



## Introduction and Evidence

History of Ancient Rome | Meeting #1

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## What is this course?

History of Ancient Rome  
HIA 321/721, cross-listed with LEH 354

Tuesdays  
6:00 – 8:40 p.m. in Carman 209

[markbwilson.com/courses/CC/CC\\_ar/](http://markbwilson.com/courses/CC/CC_ar/)



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## Who am I?

Mark Wilson  
Adjunct Assistant Professor,  
Dept. of History

- [mark.wilson@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:mark.wilson@lehman.cuny.edu)
- Carman 292
- Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:00 to 5:45 p.m.



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### Five things today

- Rome and Italy
- The syllabus
- Themes for the course
- Stages of Roman history
- Roman names

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## Geography

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## Themes of the course

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### Themes of the course

- Why Rome?
- How Rome?
- What was the Roman idea?
- How did Romanization affect the people over whom they ruled?
- How did the acquisition of empire change the Romans?

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"Can any one be so indifferent or idle as not to care to know  
by what means, and under what kind of government,  
almost the whole inhabited world was conquered and  
brought under the dominion of the single city of Rome?"

— POLYBIUS

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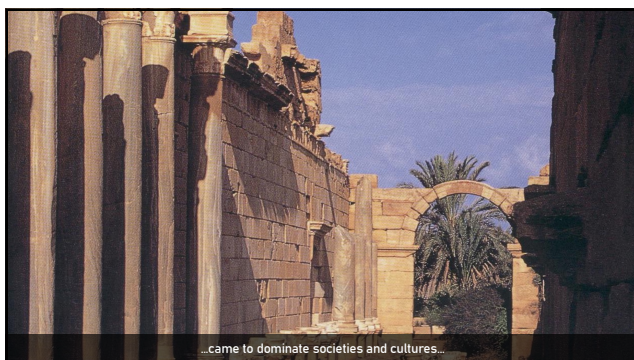
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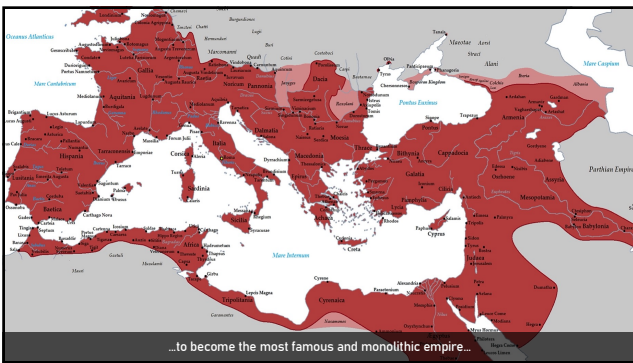
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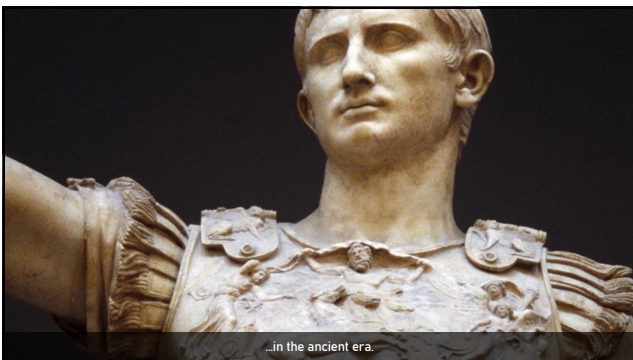
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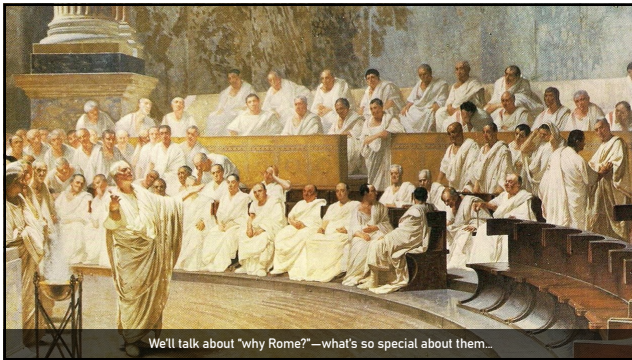
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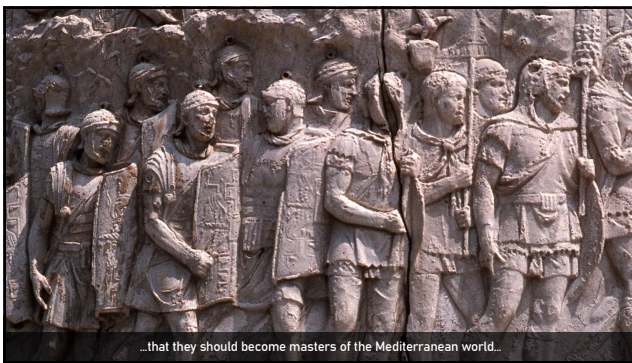
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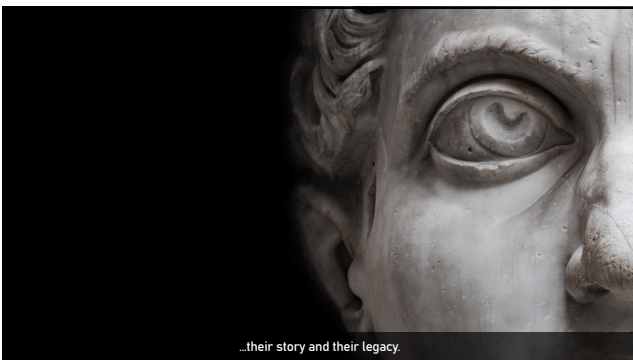
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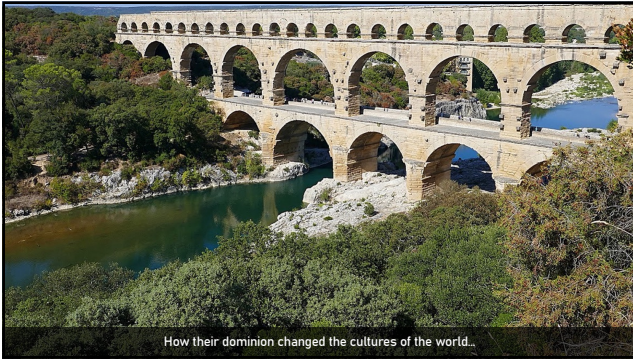
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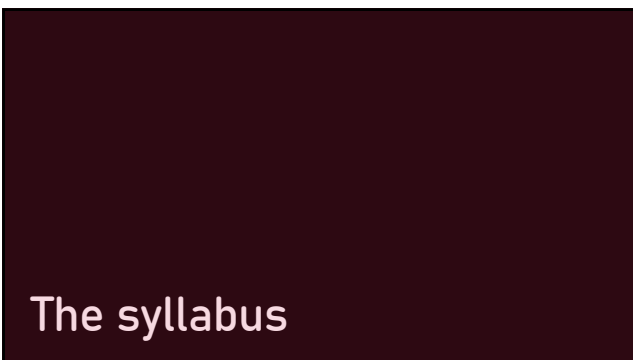
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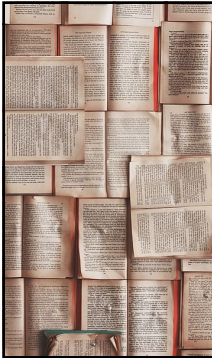
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### Books



**The Textbook**  
A History of the Roman People, 7th Edition  
by Celia E. Schultz, Allen M. Ward, F. M. Heichelheim, C. A. Yeo  
Routledge, 2019. ISBN 9781138724603

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### Grading

Your grade for the course will be determined from the following:

