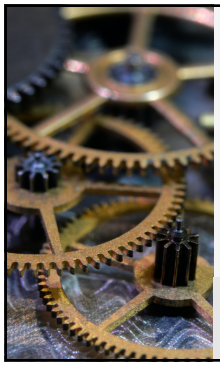
SPQR

History of Ancient Rome | Meeting #4

1



Upcoming Dates

- Monday, January 1
  Images Essay Due
- Monday, January 1
  Images Essay Due
- Sunday, August 31
  Responses for Week 1 Due

2

Five things today

- Assemblies and the senate
- Consuls, tribunes, and dictators
- The Struggle of the Orders
- Veii and the Sack
- The Samnites and Pyrrhus

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4

Quiz #2 | SPQR

1. An early Roman success that brought much-needed land wealth to Rome and made possible its first expansions into central Italy was
   a. the Conquest of Veii (396 BCE)
   b. the Sack of Rome (390 BCE)
   c. the First Samnite War (343–341 BCE)
   d. the Pyrrhic War (280–275 BCE)

2. According to Roman accounts, the first three dictators laid down all of the following precedents for future dictators EXCEPT:
   a. A dictator's power was limited to the specific need or crisis that had led to their appointment
   b. A dictator resigned at the end of his crisis
   c. Dictators were champions of the Roman nobility, to be used against foreigners and the lower classes alike
   d. The dictatorship was used to resolve crises both military and domestic

3. The Roman system of alliances and citizen communities in Italy included all of the following EXCEPT:
   a. Municipia (cities granted full or partial Roman citizenship)
   b. Socii (Italian and Greek-Italian cities having mutual defensive pacts with Rome)
   c. Canes felesque (cities treated affectionately by Rome, with their citizens given caresses to the head and regular food allowances)
   d. Latin allies (cities allowed intermarriage and binding contracts with Romans)

4. Ways that expansion into central Italy impacted on Rome included all of the following EXCEPT:
   a. Public works: Paved highways and aqueducts in Italy, plus a major building boom in Rome
   b. Trade and manufacturing: Early coinage and increased production of manufactured goods
   c. Agriculture: Conquered land redistributed to poor but also amassed into large estates
   d. Art: Development of a new Greek-inspired medium involving humanlike forms with round, yellow-tinted faces depicting a range of strong emotions

5. A favorite Roman story of the old days when Roman leaders valued humility over ambition was the tale of
   a. Cincinnatus called to the dictatorship from his plow
   b. Claudius Pulcher naming his humble servant Glicia to the dictatorship
   c. The first dictator, Larcius, being chosen for his impressive, Hercules-like appearance
   d. The later-abandoned custom of granting dictators the cognomina Humilis Maximus ("humblest of men") on their departure from office

Extra Credit

EC. What set the manipular army apart from the hoplite-style armies Rome had used before?

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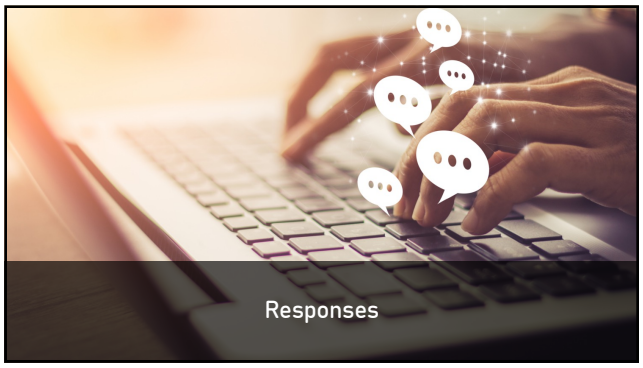

6

Questions about whatever

7

The early Republic

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Principles of shared governance

- Collegiality
- Annual office
- Imperium
- Ladder of offices (cursus honorum)

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Struggle of the Orders

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Clans holding magistracies in the Republic

