

Schedule

For each meeting, please come into class having read and thought about the readings assigned for that class.

Readings listed with the book icon (📖) are from the assigned textbook, Schultz, *A History of the Roman People*, 7th Edition. All other readings are linked on the course webpage.

To prepare for each meeting, you need to read:

- The assigned chapter from the textbook (Schultz—these are short), and
- At least one of the primary source for that week.

January 2025							February 2025							March 2025							April 2025							May 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4							1							1			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
														30	31																			

1 Introduction and Themes
Thursday, January 30

Sign up for your first presentations.

The Republic

2 Tribes and Kings
Thursday, February 6

Read all of the following:

- 📖 pp. xxvi–13, 1. Roman history: Its geographic and human foundations
- 📖 pp. 14–35, 2. Phoenicians, Greeks, and Etruscans in pre-Roman Italy
- 📖 pp. 36–51, 3. Early Rome to 500 b.c.e.

Read one of the following:

- ★ On the Subject of Roman History / Dionysius
- ★ Numa's Religious Settlement / Livy
- ★ The Capture of the Sabine Women / Livy
- ★ Servius Tullius's Reform of the Comitia Centuriata / Dionysius
- ★ The Rape of Lucretia / Livy

3 Patrician and Plebeian
Thursday, February 13

Read all of the following:

- 📖 pp. 52–72, 4. Early Roman society, religion, and values
- 📖 pp. 73–98, 5. From tyrant kings to oligarchic republic

Read one of the following:

- ★ Early Rules for Clients and Patrons / Dionysius
- ★ Coriolanus Opposes the Plebs / Dionysius
- ★ The Twelve Tables / Fragments
- ★ The Roman Way of Declaring War / Livy, Dionysius
- ★ The Defeat of the Latins / Livy

4 SPQR
Thursday, February 20

Read all of the following:

- 📖 pp. 99–118, 6. The Roman conquest of Italy and its impact
- 🕒 *Dictator*, Introduction
- 🕒 *Dictator*, Origins
- 🕒 *Dictator*, Choice

Read one of the following:

- ★ The Tribunes and their Manipulation / Dionysius
- ★ The Mythology of the Farmer General / Cicero, Dionysius
- ★ The Constitution of the Roman Republic / Polybius
- ★ The Roman Maniples vs. the Macedonian Phalanx / Polybius
- ★ The Samnites' 'Linen Legion' Remains Undaunted / Livy

5 The Nemesis of Carthage
Thursday, February 27

Read all of the following:

- pp. 119–135, 7. The First Punic War, northern Italy, and Illyrian pirates
- pp. 136–149, 8. War with Hannibal: The Second Punic War

Read one of the following:

- ★ Hannibal / Cornelius Nepos
- ★ The Battle of Cannae / Polybius
- ★ The Magna Mater / Livy, Prudentius
- ★ The Siege of Syracuse / Polybius

6 Acquisition of Empire
Thursday, March 13

Read all of the following:

- pp. 150–173, 9. Roman imperialism East and West
- pp. 174–192, 10. The transformation of Roman life
- pp. 193–207, 11. The great cultural synthesis

Read one of the following:

- ★ The Destruction of Corinth / Polybius
- ★ Cato Opposes Extravagance / Livy
- ★ From The Menaechmi / Plautus
- ★ Accounts of the Roman State Religion / Various
- ★ Slavery in the Roman Republic / Various

The Images Essay is due on Monday, March 10.

7 Optimates and Populares
Thursday, March 20

Sign up for your second presentation.

Read all of the following:

- pp. 208–223, 12. The Gracchi and the struggle over reforms
- pp. 224–239, 13. Destructive rivalries, Marius, and the Social War
- pp. 240–250, 14. Civil war and Sulla's reactionary settlement

Read one of the following:

- ★ On Tiberius Gracchus / Plutarch
- ★ On Gaius Gracchus / Appian
- ★ Speech of Marius Against the Nobility / Sallust
- ★ Mithridates Against Rome / Appian And Plutarch
- ★ Drusus and his Enemies / Appian
- ★ Sulla's Brutality / Livy, Appian

8 Crossing the Rubicon
Thursday, March 27

Read all of the following:

- pp. 251–272, 15. Personal ambitions: The failure of Sulla's optimate oligarchy
- pp. 273–296, 16. Caesar wins and is lost

Read one of the following:

- ★ Pompey's Letter to the Senate / Sallust
- ★ Against Catiline / Cicero
- ★ Pompey's Conquest of the East / Appian
- ★ The Murder of Clodius / Asconius
- ★ On Julius Caesar / Suetonius

The Proposal is due on Monday, March 24.