• Attendance, Responses, and Quizzes	20%
Each week there will be	
– attendance taken at class meetings,	5%
– a required online post in response to a source, and	5%
– a short, 5-minute in-class quiz.	10%
• Presentations on a Primary Source	15%
– one in the first half of the semester; and	7½%
– one in the second half.	7½%
A written version is due a week after your presentation.	
• Written Assignments	20%
– a 3-to-4 page essay on Roman images (due March 9), and	10%
– a 6-to-8 page term paper using evidence to take a position on a research topic of your choice relating to gender in the ancient world (due May 11).	10%
• Final Exam	30%

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### Meetings and Reading Assignments



**1 Introduction and Themes**  
Thursday, January 29

- Before the meeting, read all of the following
- On to Sign up for your presentation



**THE REPUBLIC**

**2 Tribes and Kings**  
Thursday, February 5

- Before the meeting, read all of the following
- pp. 101-111, Roman History (Thangshin) and Roman Institutions
- pp. 111-115, Phenomena, Omens, and Portents in pre-Roman Italy
- pp. 115-116, Early Rome to 100 BCE
- Before the meeting, read one of the following
- On the Subject of Roman History / Description
- Roman Religion (Thangshin) / Story
- The Captives of the Italian Women / Story
- Roman Political Systems in the Context of the Republic / Description
- The Roman of Livy / Story



**3 Patrician and Plebeian**  
Thursday, February 12

- Before the meeting, read all of the following
- pp. 117-118, A Roman History, religion, and culture

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**Approaching the course**

- Come to class prepared
- Read critically
- Ask questions
- Take notes
- Discuss with each other
- Manage your time
- Use me as a resource

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The course website  
[markbwilson.com/courses/CC/CC\\_ar/](http://markbwilson.com/courses/CC/CC_ar/)

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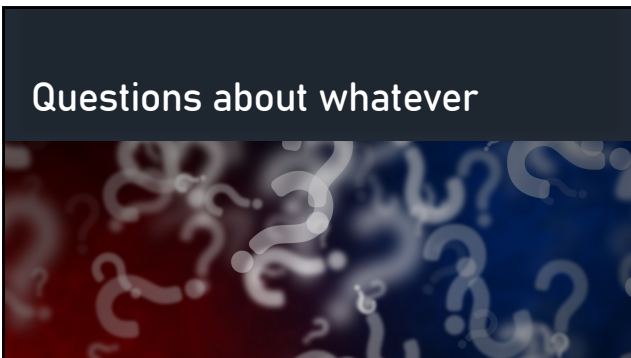
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**Questions about whatever**



