



The Republican Crisis

Civilizations of the Ancient World | Meeting #24

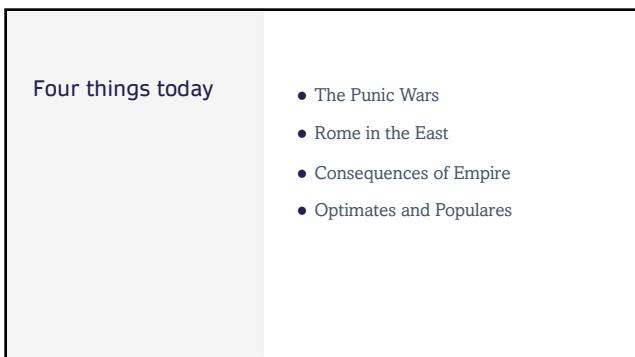
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Upcoming Dates

- Monday, December 8
Images Essay Due
- Tuesday, December 16
Images Essay Due
- Sunday, November 30
Responses for Week 14 Due

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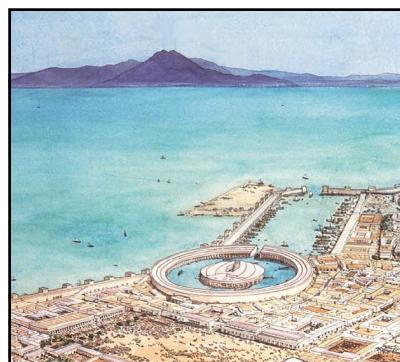
Questions about whatever



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The Punic Wars

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Carthage

- Phoenician colony founded in 8th century BCE
- Huge advantages of location
 - Natural harbors for wharfs and shipbuilding
 - Commands the strait between Africa and Sicily

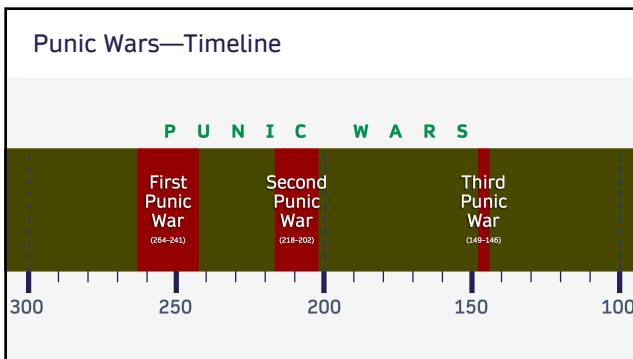
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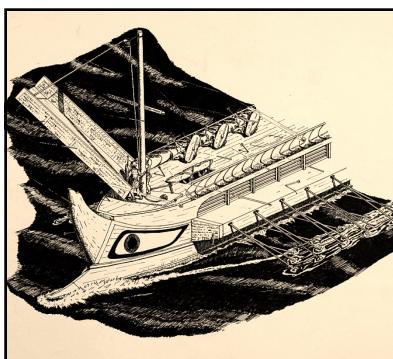
Sicily

- Strategic location for Western Mediterranean trade
- Especially fertile agriculturally
 - Both Carthage and Rome expanding in numbers and territories
 - Both want Sicily's grain

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First Punic War

- Rome forced to become a sea power
- Legacies
 - Rome survives through adaptation by becoming a sea power
 - Rome now an international power on par with Carthage
 - Rome must now administer foreign conquered territory

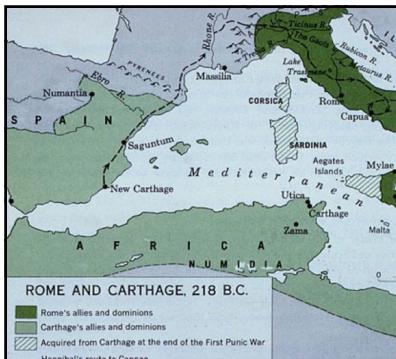
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Second Punic War

- Punitive terms of the peace open the way for the Second Punic war
- Younger generation in Carthage raised focused on revenge

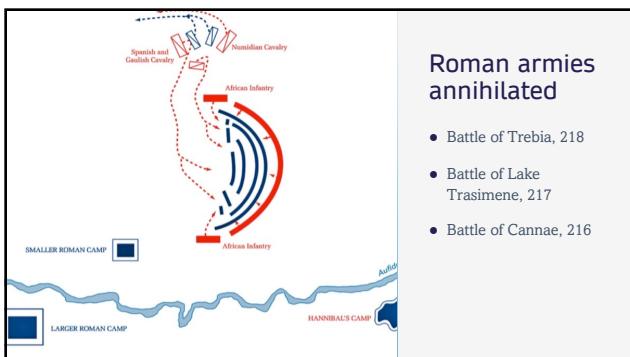
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Carthage and Rome in Spain

- Carthage and Rome both expanding into Spain
- Treaty of the Ebro defines Roman and Carthaginian territories
- Rome intervenes in Saguntum
- Carthage declares war
 - Hannibal gathers armies to invade Italy