9 End of the Republic
Thursday, April 3

Read all of the following:

- pp. 297–316, 17. The last years of the Republic
- pp. 317–341, 18. Social, economic, and cultural life in the late Republic

Read one of the following:

- ★ The Assassination of Julius Caesar / Plutarch
- ★ The Roman Candidate / Q. Cicero
- ★ Life in Rome in the Late Republic / Sallust
- ★ Scipio's Dream / Cicero
- ★ On the Rise of Augustus / Cicero

The last day to withdraw from Spring 2025 courses is Tuesday, April 1.

The Principate

10 Augustus, Princeps, Imperator
Thursday, April 10

Read all of the following:

- pp. 342–359, 19. The Principate of the early Roman Empire takes shape
- pp. 360–380, 20. Imperial stabilization under Augustus
- pp. 381–400, 21. The impact of Augustus on Roman Imperial life and culture

Read one of the following:

- ★ Selections / Catullus
- ★ The Secular Hymn / Horace
- ★ The Battle of Teutoburg Forest / Velleius Paterculus
- ★ Acts of the Divine Augustus / Augustus
- ★ The Death of Augustus and the Accession of Tiberius / Tacitus

11 Succession and Empire
Thursday, April 24

Read all of the following:

- pp. 401–418, 22. The first two Julio-Claudian Emperors: Tiberius and Gaius
- pp. 419–435, 23. Claudius, Nero, and the end of the Julio-Claudians
- pp. 436–450, 24. The crisis of the Principate and recovery under the Flavians

Read one of the following:

- ★ A Speech on Incorporating the Gauls / Claudius
- ★ The Pumpkinification of Claudius / Seneca
- ★ The Principle of Adoption / Tacitus
- ★ The Legions Proclaim Vespasian Emperor / Tacitus
- ★ The Roman Army in the First Century CE / Josephus
- ★ Law Concerning the Power of Vespasian / Legal Text
- ★ How Domitian Attempted to Amuse the Populace / Suetonius

12 The Roman Peace
Thursday, May 1

Read all of the following:

- pp. 451–473, 25. The five “good” emperors of the second century
- pp. 474–505, 26. Culture, society, and economy in the first two centuries c.e.

Read one of the following:

- ★ The Grandeur of Rome / Pliny The Elder
- ★ Panegyric Addressed to the Emperor Trajan / Pliny The Younger
- ★ The Correspondence of a Provincial Governor and the Emperor / Pliny The Younger
- ★ Egypt under the Roman Empire / Strabo, Oxyrhynchos Papyri
- ★ Roman Educational Practices / Various
- ★ On the Virtue of Antoninus Pius / Marcus Aurelius
- ★ The Reign of Marcus Aurelius / Eutropius

13 Third Century Crisis
Thursday, May 8

Read all of the following:

- pp. 506–526, 27. Conflicts and Crises under Commodus and the Severi
- pp. 527–540, 28. The third-century anarchy
- pp. 541–562, 29. Changes in Roman life and culture during the third century

Read one of the following:

- ★ Imperial Weakness Invites Barbarian Aggression / Zosimus
- ★ The Persecution under Decius / Eusebius
- ★ Aurelian’s Conquest of Palmyra / Vopiscus
- ★ How Didius Julianus Bought the Empire at Auction / Herodian
- ★ The Lives of Soldiers and Sailors / Various
- ★ The Luxury of the Rich in Rome / Ammianus Marcellinus

14 The New Empire
Thursday, May 15

Read all of the following:

- pp. 563–578, 30. Diocletian: Creating the fourth-century Empire
- pp. 579–593, 31. Constantine the Great and Christianity
- pp. 594–604, 32. From Constantine’s dynasty to Theodosius the Great
- pp. 605–624, 33. The evolving world of Late Antiquity in the fourth century c.e.

Read one of the following:

- ★ The Conversion of Constantine / Eusebius
- ★ Constantine Founds Constantinople, 324 CE / Sozomen
- ★ Letter to Arsacius / Julian
- ★ Alaric’s Sack of Rome, 410 CE / Procopius Of Caesarea
- ★ The Greatness of Rome in the Days of Ruin, 413CE / Rutilius Namatianus
- ★ The Battle of Chalons, 451 CE / Jordanes

The Position Paper is due Monday, May 12.

15 Final Exam
Thursday, May 22

The final exam will be held in-person on May 22 from 6:15 to 8:15 p.m. in our normal meeting room.