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mark.wilson@lehman.cuny.edu

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## Stages of Roman history

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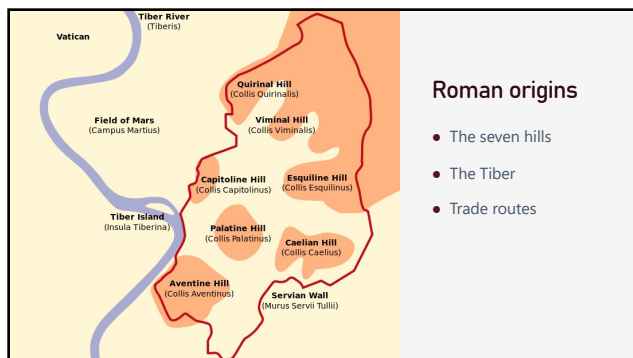
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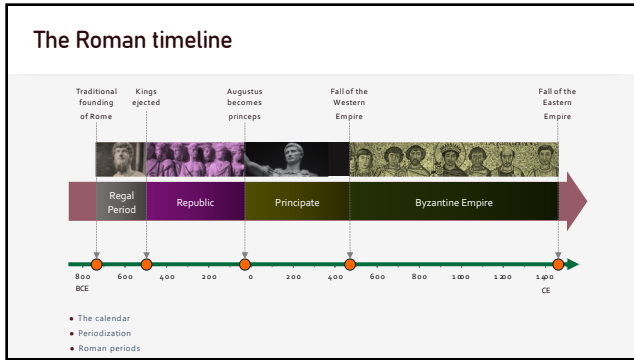
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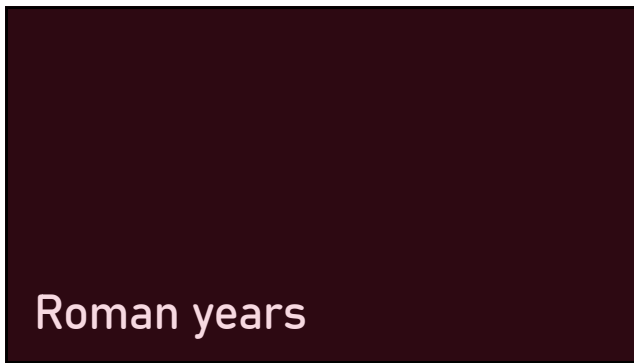
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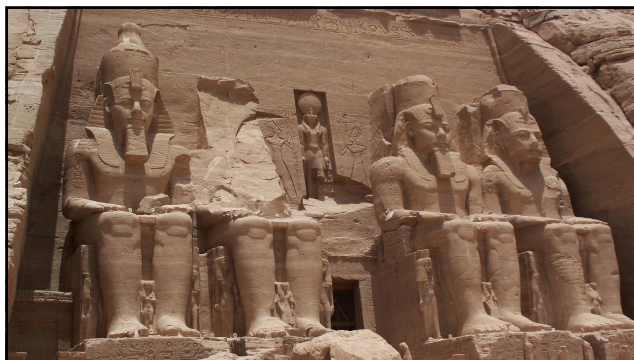
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### Regnal years

- When Rome had kings, the years were named with regnal years

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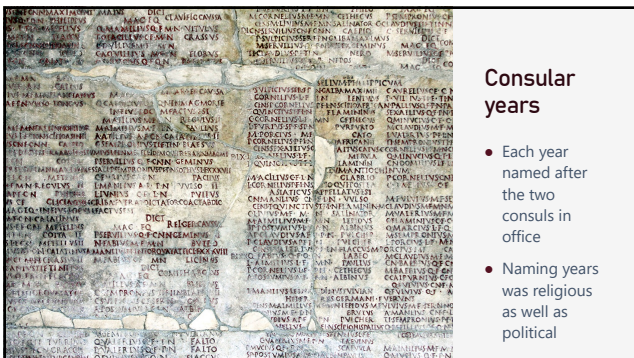
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### Consular years

- Each year named after the two consuls in office
- Naming years was religious as well as political

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### Priestly observance of the year

- Used in the priestly records to uniquely identify a year and record its lucky and unlucky events
- Priests would drive an iron nail into the wall of a temple to “hold” that year’s ills in place

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A.U.C. 50

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LEVY

pueritiamque, et cum his fecunditatem, quanta vel in diti domo satis esset. Sex filii nobis, duae filiae sunt, utraque iam nuptae. Filii quatuor togas viriles habent, duos praetextati sunt. **Miles sum** **Publii et Servilii C. Aemilii consulis.** In eo exercitu quo in Macedonia est transportatus, huiusmodi militem gregem fui, adversus Philippum regem; tertio anno virtutis causa milia T. Quinctius Flaminius decimum ordinem hastatum assignavit. Devictis Philippo Macedonibusque cum in Italiam reportatis ac dimissi castris, confuso milite voluntarius cum M. Porcio cossele in Hispaniam sum profectus. Neminem omnium imperatorum quo visant acriterem virtutis spectatorem ac iudicem fuisse scirent, qui et illam et alios duces longo milite experti sunt. Hic me imperator dignum indicavit cum primum hastatum prioris centuriae assignavit. Tertio iterum voluntarius miles factus sum in eum exercitum qui adversus Antiochum et Antiochum regem est missus. A M. Aelio<sup>1</sup> nulli primo principe prioris centuriae est assignatus. Epulo rege Antiocho subactis<sup>2</sup> Antiochi reportati sumus in Italiam; et deinceps his, quae

