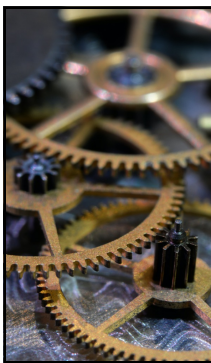




Augustus, Princeps, Imperator

History of Ancient Rome | Meeting #10

1



Upcoming Dates

- Monday, May 11
Position Paper Due
- Thursday, May 21
Final Exam
- Sunday, April 26
Responses for Week 10 Due

2

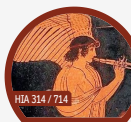
Fall 2026 courses in Ancient History



History of Ancient Greece

The unfolding and culmination of civilization in Greece, through key transformations of Greek culture and city-states from the Bronze Age up through the Hellenization of the east.
Thurs 9:00-9:45 p.m.
Prof. Wilson 3 credits W/Res Intensive

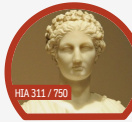
HIA 320 / 720



Classical Myth and Society

A comparison of the origins and development of classical mythology and heroic legend as religious beliefs, their relation to other mythologies, and their adaptation in literature and art from Hesiod and Homer through the present.
Fri 12-11:30 a.m. (DRAFT)
Prof. Marinelli 3 credits W/ Intensive

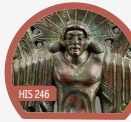
HIA 314 / 714



Women in Antiquity

Examination of the image, role, and status of women in Ancient Greek, Ancient Roman, and other societies as seen through the important literary works of antiquity.
Tues 6:00-6:45 p.m.
Prof. Wilson 3 credits W/Res Intensive

HIA 311 / 750



Civilizations of the Ancient World

A survey of the Mediterranean world, tracing the development of civilization from Mesopotamia and Egypt to ancient Greek, City-States and the dominion of Rome.
Tues 9:00-9:45 p.m.
Prof. Wilson 3 credits

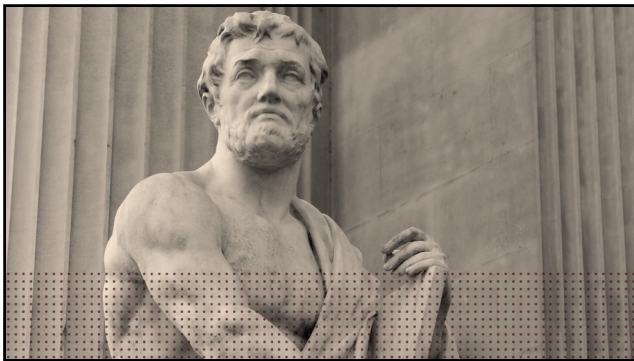
HIS 246

3

Five things today

- Rome after Caesar
- Octavian and Antony
- The first princeps
- Augustus's reign
- The death of Augustus

4



5

Quiz #7 | End of the Republic / Augustus

- Antony's efforts to seize power after Caesar's death were supported by
 - Cicero, who praised Antony in the senate
 - Octavian, who called Antony the next Caesar
 - Lepidus, who thus became *potentes maius*
 - Arastus, who built a shrine to Caesar
- Individuals who both reigned over Egypt and survived the war between Antony and Octavian include
 - Ptolemy XI Caesar, known as Cleopatra
 - Cleopatra VII Philopator, known as Cleopatra
 - Julius Caesar Octavianus, known as Octavian
 - M. Antonius, known as Antony
- The principate, as established in 23 BCE (the "Second Settlement"), granted all of the following to Augustus:
 - the powers of tribune
 - the nomination of consuls and jurors
 - the imperium of a proconsul
 - the kingdom of the Great Grass Sea
- Augustus reformed the Roman army by making it more
 - immense
 - professional
 - fanatical
 - German
- Of those he planned to make his heir, Augustus outlived all
 - His son-in-law Agrippa
 - His stepson Tiberius
 - His grandsons Gaius and Lucius
 - His nephew Marcellus

Optional Extra Credit

- The triumvirate of Octavian, Antony, and Lepidus differed from the previous triumvirate (Pompey, Crassus, and Caesar) in that the later triumvirate
 - was really a duumvirate, as Lepidus was actually just a *dux*
 - was only concerned with foreign affairs
 - was not privately reinforced by an arranged marriage
 - was the official government of Rome

Extra Credit

EC: Augustus claimed to have restored the Republic. Do you agree? What does "Republic" mean in your answer?