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Roman armies annihilated

- Battle of Trebia, 218
- Battle of Lake Trasimene, 217
- Battle of Cannae, 216

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Sack of Syracuse, 212

- Syracuse in Sicily allies with Carthage
- Romans blockade and besiege
- Fended off by Archimedes
- Romans sack the city
 - Archimedes killed
 - Wealth of Syracuse displayed in triumph

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Scipio and the Battle of Zama

- Roman strategy of defending Rome not enough
- Scipio argues they must attack Carthage
- Carthage utterly defeated at Zama

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Third Punic War

- Existence of Carthage still feels like a threat
- “Carthago delenda est” (Carthage must be destroyed)
- After 50 years, Romans invade Carthage
 - Carthage destroyed
 - Becomes Roman province of Africa

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Roman Wars in the East

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The Hellenistic east



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A marble bust of a Roman soldier, showing a realistic and somewhat stern expression. He is shirtless, with his right arm resting on his shoulder and his left arm bent at the elbow.

Rome in the east

- Control of the west a head-to-head struggle with Carthage
- In the east, Rome gains influence slowly as a friend and ally
- Greek cities chafing under Hellenistic empires empowered by having an external ally

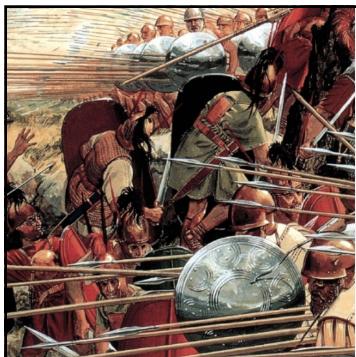
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In Greece: Liberator and destroyer

- With some, Rome is a friendly supporter and an external power
- For others, Rome is a fearsome enemy
- Corinth destroyed as an example

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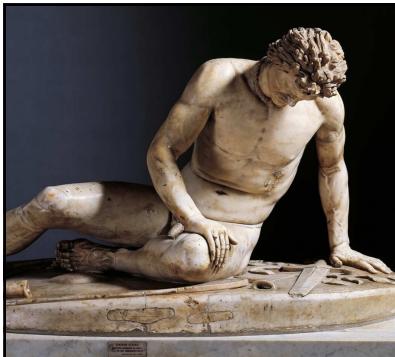
Defeating the Hellenistic empires

- Battle of Magnesia (190)
 - Defeat of the Seleucid Empire
- Line in the sand (168)
 - Antiochus stopped from taking Egypt
- Battle of Pydna (168)
 - Defeat of Macedon
- Destruction of Corinth (146)

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The Consequences of Empire

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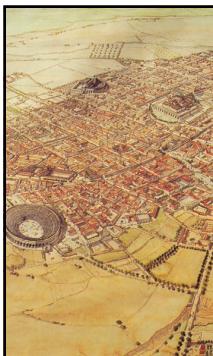
Hellenization

- Romans now ruling over a culturally more advanced society
- Consciously adopts Greek language and art
- By Caesar's time, to be an educated Roman is to speak Greek and quote Homer

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The problem of the provinces

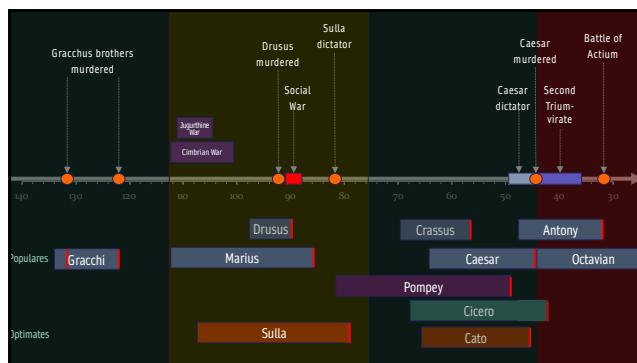
- Must be governed, but the Republic has no such officials
 - Consuls and praetors have their imperium extended
 - Sent out as governors (called **proconsuls** and **propraetors**)
- Promagistrates inherently undermine Republican principles
 - No colleague
 - Left in place for years
 - In command of a legion
 - No staff, so must rely on local nobles
- Provinces must be taxed, but no one to do that either
 - Tax collection outsourced to profit-seeking corporations, the **publicani**
 - Publicani gouge provinces for as much as they can
 - Hand over the amount senate asked for and keeps the rest
- The Republic is the government of the city-state of Rome
 - Not designed to handle the administration of anything outside Rome

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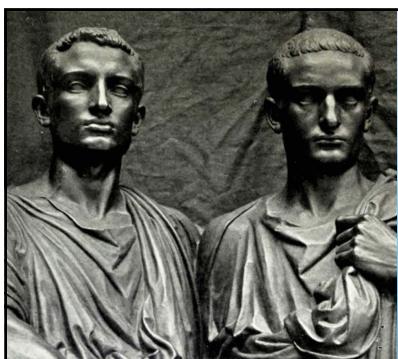
Divisions within the nobility



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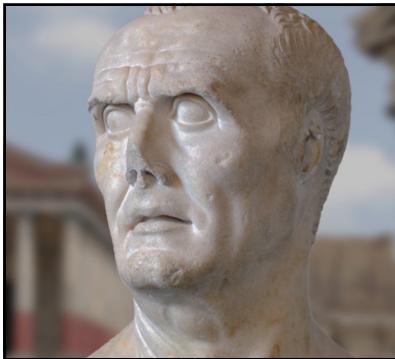
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The brothers Gracchus