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BOOK XLII

with these a fertility which would be enough even for a wealthy house. We have six sons, and two daughters, both of whom are now married. Four of our sons have assumed the toga of manhood,<sup>1</sup> two wear the boys' stipes. **I became a soldier in the consulship of Publius Servilius and Gaius Aemilius.**

In the army which was taken over to Macedonia I served two years as a private soldier against King Philip; in the third year, for my bravery, Titus Quinctius Flaminius made me centurion of the tenth manipulus of the advance formation.<sup>3</sup> After the defeat of Philip and the Macedonians, when we had been brought back to Italy and discharged, immediately I set out for Spain as a volunteer soldier with Marcus Porcius the consul.<sup>4</sup> No one, of all the generals now living, was a braver observer and judge of bravery, as those know who have had experience of him and other leaders, too, through long service. This general judged me worthy to be assigned as centurion of the forward first century of the advance formation. For the third time I enlisted, again voluntarily, in the army which was sent against the Antians and King Antiochus.<sup>5</sup>

By Marcus Aelius I was given the rank of centurion of the forward first century of the main formation. When King Antiochus had been driven out and the Antians beaten, we were brought back to Italy; and twice

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Regal Period

Republic

800 BCE

700

600

500

400

300

200

100

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### Years from the founding of the city

- Later, the Romans needed a way to write about history on a larger scale
- The Greeks used Olympiads
- Counting the regal and consular years created the “A.U.C.” system
  - Used only for narrative history

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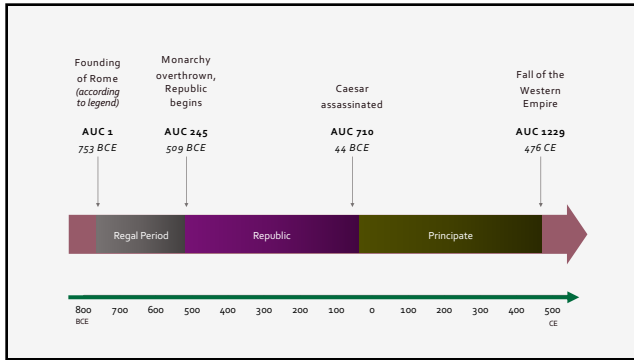
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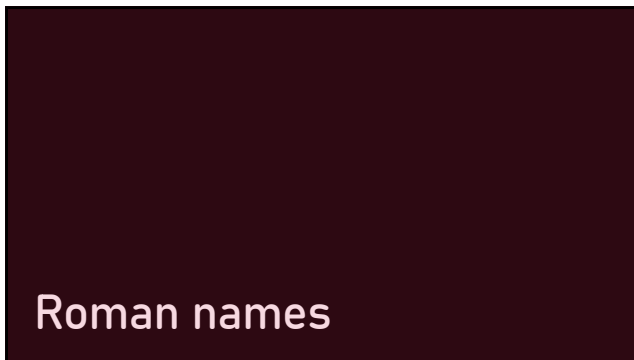
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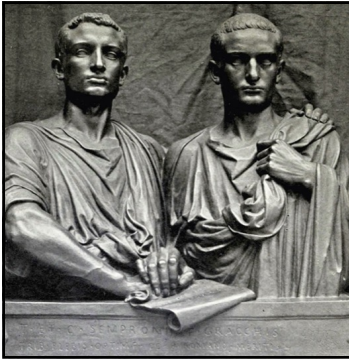
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### Society and clan

- Roman society is made up of clans
- What gives your honor and respect is what you are able to accomplish on behalf of – for the greatness of – your family and Rome
- Roman naming reflects this emphasis on society and clan over the individual