6

Questions about whatever



7

The end of the Republic



8

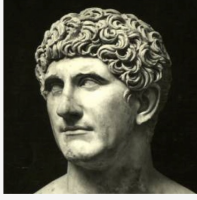
Primary Source Reading

Plutarch
The Assassination
of Julius Caesar

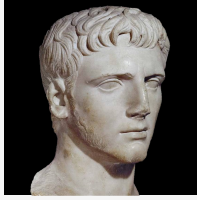


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Caesar's successors



Antony



Octavian

10

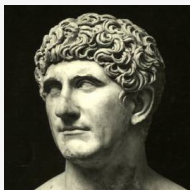
Primary Source Reading

Cicero
On the Rise of
Augustus



11

The Triumvirate (43-36 BCE)



Antony



Octavian



Lepidus

12



Proscriptions under the Triumvirate

- Enemies of the new regime killed
- Later blamed on Antony, but Octavian had his own enemies
- Cicero most notable victim

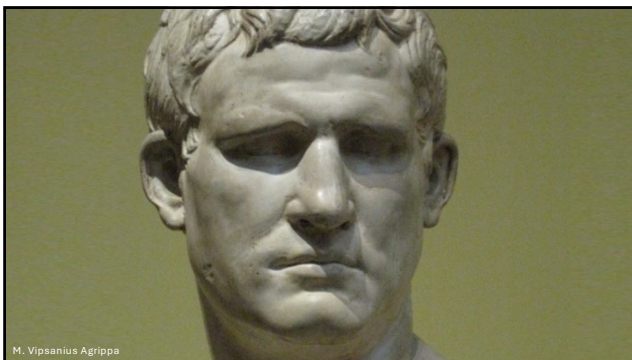
13



The Defeat of the "Liberators"

- People respond with fury to Caesar's death
- Cassius and Brutus flee to Greece
- Antony and Octavian defeat their armies
 - Octavian falls ill, claims visit from Caesar in his tent
 - Cassius and Brutus fall on their swords

14



M. Vipsanius Agrippa

15

Antony in the East, Octavian in Rome



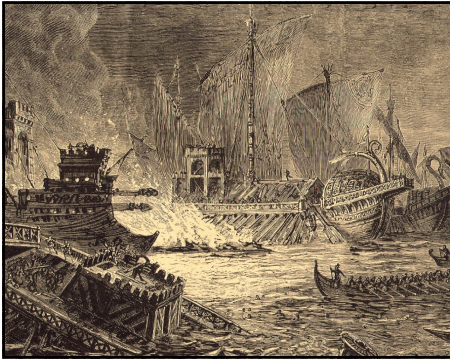
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17




18



Battle of Actium

- 31 BCE
- Naval battle between Egyptian and Roman forces
- Cleopatra leaves mid-battle
 - Antony follows
 - Civil Wars end

19



Octavian after Actium

- Not title, office, or victory
- Holds uncontested authority because he is the first man in Rome

20



When does the Republic end?