Patrician clans	*Plebeian clans*				
AEBUTIA	ABURIA	CASSIA	GELLIA	OCCIA	SERBIA
ANTONIA	ACILIA	CESTIA	HEDUIA	OGULNIA	SEXTILIA
AQUILLIA	AFINIA	CICERIA	HERENNIA	OPIMIA	SICINIA
ATILIA	ARRANIA	CINCIA	HIRTULEIA	OPPIA	SILIA
CLAUDIA/CLODIA	ALBIA	CISPIA	HORTENSIA	OTACILIA	SOCIA
CLOELIA	ALBINIA	CLUVIA	ICILIA	PAPIA	STATIA
COMINIA	ALIENA	COCCEIA	INGTEIA	PEDIA	SUBRINIA
CORNELIA	ANNIA	COCCEIA CAELIA	IUVENTIA	PEDUCAEA	SURDINIA
CURIATIA	APPIA	CONCIDIA	LABIENA	PERPERNA	TARENA
CURTIA	ANICHARIA	COPONIA	LAECANIA	PETILLIA	TICLENA
FABIA	ANICIA	CORNIFICIA	LALLIA	PETRONIA	TITIA
FURIA	ANNIA	CORUNCANIA	LAETORIA	PLAETORIA	TITINIA
GEGANIA	ANTIA	COSCONIA	LICINIA	PLAUTIA/PLOTIA	TITURIA
GENUCIA	ANTISTIA	COSSUTIA	LIGARIA	POETELIA	TREBELLIA
HORATIA	APONIA	CRASSITIA	LIVIA	POMPEIA	TREBONIA
HOSTILIA	APRONIA	CRITONIA	LIVINEIA	POMPONIA	TREMELLIA
JULIA	APUSTIA	CUPIENNIA	LOLLIA	POPILLIA	TUCCIA
JUNIA	ARRENIA	CURIA	LUCCEIA	POPPAEA	TURIA
JUNIA SILANI/LARTIA	ARRIA	DECIA	LUCILIA	PORCIA	TURULLIA
LUCRETIA	ASELLIA	DECIMIA	LUCRETIA	POSTUMIA	UCCIA
MANLIA	ASINIA	DIDIA	MAELIA	PUBLILIA	VARGUNTEIA
MARCIA	ATEIA	DIGITIA	MAENIA	PULLIA	VARIA
MENENIA	ATINIA	DOMITIA	MAEVIA	PUPIA	VELLEIA
METILIA	ATTIA	DUILLIA	MAGIA	QUINTIA	VENTIDIA
MINUCIA	AUFIDIA	DURONIA	MAIANIA	RABIRIA	VENULEIA
MUCIA	AULIA	EGNATIA	MALLIA	RABULEIA	VERGILIA
NAUTIA	AURELIA	EGNATULEIA	MANILIA	RANTULEIA	VERNA
NOMICIA	AURUNCULEIA	EPIDIA	MANIA	REMMIA	VIBIA
PAPIRIA	AUTRONIA	ERUCIA	MANLIA	ROCCIA	VIBULLIA
PINARIA	AXIA	FABRICIA	MARIA	RUBRIA	VILLIA
POSTUMIA	BAEBIA	FALCIDIA	MATIENA	RUPILIA	VINICIA
QUINCTIA	CAECILIA	FANNIA	MEMMIA	RUTILIA	VIPSANIA
SEMPRONIA	CAELIA	FLAMINIA	MINUCIA	SALLUSTIA	VISELLIA
SERGIA	CAESTIA	FLAVIA	MUMMIA	SALLUSTIA	VOCONIA
SERVILIA	CASSETIA	FOLIA	MUNATIA	SALONIA	VOLCATIA
SESTIA	CAESIA	FONTEIA	NAEVIA	SALVIA	VOLTEIA
SICCIA/SECCIA	CALIDIA	FUFIA	NASIDIA	SAUFEIA	VOLUSENA
SULPICIA	CALPURNIA	FUFIDIA	NIGIDIA	SCANTIA	VOLUSIA
TARQUITIA	CANIA	FULVIA	NONIA	SCANTINIA	
TARQUITIA	CANULEIA	FURIA	NORBANA	SCRIBONIA	
VALERIA	CARISIA	FURNIA	NORBANA	SCRIBONIA	
VERGINIA	CARVILIA	GABINIA	NUMIDIA	SENTIA	
VETURIA		GALLIA	NUMITORIA	SEPTIMIA	
VOLUMNIA					