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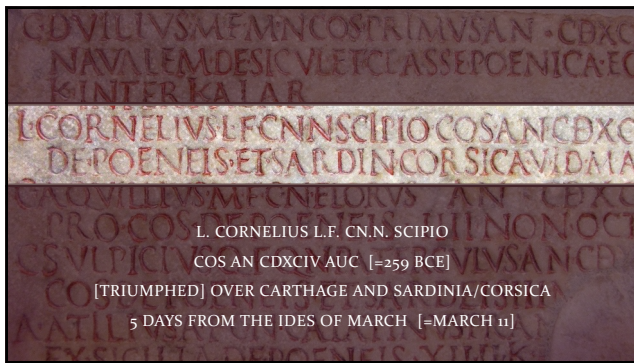
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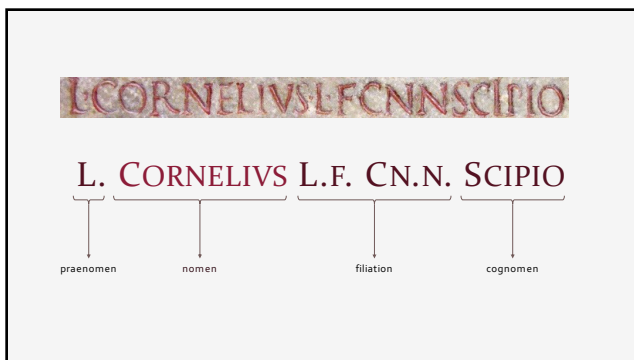
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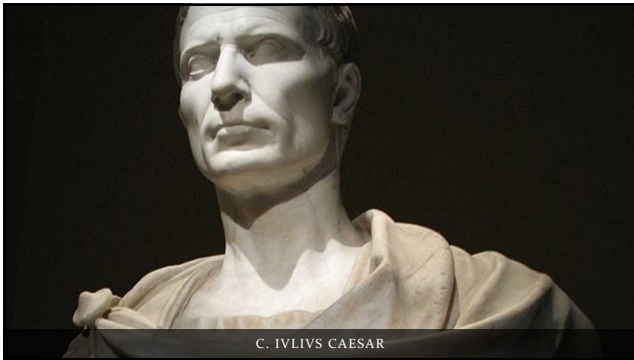
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C. IULIUS CAESAR

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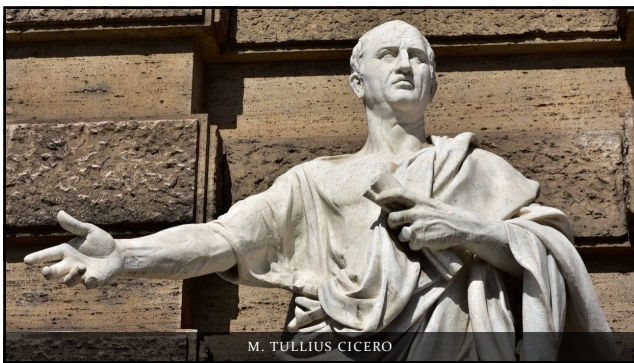
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M. TULLIUS CICERO

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### Some famous Roman names

- M. TULLIUS CICERO
- TI. SEMPRONIUS GRACCHUS
- M. AEMILIUS SCAURUS
- CN. POMPEIUS MAGNUS
- M. LIVIUS DRUSUS
- M. JUNIUS BRUTUS
- L. CORNELIUS SULLA FELIX
- Q. CAECILIUS METELLUS PIUS
- C. MARIUS
- M. ANTONIUS
- P. CLODIUS PULCHER
- P. CORNELIUS SCIPIO AFRICANUS
- P. VERGIlius MARO
- Q. HORATIUS FLACCUS
- Q. FABIUS MAXIMUS VERRUCOSUS CUNCTATOR

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### Marriage

- What matters is the family
- Aristocratic marriage is going to be about connections between families
  - Even more than in other ancient societies

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### Preserving the name

- Importance of having an heir to continue the clan and clan name
- Arranged marriage can result in fewer (legitimate) children

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C. OCTAVIVS C.F.



C. IVLIVS C.F. CAESAR  
OCTAVIANVS

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### Women in Rome

- The role of women in Rome is reflective of that sharp division between public and private
- The responsibility of women to Rome and to the family is massive and but private, and alongside the public role of the men

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