21

The first princeps

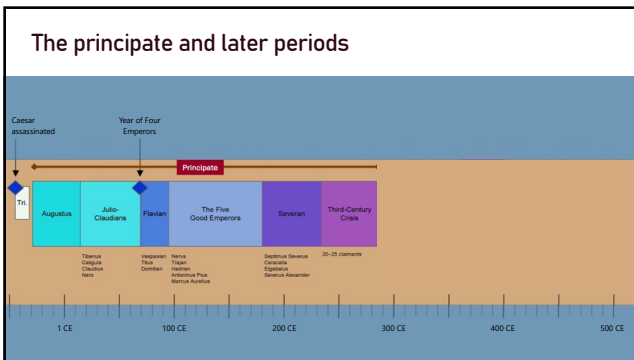
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Augustus, Princeps, Imperator

- Augustus
 - New cognomen
 - Suggests strong relationship with the gods
- Princeps
 - "First speaker"
 - Princeps senatus = Traditional role in Senate
- Imperator
 - Title granted to a general by his soldiers
 - Victory was won because of the general

23



24



First settlement (27 BCE)

- "Restoration of the Republic"
- Ten-year guardianship of provinces
- Cognomen of Augustus
- Title of Princeps
- Right to hang the corona civica
- Annual consulship

25



Second settlement (23 BCE)

- Consular imperium
 - Commander of every army
 - Superior of every governor
 - Supreme authority over city of Rome
- Power of a tribune of the plebs
 - Convene the Senate
 - Veto
 - Sacrosanctity
- Power of a censor
 - Supervision of morals and senate membership
 - Judicial review
 - Census

26



Pontifex maximus

- Gains title after Lepidus dies in 12 BCE
- Control over the state religion joined to the principate

27



28



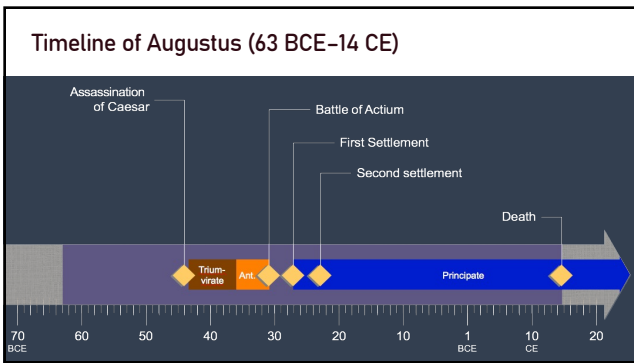
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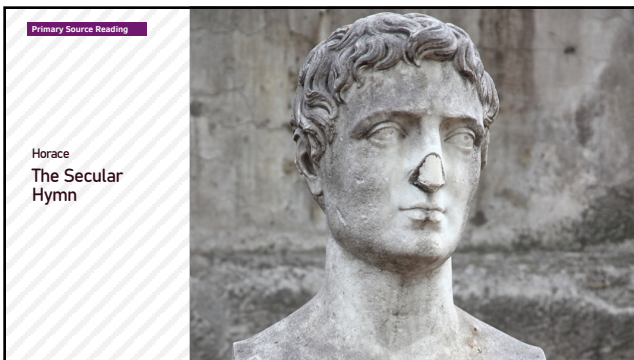
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Augustus's reign