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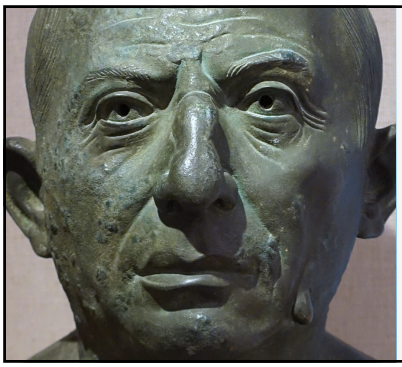

Depictions of early patricians

- Roman histories are written centuries later
- Plebeian access to power normal in the middle and late Republic
- Early patricians depicted as violent, inflexible conservative extremists

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Primary Source Reading

Dionysius

Coriolanus Opposes the Plebs

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Struggle of the orders

- In early Rome, patrician clans controlled political and religious institutions
  - Priesthoods
  - Imperium
- Patrician clans also used their power to exert economic oppression, further separating the classes
  - Usury (excessive interest)
  - Nexum (debt slavery)
- Plebeian clans demanded access to power but otherwise had nothing in common

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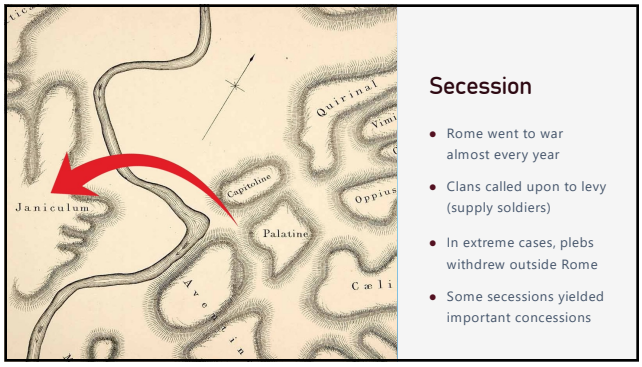

Secession

- Rome went to war almost every year
- Clans called upon to levy (supply soldiers)
- In extreme cases, plebs withdrew outside Rome
- Some secessions yielded important concessions

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Early accommodations

- Plebeian council
  - Assembly of plebeians
  - Limited self-governance
  - Patricians could not attend or address it
- Tribunes of the plebs
  - Ten magistrates only for plebeians
  - Possessed tribunician veto (ability to bar repressive measures of the state)
  - Sacrosanct
- Plebeian aediles
  - Two of the four aediles were plebeian

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Tribunes of the Plebs

- Sacrosanct
- Tribunicial veto
- Citizen's right of appeal

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Primary Source Reading

Dionysius

The Tribunes and their Manipulation

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Primary Source Reading

Fragments

The Twelve Tables

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"Military tribunes with consular power"

- Compromise office
- Instead of consuls, the Republic would have "consular tribunes" that year
  - Military tribunes with the powers of a consul
  - Consulship thus kept only for patricians
  - Could have up to 6 consular tribunes for a given year
- Used intermittently 444-367 BCE

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End of the Conflict of the Orders

- Licinian-Sextian Laws (367)
  - Passed during a time of turmoil and transition
  - Four laws:
    - Limit on the interest rate of loans
    - Restriction on private ownership of land
    - At least one consul must be a plebeian
    - New priestly college for Sibylline Books
- Hortensian Law (287)
  - Last great secession of the plebs, over debt
  - Q. Hortensius appointed dictator to resolve the crisis
  - Horatius passes a law making all plebiscita (resolutions passed by the Plebeian Council) binding on all citizens

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The Roman oligarchy vs. shared governance

- Rivalry and ranking of families within the ruling class
- Influence of the senate
  - Consular nobility
  - Priests
- Short-term elected magistrates
- Cooption of the plebeian tribunes
- Undemocratic assemblies
- Increasing power and influence of Rome

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The senate

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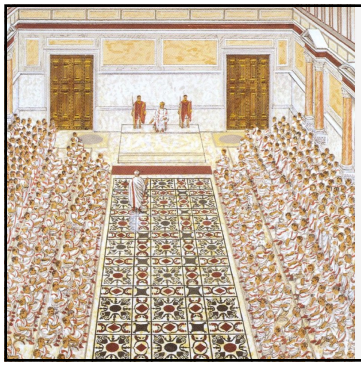

Why did the senate matter?

