasure in Ancient Rome

Towards a history of mobility in Ancient Rome (300 BCE to 100 CE)

Roman Nursing Goddess – the Dea Nutrix
Laurence, R., 8 Sep 2014

The global and the local in the Roman Empire: connectivity and mobility from an urban perspective

Streets and facades

Turismo e Romanità: uma nova visão de Pompeia (1924-1942)

Written space

Four sisters in ancient Rome
Laurence, R., 14 May 2013

Roads and bridges

Planning and Environment

Review of Life and Death in Pompeii and Herculaneum

Slaves and children in a Roman villa: writing and space in the villa of San Marco at Stabiae

Writing in public space from child to adult: the meaning of graffiti

Written Space in the Latin West, 200 BC to AD 300

A glimpse of teenage life in ancient Rome
Laurence, R., 29 Oct 2012

Investigating the emperor's toga: privileging images on Roman coins

Families in the Greco-Roman world

Introduction from Oikos to Familia: Looking forward?
Review of The Formation of Roman Urbanism 338–200 B.C.: Between Contemporary Foreign Influence and Roman Tradition

Rivers

Roman archaeology for historians

'Vixit plus minus'. Commemorating the Age of the Dead: towards a familial Roman life course?

The city in the Roman West, c. 250 BC – c. AD 250

Traffic and land transportation in and near Rome

Endpiece: From movement to mobility : future directions

Literature and the spatial turn: movement and space in Martial's Epigrams

Review of the Roman Wedding: Ritual and Meaning in Antiquity

Rome, Ostia, Pompeii: movement and space

Sculpture, text and recall: the monument to Viscountess Harriet Fitzharris (Christchurch priory, Dorset)

Viewing the old: recording and respecting the elderly at Rome and in the empire

A cultural history of childhood and family in antiquity

Betrothal, mid-late childhood and the life course
Community

De Amicitia: the role of age

Introduction

World Contexts

From quarry to road: the supply of basalt for road paving in the Tiber Valley

Observing Pompeii and its archaeologists in a re-invented guidebook

Reading Death in Ancient Rome

Roman passions: a history of pleasure in Imperial Rome

City traffic and the archaeology of Roman streets from Pompeii to Rome

Review of Pupils, Teachers and Schools in Pompeii

Review of Traffic and Congestion in the Roman Empire

The Longue Durée of Childhood

The Insula of the Menander

The representation of age: towards a life course approach

The Roman empire: Rome and its environs in the year 300 CE
Age and ageing in the Roman Empire  
(Journal of Roman archaeology. Supplementary series; no. 65)

Gender, age, and identity: the female life course at Pompeii  

Introduction: age and ageing in the Roman Empire  

Italy in the Early Empire  

Past, present and future in the study of Roman childhood  

Roman theatres  

Roman pompeii: space and society  

Tourism and Romanità: a new vision of Pompeii (1924-1942)  

Childhood in the Roman Empire  

Health and the life course at Herculaneum and Pompeii  

A pompeii sourcebook  

Pompeii: the living city  

Romans on the bay of naples  

The organization of space in Pompeii  

The uneasy dialogue between ancient history and archaeology  
Milestones, communications, and political stability

The economic exploitation of geological resources in the Tiber Valley: road building

The pompeian tradition

Old age in ancient Rome

The metropolis in the mediterranean

Growing up and growing old in ancient Rome: a life course approach

The celts and Roman Italy

The sea in history

Roman narratives: the writing of archaeological discourse - a view from Britain?

The Longue Durée of the Mediterranean

The Roman urban revolution

Travel and geography in the Roman Empire

Metaphors, monuments and texts: The life course in Roman culture

The image of the Roman city

Hugh Last Award: Land transport in Roman Italy

Power and laughter: Imperial dicta
Roman ostia revisited

The City in Time and Space

The roads of Roman Italy: mobility and cultural change

Tourism, town planning and romanitas: Rimini's Roman heritage

Cultural identity in the Roman Empire

Religion at ostia

Domestic space in the Roman world: Pompeii and beyond

History and female power at Rome

Writing the Roman metropolis

Ritual, landscape and the destruction of place in the Roman imagination

Ritual, time and power in ancient Rome

The organization of space in Pompeii

Modern ideology and the creation of ancient town planning

Roman Pompeii: space and society

Rumour and communication in Roman politics
Urban renewal in Roman Italy: the limits to change

Emperors, nature and the city: Rome’s ritual landscape

The urban vicus: the spatial organisation of power in the Roman city

Prizes

Longman-History Today Next Generation Prize
Laurence, Ray (Recipient) & Butterworth, A. (Recipient), 2006

MQ Incubator Research Impact Course Prize ($20,000)
Laurence, Ray (Recipient), 26 Oct 2022

Routledge Ancient History Prize
Laurence, Ray (Recipient), 1994

Teaching Prize
Laurence, Ray (Recipient), 2015