



The Republican Crisis

Civilizations of the Ancient World | Meeting #24

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Upcoming Dates

- Monday, May 18
• Images Essay Due
- Tuesday, May 26
• **2:30 to 4:30 p.m.**
• Final Exam
- Sunday, May 10
• Responses for Week 14 Due
- Thursday, May 28
• **Ultimate Deadline**
 - No late papers or resubmissions for reversible deductions after this date
 - No exceptions
 - Incompletes owing to personal emergencies must be mutually agreed before this date

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Final Exam

- Identification and Impact
 - Define and discuss the impact of 4-5 terms or names
 - All terms will come from the review sheet
- Short answer
 - 1-2 specific questions about key ideas
- Multiple Choice
- Essay
 - One essay having to do with overall themes of the course
 - Provide an argument and three solid examples

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Final Exam review

- The final exam covers the material since the midterm
 - Everything in the assigned readings is fair game, even if we did not discuss it in class
 - **The essay is cumulative**—you can use examples from the entire course
- For all sections except multiple choice, I will give you twice as many options as you need
- Review resources are linked on the Exams page
 - These include quiz notes, slides, lecture videos, weekly responses, textual topic discussions from online semesters, maps and timelines, and more

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Approach to preparing

- Make a list of the most important milestone events in the periods we've discussed
 - Think about causes and legacies
 - Dates are less important than sequences of events
- Use the review sheet
 - Look through the questions to gauge which topics to spend more time reviewing
 - Take note of the terms and review the ones you're unfamiliar with
- Pregame the essay
 - Try to come up with possible essay questions
 - Map out in advance possible examples and interpretations
 - Example: If there were a question about religion and culture, what would I say and what three examples would I give?

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Four things today

- The Punic Wars
- Rome in the East
- Consequences of Empire
- Optimates and Populares

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Quiz #10 | The Republican Crisis

- Roman provinces were normally governed by
 - proconsuls
 - tribunes
 - praetors
 - senatorial committees
- All of the following are true of Tiberius Gracchus's controversial land law [Quizlet](#)
 - It was needed because Rome needed more soldiers, and soldiers had to be landholders
 - It distributed plots of public land to the poor, angering wealthy senators fearing that land
 - Carefully observing tradition, Gracchus first obediently asked for the senate's approval before proposing the law to the plebeian assembly
 - When he ran for reelection to oversee his law, Gracchus was clubbed to death by a mob of angry conservative senators
- The *senatus consultum ultimum*, or "last resolution of the senate," was the senate's emergency order to the consuls demanding that they
 - resign
 - take any measures necessary to defend the state
 - deputize the other magistrates as temporary consuls
 - press the self-destruct button and destroy Rome
- Gaius Marius's game-changing reforms of the Roman army included all of the following [Quizlet](#)
 - The property requirement was eliminated, creating a "volunteer army"
 - Funding and post-war rewards of land were now in the hands of the general, not the senate
 - Soldiers were issued a javelin, a short sword, a black tunic, and a set of early breeches
 - The soldiers were reorganized from maniples into cohorts, each carrying his own equipment
- The Social War (91-87 BCE) refers to the armed conflict between
 - Facebook and MySpace
 - optimates and populares
 - patricians and plebeians
 - Italian allies and Rome

Extra Credit

EC: What was the issue that caused the Social War?

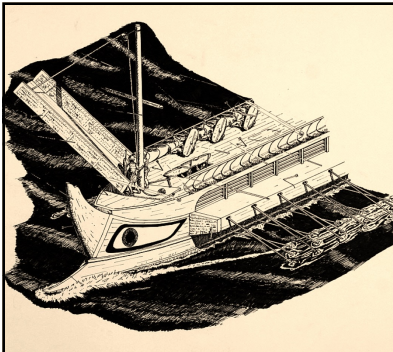
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Questions about whatever

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The Punic Wars

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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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ROME AND CARTHAGE, 218 B.C.