- Experienced membership
- Persistence vs. annual magistrates
- Increasing self-perceived role as protector of tradition and custom

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Primary Source Reading

Dionysius

Early Rules for Clients and Patrons

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Magistrates

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The young noble

- Coming of age at 14
- Military service
- Ladder of offices

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Annual collegial Roman magistracies

Censor	*census, senate rolls, contracts for public works*
Consul	*command armies, preside over senate and assemblies*
Praetor	*citizen conflicts, criminal cases*
Aedile	*games, festivals, temples and public buildings*
Quaestor	*finances, use of public funds*
Military tribune	*elected legionary officers*

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Imperium

- The ability to command a Roman citizen
  - Domestic within Rome
  - Military outside of Tome
- Invested in the individual, not the office

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How do they make two consuls work?

- Alternation of the fasces
- Shared responsibility
- Collegial veto

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Primary Source Reading

Polybius

The Constitution of the Roman Republic

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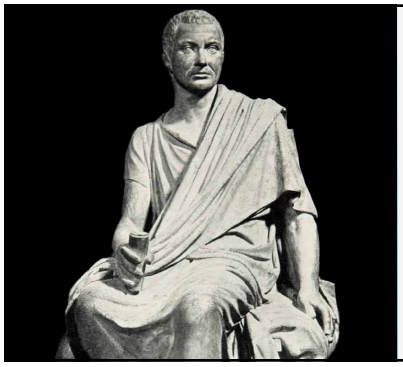

Other ordinary officials

- Interrex
- Pontifex maximus
- Princeps senatus

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Dictator

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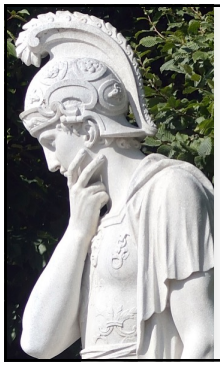

Dictator

- Response to any Rome-threatening crisis—domestic, military, or religious
- Requested by senate or people
- Chosen by a consul
- Total authority of the Roman state
  - No colleague
  - Exempt from veto and appeal
- Bound to his mandate
- Resigns on resolution of crisis

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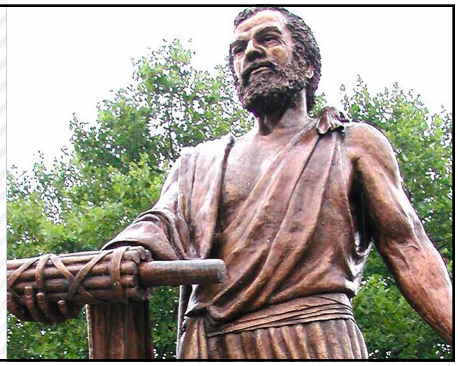
Primary Source Reading

Cicero, Dionysius

The Mythology of the Farmer General



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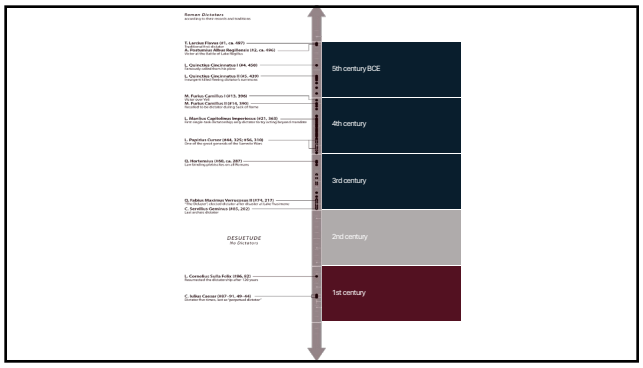

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The assemblies

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Roman legislative process

- A consul or tribune frames a law
- He *customarily* presents the law to senate first for their advice
- Law is then presented to one of the assemblies with a senate resolution
  - Centuriate assembly for external matters
  - Tribal assembly for domestic matters
- If the law passes, it's recorded under the sponsor's name
  - lex Valeria
  - lex Hortensia
  - lex Licinia Sextia

