



Women in Antiquity
SPRING 2025

MEETING 11

The Roman Aristocratic Matron

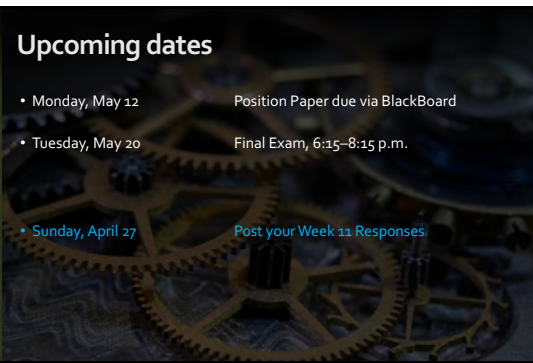
- Roman timeline
- Patricians and plebeians
- The Roman matron
- Capture of the Sabine Women
- The Rape of Lucretia



1

Upcoming dates

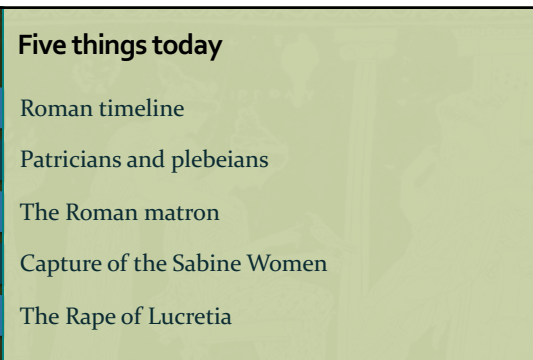
- Monday, May 12 Position Paper due via BlackBoard
- Tuesday, May 20 Final Exam, 6:15–8:15 p.m.
- Sunday, April 27 Post your Week 11 Responses



2

Five things today

- Roman timeline
- Patricians and plebeians
- The Roman matron
- Capture of the Sabine Women
- The Rape of Lucretia



3



4

Quiz #8: The Roman Aristocratic Matron

1. Most Roman upper-class women married in their teens, but the birth rate among patricians remained low. Reasons for this include all of the following **EXCEPT**:

- a. Arranged marriages were standard for the nobility, leading to ineffective couples and high parties tending to lovers and adultery.
- b. Roman women are thought to have been less fertile than other nations, producing fewer eggs.
- c. Mothers died during childbirth often enough that families had a shorter lifespan overall.
- d. Roman married couples (and adulterers) practiced contraception and, if necessary, abortion to prevent unwanted children.

2. According to the story related by Livy in "The Capture of the Sabine Women," after being abducted, the Sabine women:

- a. angrily called their fathers and brothers to war and called on them to destroy the Romans.
- b. appealed to the gods for Rome to be obliterated.
- c. watched in horror as the Roman and Sabine men slaughtered each other, preventing battle between their old families and the Romans, saying their duty was now to Rome.

3. In "The Rape of Lucretia," Lucretia is killed by:

- a. the king's son, Sextus Tarquinius.
- b. the enraged matron, Brutus.
- c. the disgraced husband, Collatinus.
- d. Lucretia herself.

4C. Why did the king's son, Sextus Tarquinius, decide to rape Lucretia? W by her specifically?

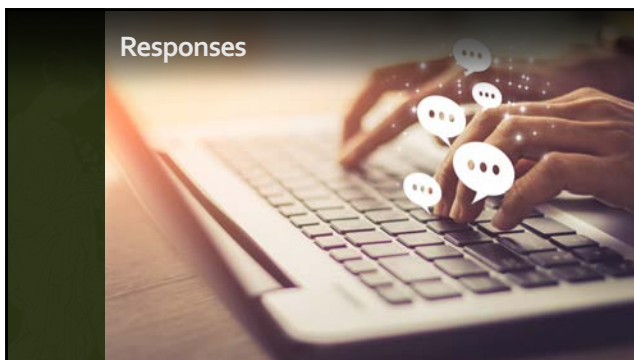
4. Marriage with matrons:

- a. transferred guardianship from the wife's paterfamilias to the husband's.
- b. was the traditional, conservative form and was increasingly uncommon in the Roman Republic.
- c. could be postponed by sleeping these consecutive nights outside the husband's home.
- d. all of the above.

5. The idealized matron Cornelia was famous for all of the following **EXCEPT**:

- a. After becoming widowed, she remarried to a Patruus, becoming Egyptian royalty.
- b. She was admired for being independent, cultured, self-assured, and devoted to her children's education.
- c. She took pride in being the daughter of Scipio Africanus, who deflected demand.
- d. She bore six children, two of whom grew up to be important political figures.

