

TRIMESTER 3

HISTORY OVERVIEW

2009-2010

Mar 15- Mar 16

Ancient Wonders

Date c2550 BC – c220 BC

Themes Beginning of World Philosophy and Religions
 Beginnings of Law and Government
 Beginnings of Trade and Trade Routes
 Literary Traditions of Oral History, Myth and Legends

Readings

Supplemental Readings

Topics

Great Pyramid of Giza (c2550 BC)

- Built as a tomb for King Khufu (Cheops), it is the only ancient wonder standing still today. It stands with the pyramids of Khafra and Menkaure in the desert in Giza, which is now a suburb of Cairo. No one knows exactly how long it took to build or how many men were involved, but given the tools that the ancient Egyptians had, it represents a marvel of engineering and architecture.

Hanging Gardens of Babylon (c605 BC)

- The Hanging Gardens of Babylon have captured the imagination of the world for more than 2,000 years, but there is not evidence that they ever existed. The city of Babylon still exists in what is now Iraq. According to tradition, the gardens were built by King Nebuchadnezzar II for his queen Amytis, because she was homesick for the mountains of her homeland. The city was abandoned in 539 BC after being conquered by the Persians, and now all that is left is the remarkable tale of their existence. Remains of gardens have been found nearby, and archeologists have pieced together a picture of how they might have looked.

Temple of Artemus at Ephesus (c550 BC)

- There were several versions of this building on the western coast of modern-day Turkey, in an area then known as Asia Minor. It was first built with money supplied by the famously rich Croesus in the 6th century BC and burnt down by

Herostratus in 356 BC. Along came Alexander the Great in 334 BC and offered to pay for the reconstruction, but was turned down. The people of Ephesus rebuilt their beloved temple so successfully that it soon became acknowledged as one of the wonders of the world. (You can see some fragments of it in the British Museum, including one of the sculpted column bases.)

Statue of Zeus at Olympia (c435 BC)

- A new temple to Zeus at Olympia was completed in 456 BC. The huge statue of the god was begun by the sculptor Pheidias in 438 BC. It was made of gold and ivory, seated on an ebony throne, and was 43 feet tall, its head almost touching the temple ceiling. Olympia was the site of the Olympic Games, which began as part of a festival celebrating Zeus, the chief of the Greek gods. Nothing remains of the statue, which was taken to Byzantium and later destroyed in a fire in about 425 AD. Some fragments of Pheidias' workshop have been discovered at Olympia. Some of what we know of the statue's dimensions comes from a description by Pausanias, who traveled in Greece in the 2nd century AD.

Mausoleum of Halicarnassus (c315 BC)

- King Mausollus reigned from 377-353 BC in Caria and had such a magnificent tomb and monument built for himself (completed after his death) that the word "mausoleum" entered the language to describe any grand tomb. It collapsed in the 13th century AD and some remains of the structure were built into the castle of St. Peter of Bodrum (ancient Halicarnassus) in Turkey. Excavations in the mid-19th century found more pieces, including what may be the statue of Maussollus himself, which are now in the British Museum.

Colossus of Rhodes (c292 BC)

- The gigantic statue of the sun-god Helios was built near the harbor on the Greek island of Rhodes. Cast in sections in bronze by the sculptor Chares, it stood 106 feet high. Many artists have painted the Colossus standing astride the harbor, but such a statue would have been impossibly large. It was destroyed by an earthquake in 226 BC, which broke the statue at the knees. The fallen figure remained on Rhodes for nearly 900 years until Arabs who had invaded Rhodes sold the bronze pieces to a merchant from Syria, who carried them away on the backs of 900 camels. Not a single trace of the Colossus survives today.

Lighthouse of Alexandria (c 290 BC)

- Ptolemy Soter, Alexander's successor, began to build the lighthouse on a nearby island called Pharos, which was joined to the mainland by an artificial causeway. The lighthouse itself became known as the Pharos and gave that name to many other lighthouses in the world. It had a statue of Zeus Soter at the top. By the time of its destruction in 1303 AD, the statue of Zeus had been replaced by a domed Islamic mosque with the crescent symbol on top. Some of the stones from the original lighthouse have been built into the wall of the Qait Bey fortress which stands on its side in Alexandria.

Great Wall of China (c220 BC)

- Not an “official” ancient wonder, but truly a great wonder. Qin Shi Huangdi, first ruler of united China, began work on the Great Wall to protect the country from northern invaders. Now the world’s longest wall, the main part runs for 2,150 miles. The wall was built up to 18 feet wide to allow soldiers to march 10 abreast. Tall watchtowers were used for signaling in order to pass messages to the soldiers along the wall.