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Roman assemblies

- Comitia curiata
  (Assembly of curiae)
  - **Original assembly** of elite handholders
  - Meets only to grant *imperium* to incoming consuls, praetors, and dictators
- Comitia centuriata
  (Assembly of centuries)
  - **Citizens meeting as an army** in the Fields of Mars
  - Convened by consul or praetor
  - Passes laws on matters of war and peace
  - Elects *imperium* magistrates (consuls, praetors, and censors)
  - Each century gets one vote
- Comitia tributa
  (Assembly of tribes)
  - **Citizens meeting as civilians** in the Roman Forum
  - Convened by consul or praetor
  - Passes laws on domestic matters of concern to citizens
  - Elects non-*imperium* magistrates
  - Each tribe gets one vote
- Concilium plebis
  (Council of the plebeians)
  - Tribal assembly meeting with **only the plebeian citizens present**
  - Convened by tribunes of the plebs
  - Passes plebiscites on matters of concern to plebeians
  - Elects tribunes of the plebs

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Capture of Veii

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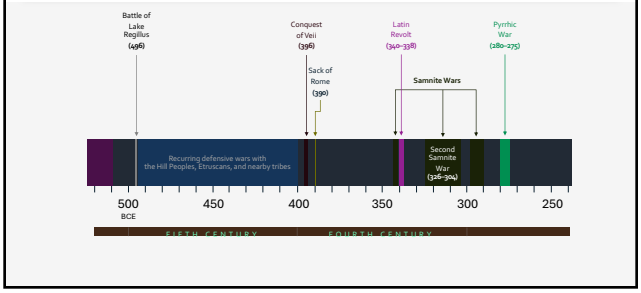
Italian Wars—Timeline



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The Etruscan shadow

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Etruscan wealth

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Veii

- Nearest Etruscan city-state
- Powerful and wealthy
  - Abundant fertile land
  - Commerce and industry

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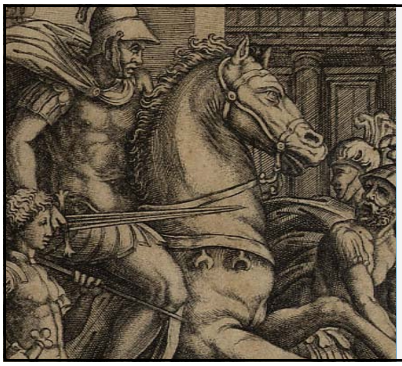

Rome on the offensive

- Veii had been raiding Roman territory and trade
- Rome flips from defense to offense
- Multi-year siege
- Rome appoints a dictator, Camillus

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Conquest of Veii

- Camillus's strategy
- Evocatio
  - Extraction of Veii's patron god

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Legacies of the Capture of Veii

- Rome's sense of power
- Rome's wealth and standard of living
- Rome as an economic and military power
- Shift from defense to conquest
- Dictator as champion and savior

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Slavery and the Roman economy

- Increased wealth allows for increased slavery
- Slavery becomes innate to Roman society and commerce
  - Domestic
  - Agricultural
  - Industrial
  - Mining

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The Sack of Rome

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Migration of the Senones
Rome
Arrival of the Senonian Gauls
Celtic tribes north of the Alps
Some Gauls cross the Alps
Sesonians migrate further
They hear about Rome's new wealth

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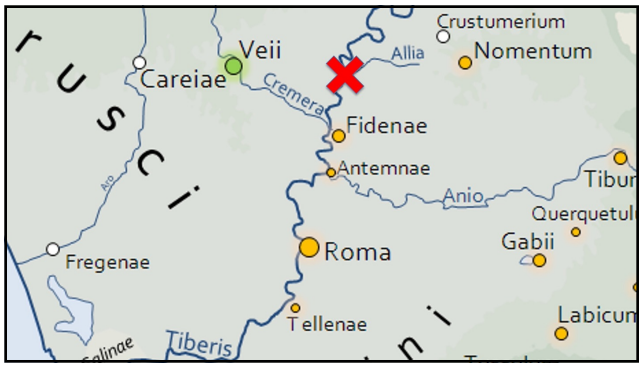
Crustumerium
Veii
Nomentum
Careiae
Allia
Cremera
Fidenae
Antemnae
Anio
Querquetul
Gabii
Roma
Fregenae
Tellenae
Labicun
Tiberis