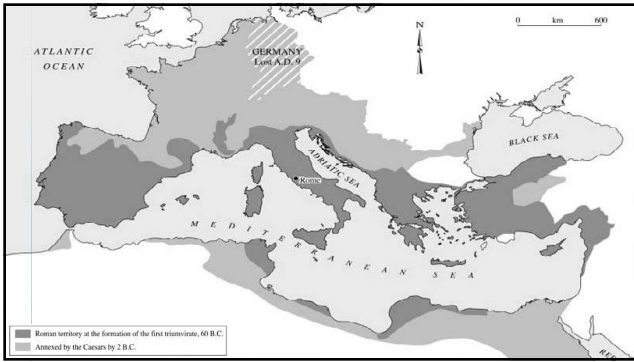
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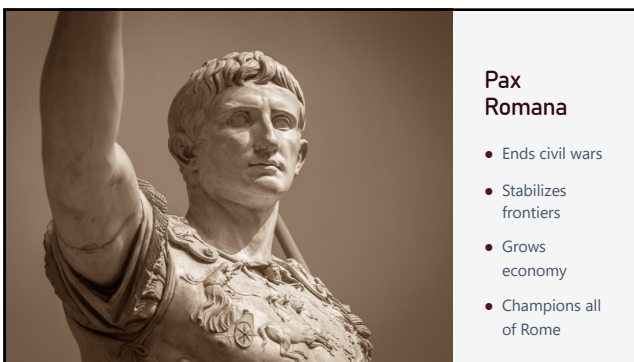
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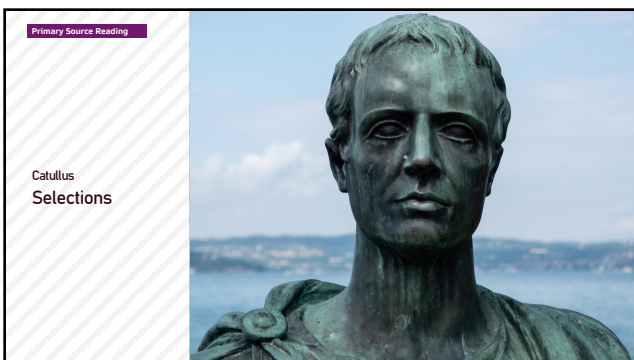
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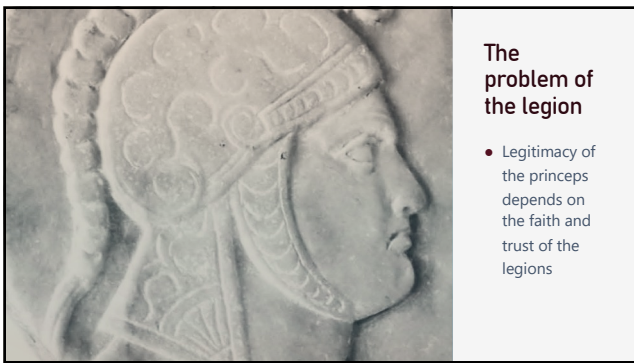


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What kinds of problems are created by Augustus's reign?

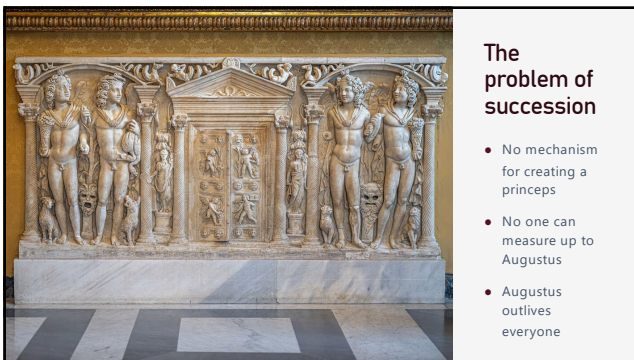
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The problem of the legion

- Legitimacy of the princeps depends on the faith and trust of the legions

41



The problem of succession

- No mechanism for creating a princeps
- No one can measure up to Augustus
- Augustus outlives everyone

42

Potential heirs of Augustus

- M. Vipsanius Agrippa son-in-law (married to daughter Iulia) d. 12 BCE
- M. Claudius Marcellus nephew (son of Octavia) d. 23 BCE
- C. and L. Iulius Caesar grandsons (sons of Agrippa and Iulia) d. 4 CE, 2 CE
- Nero Claudius Drusus stepson (younger son of Livia) d. 9 BCE
- Tiberius Claudius Nero stepson (elder son of Livia) —
- M. Agrippa Postumus grandson (son of Agrippa and Iulia) d. 14 CE

43

The principle of adoption

Ti. CLAVDIVS TI.F. TI.N. NERO

adopted by Imp. Caesar Divi f. Augustus



Ti. CAESAR DIVI AVGVSTI F. AVGVSTVS

praenomen

nomen

filiation (formal records only)

cognomen


44

Primary Source Reading

Tacitus
The Death of Augustus and the Accession of Tiberius



45



Deification

- Caesar had been deified
 - Dedicated priests
 - Ongoing prayers and rituals
- Augustus also made a god
- Does not create a precedent

46



47