Mar 17- Mar 18

Republic Period

Date 509 BC – 27 BC

Themes Beginning of World Philosophy and Religions
Beginnings of Law and Government
Beginnings of Trade and Trade Routes
Literary Traditions of Oral History, Myth and Legends

Readings Ox Ch 17 p226-227 (neighbors); Ch 18 (buildings)
SOTW (R205-210)

Supplemental Readings

Anc Rom Wld – Ch 3, 4

PAW (Rom) Ch 3,8

King Anc Atlas-p30-31

Usb p 184-85, 188-89

Story Rom-Ch 28, 32

HAW – Ch 66

Topics

Government

- Once kings banished, senators took control of the government. They agreed to share leadership with the Assembly so that no one could take control and rule as a tyrant. Rome became a **REPUBLIC** – a state in which highest power belongs to citizens. The popular assembly was made of citizens who were entitled to vote – the land owning men.
- The Roman Republic lasted 500 years. During that time, Rome grew from a city of 35,000 to a metropolis of 1 million inhabitants and an empire with 60 million subjects.
- Each year, the assembly elected 2 senators to high office of *consul*. *Consuls* handled nearly all of the affairs of government (acting as judges, priests, military commanders and city councilors), and they could only rule for 1 year. As Rome's population grew, the assembly elected *magistrates* (officials) to help govern:
 - *praetors* were chief judges
 - *aediles* were in charge of public works
 - *censors* kept registers of who could vote
 - *quaestors* dealt with the state's finances
 - Roman magistrates could only serve 2 years.
- Once one was a magistrate, he became a lifetime member of the senate.
- Senate controlled the treasury, investigated crimes against the state, and made foreign policy.
- In theory, the assembly was supreme authority. However, in reality the senate contained all the experienced ex-magistrates, therefore the senate controlled the assembly. The assembly normally only passed legislation after they had heard the senate's opinion.
- Senate had the power to appoint a dictator in times of great danger, who could serve as dictator for up to 6 months.

Twelve Tables

- A code of laws written in an attempt to ease the tensions between the upper and lower classes.
- The *patricians*, wealthy landowners who claimed the founding fathers of Rome as their ancestors, held the reigns of government. The *plebians* (*plebs* for short), the workers or those who were not the aristocratic patricians, complained that the laws favored the patricians. The plebians went on strike, so the senate voted to give them an assembly of their own and special magistrates called *tribunes*.
- Rome at this point still had no written laws. The jockeying for power between consuls, senators, priests and tribunes made evident Rome's need for written laws which would further protect the plebians. Roman ambassadors who had visited Athens came back talking about the laws of Solon, written to relieve the tensions between Athenian aristocrats and democrats. (They even brought back a copy). So in 451 BC, a board of 10 lawmakers were appointed to draw up laws the govern Rome – The Twelve Tables.

Few sources survive for this republican period of Roman history, but it appears to have been one of consolidation. Rome found herself facing a coalition of enemies. She defeated them, but instead of destroying them, she reorganized them into a 'commonwealth' of states who accepted the dominance of Rome and provided armed support when called upon.

Rome now also began to establish colonies and form alliances. The colonists gave up Roman citizenship, but maintained Latin rights and formed self-governing communities. The alliances were made with communities who had been defeated or surrendered. Allies maintained full independence, but had to provide manpower for wars. This enabled Rome to draw upon large reserves of manpower at almost no cost to herself.

Formation of colonies and alliances led to:

- New fighting techniques developed for hilly country. Greek hoplight formation not good on rough ground, so legions were split into smaller groups armed with a '*pilum*' (javelin) and a '*gladius*' (sword).
- 1st great military road built, the Appian Way (between Rome and Capua) as part of the process of control.
- No pre-industrial society has ever mobilized such a high percentage of its male population in war over such a long period of time – between 9-16% in normal times/25% in times of crisis
- Supremacy of Rome in war depended not only on manpower but a mixture of FEROCITY IN BATTLE and comparative GENEROSITY IN DEFEAT - a formidable combination which was to underlie the strategy of Roman imperialism in the centuries to come.

Feats of Building and Engineering

- Aqueducts – Rome had 11, and the Aqua Marcia built in 146 BC still operates today. Frontinus, Rome's Water Commissioner at end of 1st century AD, said *'With such an array of indispensable structures carrying so many waters, compare, if you will, the Pyramids or the useless, though famous, works of the Greeks!'*
- Baths – were an integral part of Roman urban life. By the late republic, bathing had become a daily occurrence for many. The larger bath complexes served as vast recreation, community and social centers; not only were bathing facilities provided, but also meeting rooms and gardens for promenading.
- Temples
- Houses/flats – wealthy citizens lived in private dwellings but the majority of the population lived in large apartment blocks in the poorer districts, where collapsing buildings and fires were a common problem.

