

FINAL EXAM

Important! General Instructions

- Each answer should consist of your assertion in response to the question; brief but specific examples from the semester’s material that support your assertion; and your discussion of what those examples show. Your examples may come from the textbook, the Reader, your research, videos, and class discussion.
- Try to make clear where your examples come from (e.g., “according to the reading from Plutarch we were assigned, Caesar...”) and from which period (“During the Republic, the patricians...”).
- Do not copy anything from anywhere unless it is in quotes, brief, used in the examples part of your answer only, and its origin clearly indicated. **All assertions and discussion need to be yours alone.** Any plagiarism will result in a zero on this exam and possible additional disciplinary action by the College. No bibliography or formal citations are needed, but information and ideas that are not yours must be noted as such, and used only in the examples.
- Please read the instructions for each section before answering.
- Return your exam response as a Word or PDF file to mark.wilson@lehman.cuny.edu **no later than May 26.**

A. Identification and Impact

Instructions: For each answer, provide both of the following: (a) a brief, one-sentence definition of the term or description of the person, including place and period, and (b) a brief but specific discussion of its importance or impact, especially as it relates to Roman culture, with examples.

▶ ANSWER ONLY	4
▶ LENGTH EACH	125-150 words
▶ POINTS EACH	10

currency debasement

numen

freedman

proconsul

Gaius Marius

Sack of Syracuse

imperium

second settlement

Lucretia

Sol Invictus

mos maiorum

Vespasian

Extra Credit: For extra credit you may answer one additional item from section A.

Answer only 4 or 5. More than that will not be read or graded. Each answer should be around 125-150 words.

B. Essay

Instructions: Make an argument, supported by evidence from class readings, your own research, videos, and class discussion. Be sure to consider social, religious, economic, military, political, and cultural factors in your answers.

All questions pertain to the entire course, from the founding of Rome through the fall of the Western Empire.

IMPORTANT: ALL ASSERTIONS MUST BE SUPPORTED BY SPECIFIC EVIDENCE. Each essay should have at least three concrete examples, which you should describe, then discuss.

▶ ANSWER ONLY	2
▶ LENGTH EACH	350-450 words
▶ POINTS EACH	30

1. Discuss Cato the Elder's refrain, *Carthago delenda est*. Did Carthage really have to be destroyed?
Discuss the nature of the conflict between Carthage and Rome and make an argument about the necessity of the Punic Wars, especially the third and last, using specific examples. DO NOT simply narrate the history; rather, make an argument using specific moments and events from the history as illustrations of your analysis.
2. Rome started out as a collection of huts on an obscure hill far from the ancient heart of Mediterranean civilization, one of countless rustic villages in Italy. Yet in a few short centuries it came to dominate the Mediterranean world and all its peoples. Why Rome? What were the secrets of Rome's success?
Make an argument presenting what you believe to be the three most important factors in bringing about Rome's dominion, using specific examples of each.
3. Was the Republic's collapse caused by the acquisition of empire, or were other factors more important?
Describe and discuss the three most important causes of the Roman Revolution of 133-27 BCE and make an argument about the extent to which each can be traced to the development of empire.
Be specific and give specific examples.
4. Augustus claimed that he had not ended the Republic; he had restored it. Do you agree?
Discuss the nature of Augustus's rule and of the principate in the context of the ideals and reality of the Republic and make a three-part argument regarding the extent to which Augustus was justified in his claim. *Be specific and give specific examples.*
5. The historian Gibbon said that it was not remarkable that the Roman Empire fell; it was remarkable that it stayed together. What did he mean, and do you agree?
Discuss what you consider to be the three most important or most interesting forces holding the Empire together, and how these relate to the most important forces that pulled it apart in the West. Did the Empire contain the seeds of its own dissolution, or did outside pressures do it in? *Be specific and give specific examples.*
6. Christianization came shortly after a period of intense turmoil for the Empire (the third century crisis). At the same time, the Empire entered a new era of stability. Is this coincidence?
Discuss the nature and the various impacts of Christianization in light of the role of religion throughout Roman history, and in terms of Christianity's effect on the power, stability, and culture of the later Roman Empire. How did Rome and Christianity affect each other? *Be specific and give specific examples.*
7. Write your own essay question, dealing with a comprehensive aspect of the entire course, and answer it, providing a compelling three-sided argument supported by specific examples.

Answer only 2. More than that will not be read or graded. Each answer should be around 350-450 words.