- Rome's allies and dominions
- Carthage's allies and dominions
- Acquired from Carthage at the end of the First Punic War
- Hannibal's route to Cannae

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 BCE)

- 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

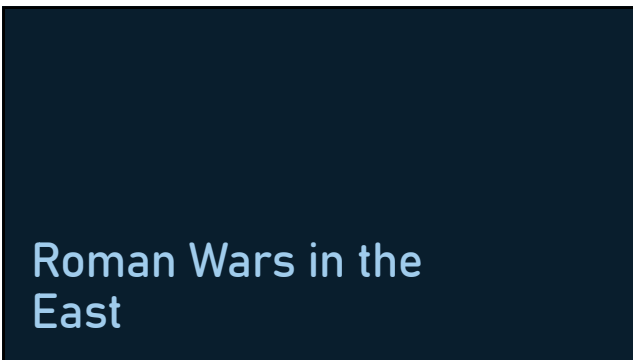
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Third Punic War

- 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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The Hellenistic east



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In the east: Rome as a liberator and a destroyer

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

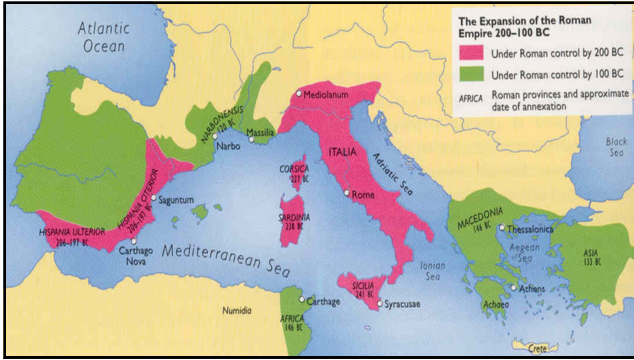
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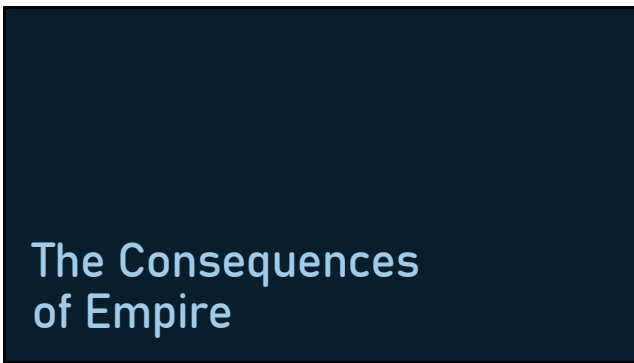
Defeating the Hellenistic empires

- 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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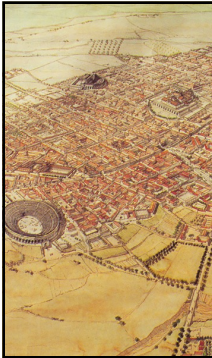
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Hellenization

- 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

POPULARES

- Leaders who **seek popularity** among the people of Rome
- **Demonize the senate** as oppressing the masses and protecting privilege at Rome's expense, especially in war
- Urge Romans to place their **faith and trust in great men**, not institutions

Examples

- The Gracchus brothers
- Gaius Marius
- Julius Caesar
- Octavian/Augustus

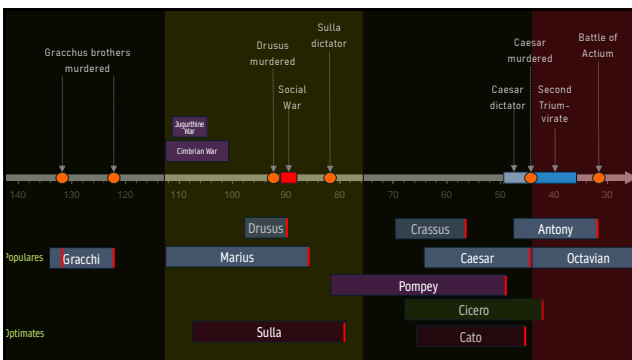
OPTIMATES

- Leaders who **seek to protect the old ways**
- **Champion the senate** as guardians of tradition and the collective, anonymous rule that made Rome strong
- Urge Romans to place their **faith and trust in institutions**, not great men

Examples

- Sulla
- Metellus Numidicus
- Cato (the younger)