Shops and Trade

- Prior to 300 BC, barter was main way to buy goods – then lumps of copper and bronze came into use, and by 200 BC coins were used
- Most stores run by families of slaves on behalf of their owners, or by freedmen. The storekeepers often lived above their shops. Most stores sold food – bakers, butchers, grocery stores, rotisseries, etc.
- Many shops also acted as studios/workshops for goldsmiths, perfume makers, shoemakers, weavers, marble-workers, and carpenters.
- Craftworkers – most handicraft work carried out in small workshops by semi-skilled workers. Blacksmiths were in great demand because they made tools for other craftsmen as well as everyday items such as knives, locks, etc. Craftworkers in each trade belonged to a guild.
- The Forum was the center of trade in the city, as well as a meeting place and political arena.

Mar 22- Mar 25

Daily Life

Date 509 BC – 476 AD
(the daily lifestyle of the Romans was essentially consistent throughout the Republic and Empire periods)

Themes Beginning of World Philosophy and Religions
Beginnings of Law and Government
Beginnings of Trade and Trade Routes
Literary Traditions of Oral History, Myth and Legends

Readings 3/22-3/23: Ox Ch 22 (gladiators); Ch 21 p276-277 (religion)
WR p110-111
SOTW (R210-216)

3/24-3/25: Ox Ch 20

Supplemental Readings

Anc Rom Wld – Ch 5, 18, 19, 21
Usb – p190-91
PAW (Rom) Ch 4, 6, 7, 9, 10 p84-87

Topics

Gladiators

- 264 BC – After the death of Brutus Pera, his sons stage the first gladiatorial contest. Three pairs of gladiators fight to the death in Rome.
- Gladiatorial combat originated with the Etruscans, who staged fights between prisoners of war at funeral games.
- Gladiators were often slaves, criminals, or prisoners of war. For a free man to become a gladiator, he had to swear to an oath that he was willing to be “branded, chained, whipped, and killed by the sword.” A free man’s motive for becoming a gladiator could be the desperation of poverty, or attraction to the excitement of the life and the chance to make prize money.
- Types of gladiators:
 - *Retiarius* – a net man, who was armed as a fisherman with a trident and net.
 - *Secutor* – a pursuer, who fought with a *retiarius*. He wore an oval, smooth helmet designed to slip through the net of the *retiarius*.
 - *Murmillo* – a fish man, named for the high crest on his helmet which resembled the dorsal fin of a fish. He was a heavily armed gladiator with a short, stabbing sword (*gladius*).
- Gladiators trained in *ludi* (gladiator schools) by *lanistae* (gladiatorial trainers).
- The Colosseum was the largest amphitheater built by Emperor Vespasian and his son Titus between 72 and 80 AD. It seated 55,000, but had standing room for spectators also.

- If a wounded gladiator was unable to continue fighting, he dropped his shield and appealed to the crowd. If he fought bravely, the crowd would shout “Mitte!” (“Let him go!”). If they felt he deserved to die, they made a stabbing gesture with their thumbs, crying “Iugula!” (“Kill him!”). The victorious gladiator would finish him off.
- Although many fights ended in death, the defeated were often spared and lived to fight again.

Religion

Polytheistic – had a pantheon of gods and goddesses, each with its own unique powers and personality

Blend of different religious influences:

- Greek
- Etruscan
- Early Latin tribes

Sometimes the original name of the god/goddess remained the same, and at other times was replaced by a Roman name. The following lists the major Roman deities with the Greek deity equivalent:

<u>Roman</u>	<u>Greek</u>	<u>Domain</u>
Jupiter	Zeus	king of the gods
Juno	Hera	wife of Zeus/Jupiter
Venus	Aphrodite	goddess of beauty and love
Mars	Ares	god of war
Diana	Artemis	goddess of hunting and childbirth
Minerva	Athena	goddess of war, wisdom, craft
Ceres	Demeter	god of harvest, grain
Pluto	Hades	god of underworld
Mercury	Hermes	messenger god, god of merchants
Saturn	Kronos	god of agriculture
Neptune	Poseiden	god of the sea

Roman worship

- Sacrifice
 - A sacred vow – person or state would promise to give deity a gift (votive) if deity granted the person’s request. If request wasn’t granted, no votive gift was given.
 - Animal sacrifice
- Prayer