5



6

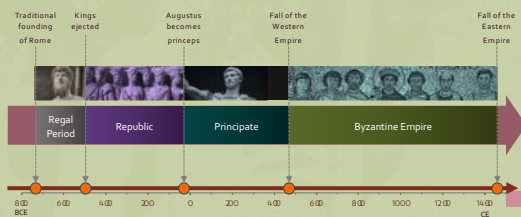
Questions about whatever

7

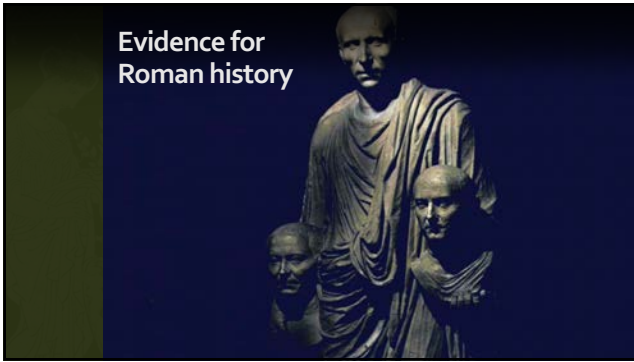
The Romans

8

Periods of Roman history



9



10



11



12



13



14



15

Magna Graecia



16

Etruscans

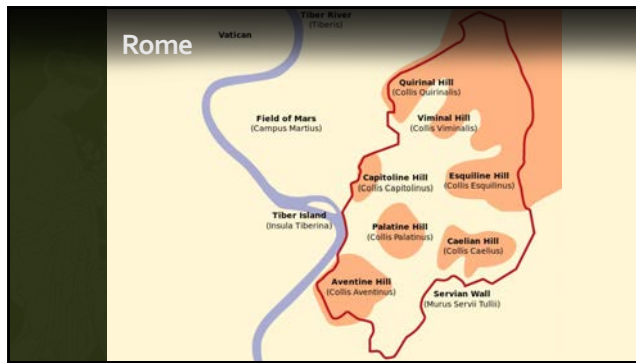


17

Etruscan religion



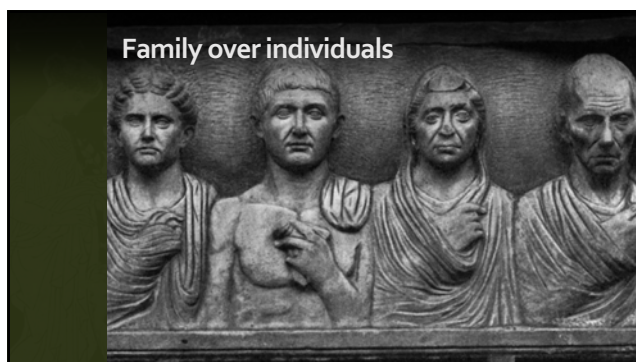
18



19



20



21

Roman names

C. **IVLIVS** C.F. C.N. CAESAR IMP.

praenomen nomen filiation
(formal records) cognomen

22

Passing the family name

C. OCTAVIVS C.F.

↓

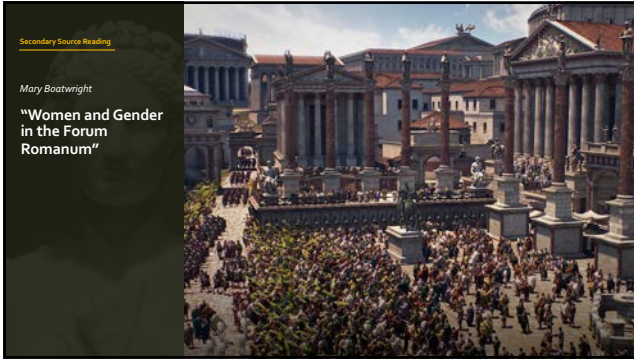
C. IVLIVS C.F. CAESAR
OCTAVIANVS

23

Female names

IVLIA

24



25



26



27

Children



28

Slaves and freedmen

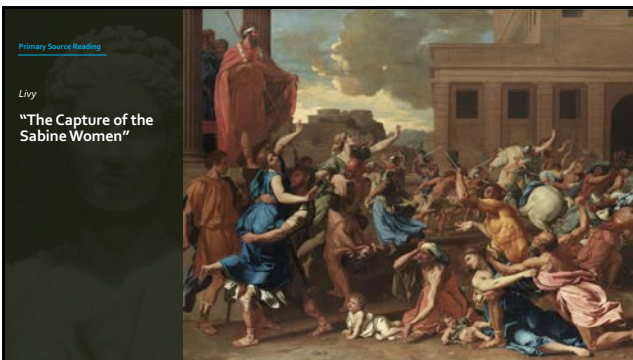


29

Primary Source Reading

Livy

"The Capture of the Sabine Women"