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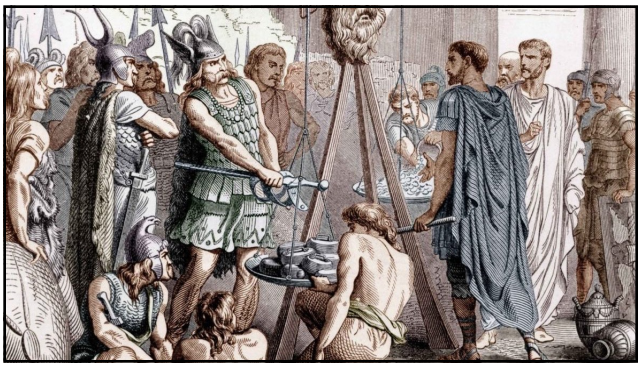

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Legacies of the Sack of Rome

- Damage to Roman buildings and records
- Dread of the Gaul
- Protection of Rome through control of central Italy

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Control over central Italy

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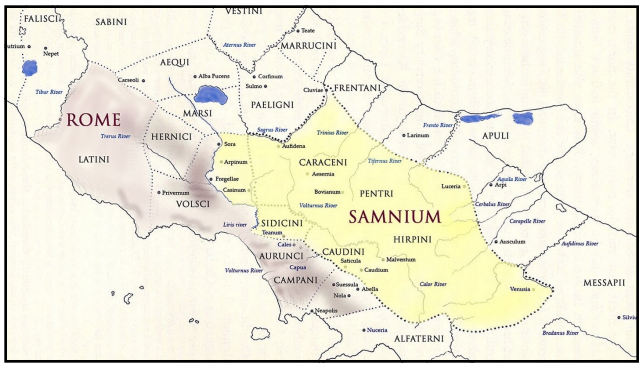
Primary Source Reading

Livy

The Defeat of the Latins

66



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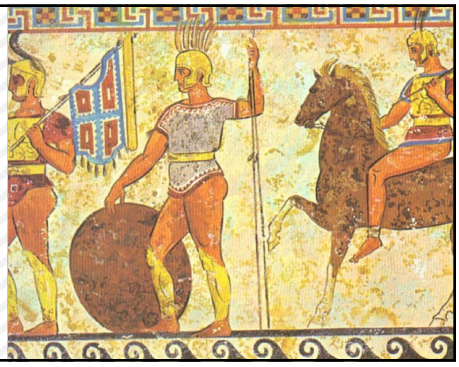
Primary Source Reading

Livy

The Samnites' 'Linen Legion' Remains Undaunted



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Early Roman warfare

- Influenced by the Etruscans
  - Etruscans were influenced by the Greeks
- Early legions were based on the hoplite phalanx
  - Effective on the coastal plain
  - Not suited for mountains

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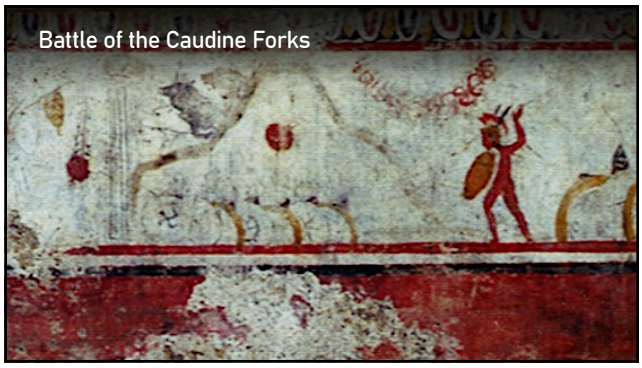
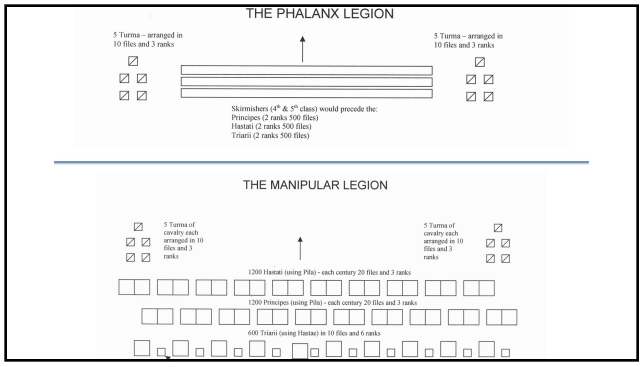
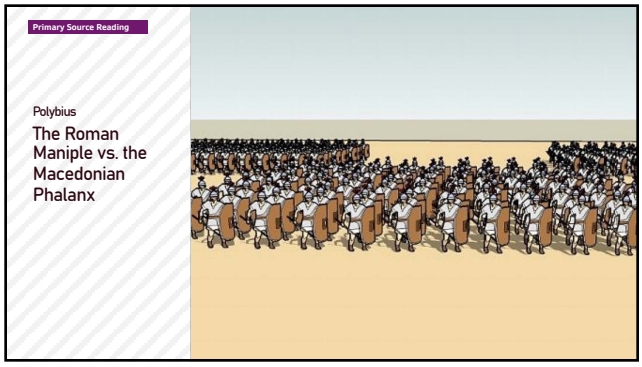