High Offices of Roman State Religion

- Pontifex maximus – most powerful religious official in Roman society
 - Was leader of collegium pontificum, the college of priests
 - Collegium pontificum determined dates of festivals, kept records of religious events
- Flamines – officials appointed to serve individual state gods in Rome (ancient writers refer to 15 flamines who served the “official” Roman deities.
- Augurs – religious officers who read and interpreted signs by “taking auspices” which was the reading of god’s will from the flight of birds and feeding habits of sacred chickens.
 - Auspices were taken before any major event: sea voyages, war, important elections

Vestal Virgins

- A group of 6 respected, sacred women whose duty it was to maintain and care for holy fire in the state Temple of Vesta in the Forum in Rome
- The girls were hand picked between the ages of 6-10, and they served for 30 years. (10 years in training, 10 years performing duties, and 10 years in teaching the next group).

Pompeii and Herculaneum

- Much knowledge of daily life of the Romans comes from these two towns near the modern city of Naples.
- 79 AD – Mt. Vesuvius erupted. Pompeii, which was right in the middle of the volcanic fallout, was buried under 3-5 meters of ash and pumice.
- The ruins lay buried and forgotten until the 18th century. In 1710, a peasant digging a well in which he discovered large slabs of marble. Herculaneum, one of the buried towns, had been discovered.
- In 1748 digging began in Pompey.
- In 1860, Giuseppe Fiorelli was appointed Professor of Archaeology at Naples and took over the excavations. He is most famous for the plaster casts he took. When people who were caught by the eruption died, the ashes and pumice settled around their bodies, eventually hardening. Eventually the flesh and clothes decayed, leaving only bones, but every detail of the body was imprinted in the hardened ashes. Fiorelli invented a method of pumping a type of plaster into the cavity left by the body.

Food

- In early Roman times, people mostly ate cereals, vegetables dressed with olive oil, small amounts of meat, and large quantities of vegetables – a diet that today is described as “Mediterranean.”
- In Imperial Rome, cooking became an art form. New ingredients imported from abroad influenced the meals.
- Lavish banquets were eaten by the rich.
 - Starters – egg dishes, seafood, snails
 - Main course – roast or stewed meat, fish, birds (such as peacocks or swans)
 - End of meal – fruit and sweetmeats, a blend of wine and honey
- Staples of the diet – fruit, eggs, bread, meats (pork was preferred and beef was banned for centuries because oxen were needed to work the field).

Arts

- Theater – Livius Andronicus, a Greek slave from the 3rd century BC, is credited with bringing Greek comedies and tragedies to Rome.
- Literature – Virgil was one of the major poets, famous for the *Aeneid*. Cicero was famous for his speeches. Emperor Marcus Aurelius wrote *Meditations of Marcus Aurelius*. Livy wrote *The Early History of Rome*.
- Mosaics were used to decorate walls and floors. Walls were also decorated with frescoes.
- Sculpture – heavily influenced by the Greeks as well as the Etruscans and Italic people of early Italy. The facial features of emperors, magistrates, soldiers and ordinary people were faithfully reproduced in minute detail.
- Much art was commissioned to celebrate military conquests and to glorify public figures. Historical narrative friezes decorated columns and arches, sculpted busts and statues were prominently displayed in public places.
- Architecture – temples, aqueducts, circuses, baths, and amphitheaters attest to the greatness of Roman architecture.

Mar 29- Mar 30

Punic Wars

Date First Punic War: 264-241 BC
Second Punic War: 218-202 BC
(*Third Punic War: 146 BC-Destruction of Carthage finished*)

Themes Beginning of World Philosophy and Religions
Beginnings of Law and Government
Beginnings of Trade and Trade Routes
Literary Traditions of Oral History, Myth and Legends

Readings Ox Ch 17 p228-233 (Punic Wars); Ch 23 (army)
FMR Scipio; Cato the Censor

Supplemental Readings

Anc Rom Wld – Ch 6, 7	Usb p 186-87
PAW (Rom) Ch 5	HAW – Ch 73, 76
Story Rom – Ch 40 - 48	

Topics

Punic War – (Punic from Latin word for Phoenicia)

- Carthaginians were people who left their homeland in Phoenicia (modern day Lebanon) around 800 BC and set up colonies in North Africa and Spain. Carthage was the most powerful colony – became a trading post for merchants from all over the Mediterranean world. They were excellent seaman and traders. Eventually Carthage gained independence and by 3rd century BC controlled trade across western Mediterranean.
- Both Rome and Carthage wanted to be THE power in western Mediterranean, to dominate Sicily, and control the trade at the Straits of Messina.
- Sicily was controlled by Carthage on the west and Greek colonies on the east end