- Firebrand tribunes of the plebs
- Land bill infuriates elite
 - Need more soldiers who meet the minimum property requirement
 - Public land held illegally in vast estates owned by the wealthy elite
 - Bill to distribute land to poor Roman citizens hugely popular
 - Gracchus brothers snub the senate
- Both brutally murdered with their followers
 - Tiberius Gracchus killed by a mob of angry conservative senators
 - Gaius Gracchus declared an insurrectionist, hunted down and killed

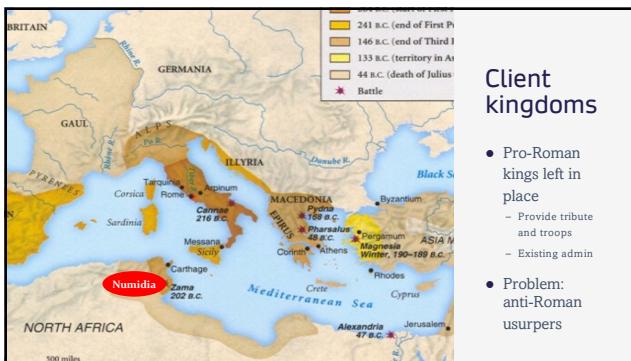
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Gaius Marius

- Outstanding general and passionately populist
- Constantly argues that an elite empowered by privilege endangers Rome

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Client kingdoms

- Pro-Roman kings left in place
 - Provide tribute and troops
 - Existing admin
- Problem: anti-Roman usurpers

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Jugurthine War

- Jugurtha takes throne, massacres Romans in Numidia
- Rome struggles to fight Jugurtha under optimate commanders
- Marius elected consul as populist, takes command, and instantly ends the war

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The map shows the movement of the Cimbri and Teutones tribes through Gaul and into Italy. It includes labels for Jutland, Arausio, Vercellae, and Noreia. A legend indicates: Red dot = Origin, Red X = Defeat, Green X = Victory.

Cimbri and Teutones

- Massive Germanic tribes pushing into Roman territory
- Romans lose disastrously under optimiate leadership at the **Battle of Arausio** (105 BCE)
- Populists: proof Marius was right!
- People demand Marius be put in charge of the war

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The image shows two silver coins from the Social War. The left coin features a profile of a woman and the word 'ITALIA'. The right coin shows two figures under a canopy, with the letter 'P' below it.

Social War

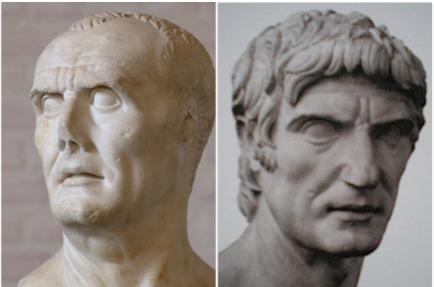
- Italians fed up with Roman repression
 - Fight as equals in legions — Peltast in battle at Arausio
 - Driving force in Rome's economic power — Rome robs the benefits
 - Denied the citizenship of Rome
- Form confederation and declare war
- Advantages:
 - Trained in Roman tactics and formations
 - Surround Rome
- Disadvantages:
 - Weak leadership
 - Nothing in common but hatred of Rome
- Rome loses several battles
- Offers citizenship to those who lay down arms
 - Surrendering Italics given partial citizenship
 - Those nations who refuse are slaughtered

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Rome and Mithridates

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Marius and Sulla



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Sulla marches on Rome

- Sulla is consul, receives the command against Mithridates
- Populists demand Marius be put in charge
- Riots in Rome
- Sulla marches on Rome to restore order
 - First time a Roman general leads his army against Rome itself
 - Sulla's troops cross the sacred boundary and enter Rome at arms
- Sulla then leaves to fight Mithridates

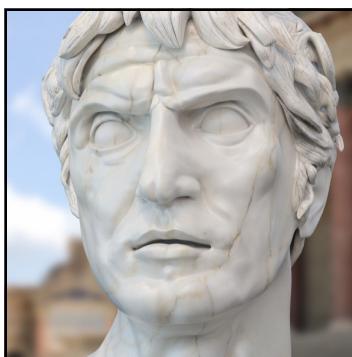
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Marius and Cinna take over Rome

- One-party rule
 - Only populists allowed to hold office
- Proscriptions
 - Marius and Cinna make a list of Roman optimates to be killed
 - Must bring head
 - Murderers given share of killed man's estate
 - Heads mounted on spears in the Roman Forum

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Sulla returns

- Cuts short war with Mithridates
- Civil War
 - Sulla marches on Rome in wrath
 - Fierce battle of Romans v. Romans at city gates
- Sulla victorious, has himself declared dictator
- New proscriptions
 - Populist leaders hunted down
- Reestablishes the Republic
 - Reforms designed to strengthen senate and institutions
 - Tribunes of the plebs, other populist elements weakened

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