Battle of the Caudine Forks

70


THE PHALANX LEGION
5 Turma – arranged in 10 files and 3 ranks
5 Turma – arranged in 10 files and 3 ranks
Skirmishers (4th & 5th class) would precede the:
Principes (2 ranks 500 files)
Hastati (2 ranks 500 files)
Triarii (2 ranks 500 files)
THE MANIPULAR LEGION
5 Turma of cavalry each arranged in 10 files and 3 ranks
5 Turma of cavalry each arranged in 10 files and 3 ranks
1200 Hastati (using Pila) - each century 20 files and 3 ranks
1200 Principes (using Pila) - each century 20 files and 3 ranks
600 Triarii (using Hastae) in 10 files and 6 ranks

71


Primary Source Reading
Polybius
The Roman Maniple vs. the Macedonian Phalanx

72

Legacies of the Second Samnite War

- Manipular army means more training and longer service
- Roman control over Samnium and Campania
- Greeks of Southern Italy realize that they're next

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Romanization

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Romanization

- Latin Rights
  - Trade
  - Intermarriage
  - Migration
- Municipalities (municipia)
- Colonies (coloni)
- Allies (socii)

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Southern Italy and the Pyrrhic War

78

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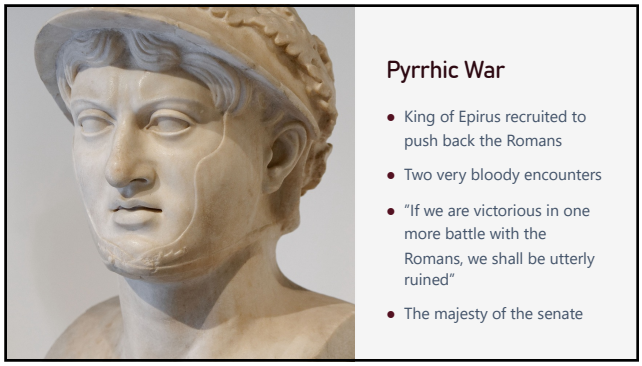

Pyrrhic War

- King of Epirus recruited to push back the Romans
- Two very bloody encounters
- "If we are victorious in one more battle with the Romans, we shall be utterly ruined"
- The majesty of the senate

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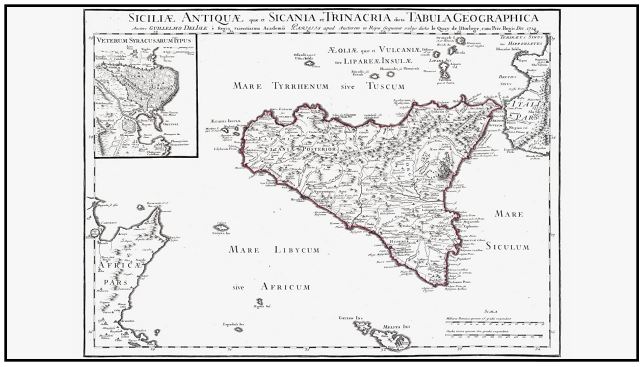
Legacies of the Pyrrhic War

- Demonstration of deep Roman resources even in defeat
- Assertion of hegemony over Italy
- Coveting of Sicily

82



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