First Punic War 264-241 BC

- Italian mercenaries, calling themselves Mamertines, seized the city of Messana (modern day Messina) which overlooked the straits between Sicily and Italy
- Some in Messina looked appealed to Rome for help, others appealed to Carthage
- When a Carthaginian fleet was invited to Messina, Rome felt it had to respond. A Carthaginian take-over in Messina would threaten Rome's control of the straits.
- Initially, focus of fighting was in Sicily, since Rome had no navy. Rome had some successes, however the campaigns ended in a stalemate since Carthage was in control of the sea
- Rome, with no naval tradition, experience in ship building nor any trained crews, decided to build a fleet - a grounded Carthaginian ship was used as a model. The Romans added a significant improvement, a wooden gangplank (corvus) that dropped onto an enemy ship so soldiers could cross over and fight.

- Over 20 years of war, but Rome prevailed at last in 241 BC. Carthage, exhausted more than beaten, sued for peace and accepted harsh terms: Carthage gave up Sicily and paid an indemnity to cover Roman costs. Carthage itself remained unconquered and her merchant fleets continued to generate wealth.

Results of First Punic War

- *Rome won income*
- *Rome gained her 1st province (Sicily) – a first step in creating a Roman empire*
- *Rome learned how to make war at sea*
- *Rome learned how to conduct war on a massive scale: the Senate learned how to finance such a war, find men for armies, find supplies, build fleets and learned how to conduct politics on the home front in times of war.*

Second Punic War 218-202 BC

- Carthage, after defeat in First Punic War, began building a new empire in Spain under Hamilcar of Barca. With Spain came Spanish bullion, Spanish cavalry as auxiliaries, and a field army forged with great skill and experience
- Hannibal succeeded his father Hamilcar, assuming control of Carthaginian Spain in 221 BC
- Hannibal-
 - Learned from his father, a brilliant and energetic commander, visionary statesman who reformed Carthage's institutions, and patron of Greek culture
 - Had a tutor from Sparta and admired the campaigns of Alexander the Great
 - He trained his army (comprised of mercenaries) by dropping standard Greek phalanx and created smaller, flexible units based on ethnic groups of his mercenaries – it was the combination of an energetic cavalry and Hannibal's tactical genius which were to underlie his success
- Rome sent Publius Cornelius Scipio to Spain to defeat Hannibal there
- But Hannibal had decided to strike out offensively by crossing the Alps into Italy with the hopes of destroying Rome's links with her allies
- So Scipio sent his army on to Spain with his brother while he returned to Italy to meet Hannibal there
- Hannibal, with elephants, successfully fought his way over the Alps. With 26,000 men left after crossing (loss of one third of his army), he met the Romans at Trebia – ***Rome lost half her army and the north of Italy***
- 217 BC, Hannibal slaughtered the Roman army in central Italy – ***Rome now lost central Italy***
- Quintus Fabius Maximus appointed dictator of Rome for a 6 month term in office to confront this crisis. He advocated avoiding fixed battles (since Hannibal was slaughtering them) and instead proposed wearing him down gradually, which became known as Fabian tactics. Romans didn't like this and replaced him when his term was over.

- 216 BC – Battle of Cannae – Hannibal and Roman army met, Romans were slaughtered – Hannibal had now defeated equivalent of 8 consular armies in 2 years; *none before or since had such success against the Romans*
- Hannibal consolidated his position in southern Italy – gained Capua. However, Rome’s allies remained with Rome
- Fabius Maximus given command again and began to employ harassment tactics to wear Hannibal down
- Hannibal now on the defensive - he held no ports – so unable to break out of southern Italy. Now is a war of attrition. (*In reality, Hannibal lost when Rome did not collapse after her defeat at Cannae*).
- 211 BC - in Spain, Rome almost lost her hold there but Publius Cornelius Scipio (son of the Publius Scipio sent to Spain in 218 BC and who had died in battle) was appointed to take command.
- 208 BC - Hannibal sent for his brother Hasdrubal to join him in Italy. Hasdrubal duplicated Hannibal’s journey of crossing the Alps with elephants to enter Italy. He fought his way to southern Italy but was defeated by the Romans in 207 BC.
- 204 BC – Scipio set off for Africa in 204 BC. With Scipio’s first success, Carthage recalls Hannibal back to Carthage. (This quite a feat – it took 2 years for Hannibal to maneuver his army of 20,000 to a seaport undetected, and for a fleet to arrive from Carthage undetected at a seaport).
- 202 BC – Battle of Zama – final showdown between Scipio and Hannibal. Hannibal’s army destroyed. Carthage surrenders. Scipio awarded name ‘Africanus’.

