



**Collapse of the Republic**  
Civilizations of the Ancient World | Meeting #25

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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 17  
Responses for Week 15 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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### Four things today

- Optimates and Populares
- The Gracchus brothers
- Marius and Sulla
- The Rise of Caesar

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### Questions about whatever




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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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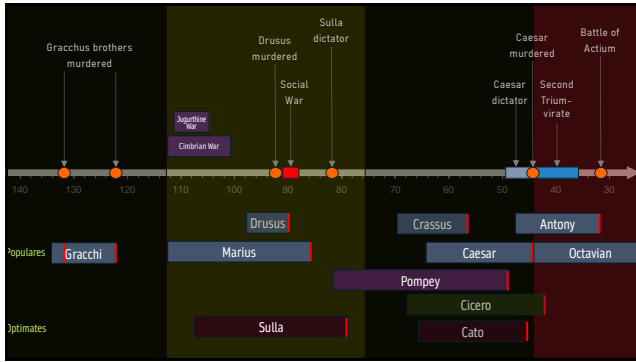
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### The brothers Gracchus

- 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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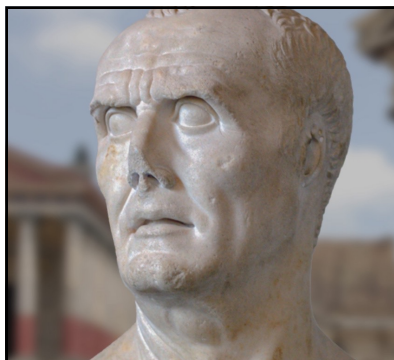
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### Gaius Marius

- 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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**Rome and Mithridates**

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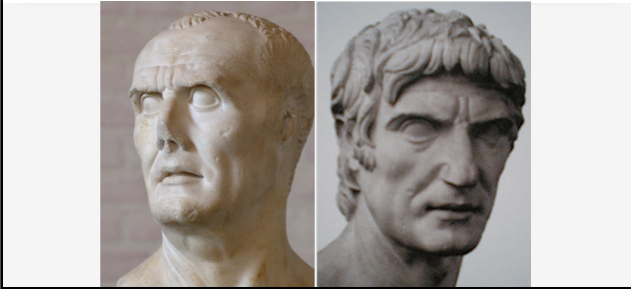
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### Marius and Sulla



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### Client kingdoms



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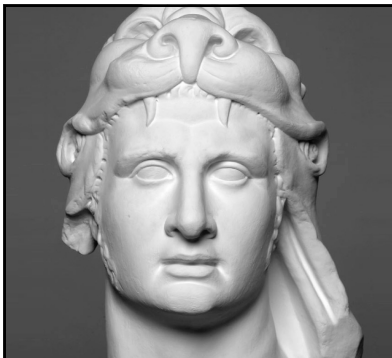
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### Mithridates of Pontus



- 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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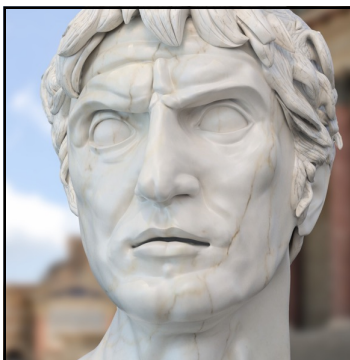
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### Sulla returns

- 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 strengthen senate and institutions
  - Tribunes of the plebs, other populist elements weakened

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### Pompey

- Inherits father's private army and offers it to Sulla
- After Sulla's death, refuses to disband
- Senate sends him on missions in which he gains power and prestige

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### Cicero

- Famed lawyer and orator
- Becomes consul
  - No military experience
  - Outsider from Arpinium
- Overcompensates by outdoing the conservative elite

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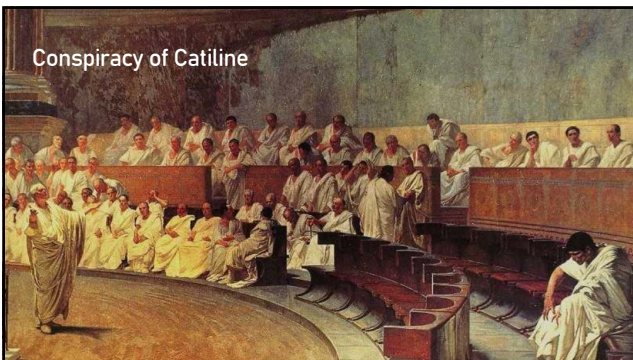
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Conspiracy of Catiline

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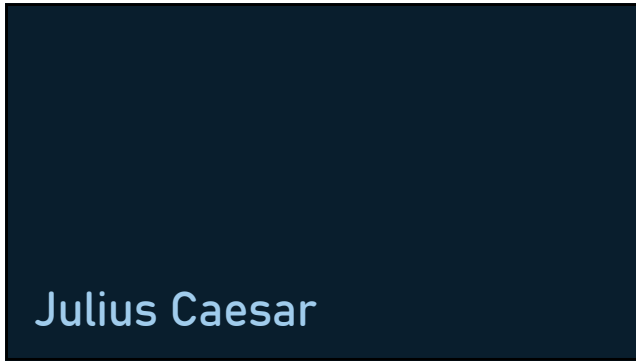
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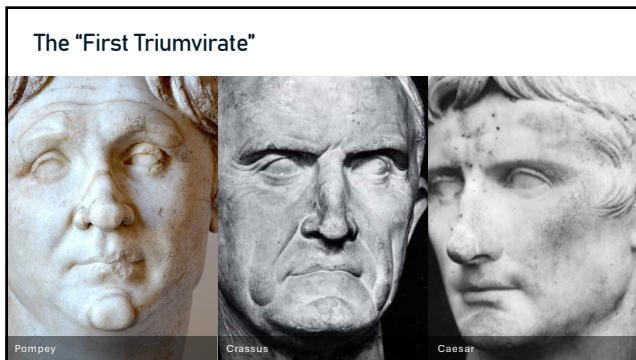
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### Pompey in the east

- Reorganizes eastern provinces and consolidates Roman power
- Relied on by senate but not trusted

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### Caesar in Gaul

- Expands Roman rule
- Builds reputation as great general
- Grows and directs the populist faction in Rome through agents

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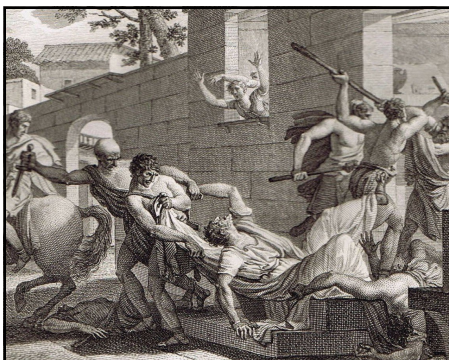
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### Turmoil in Rome

- Polarization of factions
- Brutal political rhetoric
- Fighting in the streets
- The murder of Clodius

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**The Senate turns on Caesar**

- Conservative elite senators blame populists
- Cato the Younger speaks out against Caesar
- Caesar named a public enemy

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