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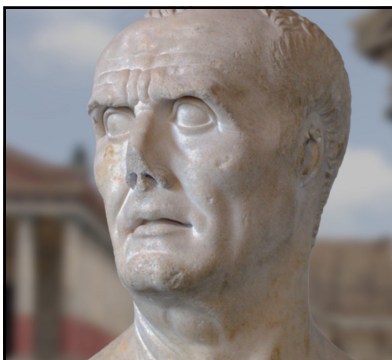
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The brothers Gracchus

- 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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Cimbri and Teutones

- Massive Germanic tribes pushing into Roman territory
- Romans lose disastrously under optimate 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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Social War (91-88 BCE)

- Italians fed up with Rome
 - Fight as equals— in harm's way at Arausio
 - Driving force in Rome's economic power — Rome reaps the benefits
 - Denied the citizenship of Rome
- Form a confederation and declare war
 - Advantages
 - Trained in Roman tactics and formations
 - Surround Rome
 - Disadvantages
 - Weak leadership
 - Nothing in common but hatred of Rome

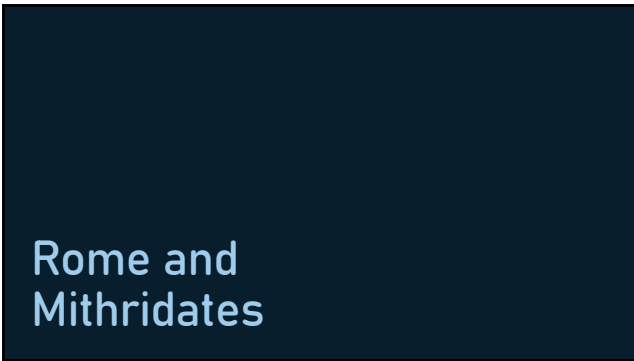
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Social War

- Rome loses several battles
- Offers citizenship to those who lay down arms
 - Surrendering Italians given partial citizenship
 - Those nations who refuse are slaughtered

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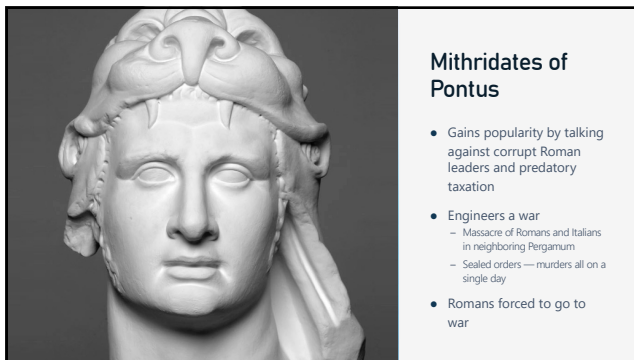


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Client kingdoms

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Mithridates of Pontus

- Gains popularity by talking against corrupt Roman leaders and predatory taxation
- Engineers a war
 - Massacre of Romans and Italians in neighboring Pergamum
 - Sealed orders — murders all on a single day
- Romans forced to go to war

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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

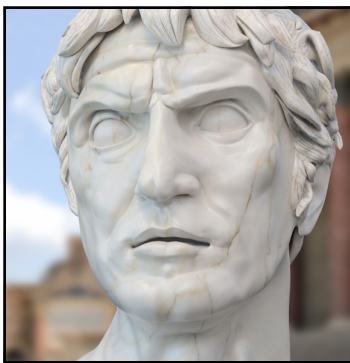
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Marius and Cinna take over Rome

- 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

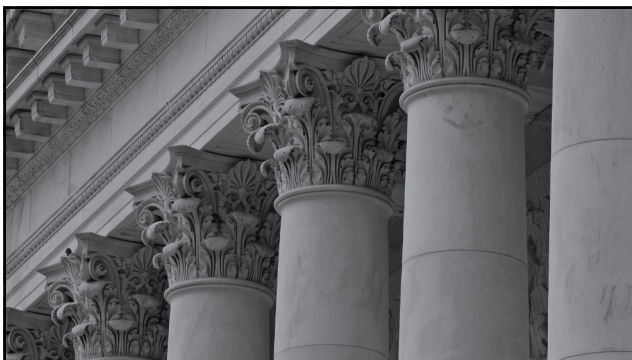
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Sulla returns

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

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