Results of Second Punic War

- *Carthage gave up entire empire – only retained the city itself*
- *Rome acquired Carthage’s empire: Spain, the islands, North Africa. In 50 years Rome had acquired most of the western Mediterranean*
- *These territories were conquered lands, and needed large armies in order to secure them. Therefore, the army continued to play a crucial role in Roman society, for it was the keystone of the empire.*

The Third Punic War 146 BC

- Despite penalties from the loss of the Second Punic War, Carthage paid off her war indemnity, continued to trade, and was economically flourishing.
- This didn't sit well with Roman senators, many of whom had invested in olives and grains grown on North African coasts. Carthage traded these goods as well, and was better at it.
- Cato the Elder led a faction in the senate (of those who were jealous of Carthage's economic success) against Carthage, arguing that Carthage must be destroyed.
- Meanwhile, Carthage was besieged with raiding tribes who would cross over the Roman border to safety. Carthage rearmed to defend against the raiders. In 149 BC the Punic army followed the raiders (over to the Roman land) and destroyed their camps.
- Roman senate declared Carthage had violated the treaty and declared war.
- 146 BC – Rome razed the city of Carthage, sold the citizens into slavery, and declared that no one could live where Carthage once stood. (Although eventually a new city grew up there, becoming the 2nd largest city in the western Roman empire).

Rome in 146 BC

- *Parts of Greece became Roman provinces through the Macedonian Wars.*
- *By 146 BC, Fourth Macedonian War concluded at same time as Third Punic War. Rome was capable of carrying on wars on multiple fronts.*
- *By 146 BC, Rome had been at war for nearly 100 years. It had taken its toll – the city ruled a large empire with a government that was designed to rule a city-state. The strains would prove too great for the Republic. It took another 100 years for the Republic to fall apart.*

Mar 31- Apr 27

Fall of the Republic

Date 133 BC – The Gracchi (and beginning of decline of Republic)
48 BC – Julius Caesar rules as dictator
(30 BC – Octavian becomes sole ruler, and in 27 BC named Augustus)

Themes Beginning of World Philosophy and Religions
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Literary Traditions of Oral History, Myth and Legends

Readings 3/31-4/1 – ACW p10-18 (Julius Caesar-Antony-Cleopatra)
FMR The Gracchi, Marius, Sulla, Pompey; Julius Caesar
Ox Ch 21 p274-275 (Senate, gov't)
SOTW Ch 34

4/12-4/13 – ACW p19-28; Ox Ch 19 p248-251
SOTW Ch 35
Ox Ch 16 p224-225 (Celts); WR p112-113 (Celtic religion)

4/14-4/15 – ACW p29-38, 45-49; FMR Cicero, Augustus

4/26-4/27 – ACW p50-55, 71-79, 84-90

Supplemental Readings

Anc Rom Wld- Ch 9-13 Usb p 182-83
Story Rom – Ch 51-52, 55-60, 62-71
HAW – Ch76-79, 81

Topics

The Gracchi Brothers – Tiberius and Gaius Sempronius Gracchus

- Social reformes (rare in Roman politics) who attempted to tackle the social and economic problems of land hunger in the aftermath of the Punic Wars
- Were of a noble, wealthy family – mother was daughter of Scipio Africanus
- Rome was suddenly rich and powerful after the Punic Wars, but also suddenly full of problems:
 - *Unemployed men on the streets who lost their jobs to foreign slaves, or farmers whose land was bought by wealthy aristocrats and could not farm now*
 - *Rome's elected officials concentrated on what was best for themselves rather than for the common good*
 - *Army became unruly*
- 133 BC – Tiberius elected tribune (one who passes laws for the plebians). His focus was on land reform. He proposed that no one could keep more than 300

- acres of state land – the rest should be available to the poor. The senators hated this because they would lose profits from the tens of thousands of acres they farmed virtually free. Tiberius' land reform law passed. A brawl broke out on the street and Tiberius was killed.
- 123 BC – Gaius elected tribune. He was more revolutionary than Tiberius, a great orator with energy and charisma. Gaius passed a grain law that made grain affordable for poor people and changed the jury system to make it more difficult for corrupt senators to get away with their crimes. He fought for the rights of Italian allies to gain Roman citizenship. Gaius also met his death in a street battle.
 - The failure of the Gracchi to make permanent reforms marked a watershed in the political history of the republic. If the allies could have had access to citizenship, then the War of the Allies (also known as the Social War) could've been averted. *(The Social War - the Italian allies revolting against Rome in the fight for citizenship - was settled with the granting of citizenship to those allies, but the price had been high in terms of disruption and lingering bitterness).*