30



31



32



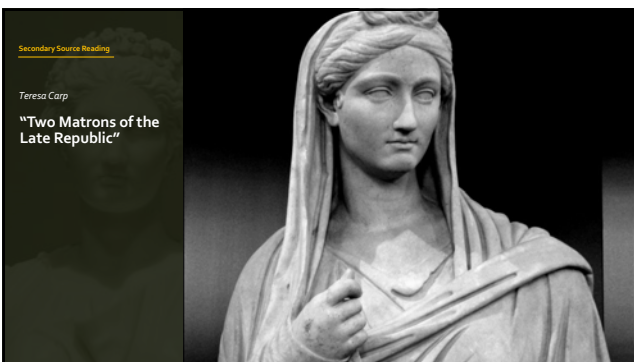
33



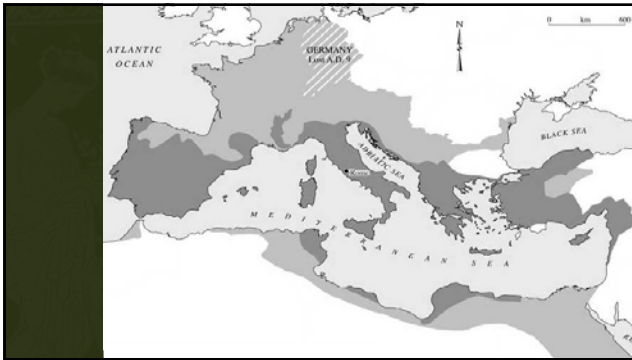
34



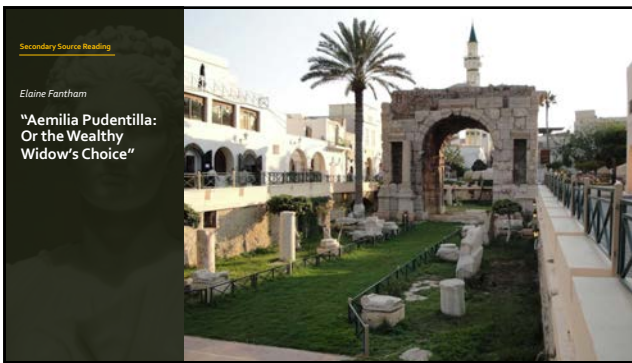
35



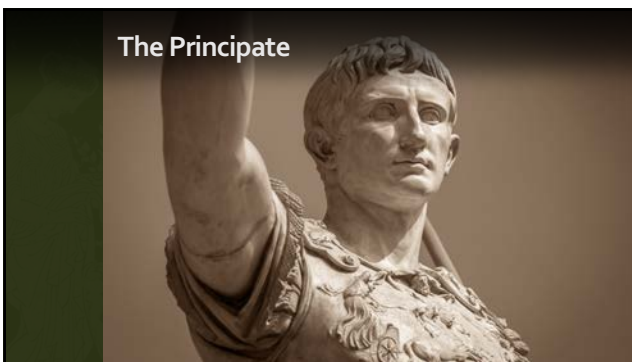
36



37



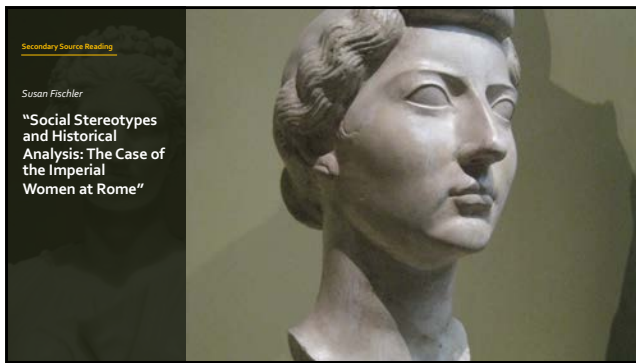
38



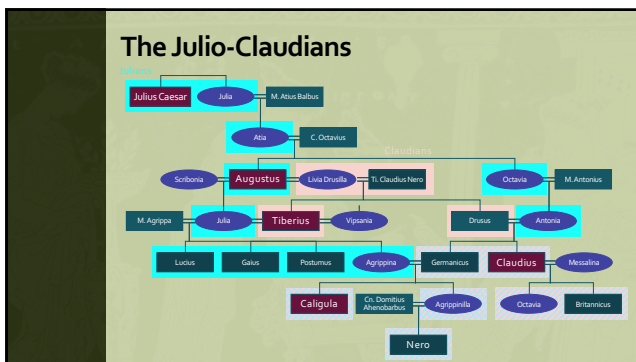
39



40



41



42



43



44