Marius

- 113 BC – 2 Germanic tribes (Cimbri and Teutones) migrating from central Europe to France. When they met a Roman army, they defeated it.
- 105 BC – in Arusio, Germans defeated Romans and Rome lay completely vulnerable to invasion.
- 104 BC – Marius secured a 2nd consulship (and then another 4 consecutive terms), battled and defeated the Germans in 101 BC
- Marius new problem – the settlement of his troops. Without land to return to, they couldn't just be disbanded. He tried to gain land for his troops with the help of a tribune, Lucius Saturninus, but the proposed laws were bitterly opposed by the senate. Disorder ensued – Saturninus killed by a lynch mob and Marius went into exile
- Problem that senate failed to realize – *if soldiers without land were dependent upon their commanders after their campaigns ended, then Rome was vulnerable to determined commanders who might try to force land from the state.*

The Social War (aka The War of the Allies) – 90-88 BC

The Social War - the Italian allies revolting against Rome in the fight for citizenship - was settled with the granting of citizenship to those allies, but the price had been high in terms of disruption and lingering bitterness.

Sulla

- 88 BC – Lucius Cornelius Sulla elected consul and granted command of an army to restore control in the eastern provinces of Greece and Asia
- Publius Sulpicius, a tribune, challenged Sulla's command, wanting to replace Sulla with Marius. Sulpicius' plan was unconstitutional (Marius was not even a consul) and Sulla would've been humiliated. Sulla persuaded his legions to follow him to Rome. *Momentous – 1st time Roman army being led to Rome to fight other Romans.*

- Sulla triumphant – met no resistance. Sulla dealt ruthlessly with those who opposed him, then departed for Asia.
- While in the east, Athens was retaken. In Asia, the reconquered cities were crushed with enormous indemnities.
- 83 BC – Sulla returned and in 82 BC declared himself dictator with no time limit. A proscription list of between 2,000-9,000 names were drawn up, any of whom could be killed for reward. Their land was confiscated and distributed among Sulla's veterans.
- Sulla had plans for constitutional reform based on restoration of power of the senate. When his new system complete, he retired from office – to the surprise of many. He died in 78 BC.

Rise of Pompey

- The years following Sulla's retirement were filled with violence and corrosion in the political system.
- Senators turned to someone, *not even a member of the senate*, to save them: Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus, Pompey the Great.
- 80-72 BC – senate sends Pompey to Spain to regain Spanish provinces from Sertorius
- 73-71 BC – slave uprising under Spartacus. Pompey arrived back from Spain just as Crassus restored order, but Pompey claimed glory for the suppression of the revolt.
- 70 BC – Pompey and Crassus agreed to stand for consulship. Both retained their armies to make sure the senate acquiesced.
- Pompey retired to private life after his consulship.
- 67 BC – Pompey given command of an army to deal with piracy in Eastern Mediterranean. Within 3 months, the pirate problem was under control. (It was estimated that it would take 3 years).
- 66-63 BC – Pompey sent east. He ends the Seleucid monarchy, Judea comes under Roman control, and he created a stable eastern empire which provided vast income from taxes and tribute for Rome.
- 60 BC – forms first triumvirate with Julius Caesar and Crassus.

Julius Caesar

- Born in 100 BC to a patrician family, albeit not a wealthy or distinguished family.
- Julius Caesar talented, ambitious, and a fine speaker, magnanimous to those he defeated
- 65 BC elected aedile and consolidated his popularity with massive spending. Elected praetor in 62 BC
- Heavy in debt due to his electioneering – He took a command overseas to earn money. Returns home with enough wealth to finance his next ambition: to become consul.
- 60 BC – Caesar, Pompey, Crassus form the first 'triumvirate' – pledging mutual support for each other
- 59 BC – Caesar elected consul

- 58-49 BC – Caesar went to Gaul – brought whole of Gaul under Roman control. Spent 9 years there and wrote about it in his *Gallic Wars*.
- 56 BC – Caesar meets with Pompey and Crassus to renew agreement. Decided that Crassus and Pompey will be consuls in 55 BC, and that Caesar would be granted a further command in Gaul once his allotted 5 years were completed in 54 BC. *This shows how much the senate was at the mercy of those with commands of armies.*

The Fall of the Roman Republic, 55 – 31 BC

Civil War - Show Down Between Caesar and Pompey

- By 54 BC, Caesar and Pompey actively competing against each other for popular support.
- By 53 BC, political system in such disarray that no consuls elected before July. In the chaos, crowds asked for Pompey to be dictator.
- 52 BC – Senate didn't want Pompey dictator, but made him sole consul
- 50 BC – 1 legion from Caesar's and Pompey's army was to be sent to the Parthian border, but when the Parthian threat receded, Pompey kept those 2 legions as his own.
- Proposal passed that both Pompey and Caesar surrender their armies, but no date set. Then rumors circulating that Caesar was about to march on Rome, so the consuls asked Pompey to save the city from Caesar. Caesar asked in a letter to the senate that they both surrender their commands, but those in league with Pompey tried to get Caesar's army disbanded.
- Caesar left with little choice but to march to Rome if he was to preserve his dignity. On Jan 10, 49 BC – Caesar crossed the Rubicon river, effectively declaring war on the republic.
- Caesar defeated Pompey 18 months later at Pharsalus in northern Greece. Pompey fled to Egypt, however he was murdered as soon as he stepped ashore. The Egyptians presented Caesar with Pompey's embalmed head. (Caesar wept at the sight).

Caesar in Egypt

- At the time, Egypt still an independent kingdom co-ruled by 21 year old Cleopatra VII and her brother 15 year old Ptolemy XIII. Cleopatra and Ptolemy had a falling out and Cleopatra was in Syria trying to raise troops against him. When Caesar installed himself in the royal palace in Alexandria, Cleopatra smuggled herself to him inside of a rug, and was soon his mistress.
- *Cleopatra was the first Hellenistic ruler of Egypt to learn the language (she knew 9 languages) and to have participated in Egyptian religious festivals.*
- Caesar defeated Ptolemy and installed Cleopatra as sole ruler.

Civil War Continues

- By April of 47 BC, Caesar moved on to continue fighting the civil war. By March of 45 BC, Caesar had defeated the last of Pompey's army and supporters.

After the Civil War

- By 44 BC, Caesar given dictatorship for LIFE – a clear breach of convention.
- Opposition to Caesar began to grow, especially among noble families of the senate who saw the house packed with those whom Caesar wanted to reward, such as army officers or provincials.
- Caesar's reign became more absolutist, monarchical.
- Varied group of conspirators were inspired by notion of *libertas*. There were committed republicans like Cassus and Brutus, former supporters of Pompey, and others with personal resentments.
- March 15, 44 BC, the Ides of March – Caesar murdered, falling at the foot of statue of Pompey. Caesar's killers were at the end of a process that had begun 100 years before with the Gracchi.

Cicero

- Born in 106 BC outside of Rome in Arpinum – came to Rome to study law
- As a teenager Cicero traveled/studied in Greece, North Africa and Asia. Trained as an orator in Athens.
- Returned to Rome – practiced law. He hoped to become a magistrate and govern with honor for the good of others, and hoped to convince other magistrates to do the same.
- 75 BC – elected quaestor (assistant) to Sicilian governor. Climbed ladder of success quickly, through hard work and innate brilliance.
- Cicero and Pompey were friends since they were 17 years old. Cicero's orations helped Pompey gain support command of army against the pirates.
- 63 BC – Cicero elected consul. Cicero thought his consulship could help save the ailing republic.
- 60 BC – Pompey/Julius Caesar/Crassus formed a triumvirate and controlled the senate. Cicero shocked – refused to cooperate, and was banished from Rome.
- 57 BC – Cicero returned to Rome, but was banished again when he sided with Pompey against Julius Caesar.
- When Mark Antony held power – had Octavian kill Cicero and had his head and hands cut off and displayed in the Forum.
- During his lifetime, was known as great statesman and orator. 900 of his letters still survive. In his letters, he describes everyday life, his republican beliefs (juxtaposed to his awareness that the breakdown of order requires a strong man to take control), his family and concerns. He emerges as a fully human individual caught in a political turmoil over which he had no control, and ultimately becomes a victim.

The Aftermath of Caesar

- Conspirators claimed they killed Caesar in cause of republican liberty, but crowd didn't rise in support so the conspirators were forced to take refuge and hammer out a compromise with the surviving consul – Mark Antony – and supporters of Caesar.

- Dictatorship abolished and murderers given amnesty – in return, all of Caesar's acts were confirmed and there were no prosecutions for activities in the Civil War.
- Caesar had adopted nephew Octavian as his son and heir, and Octavian came to Rome to claim his inheritance.
- 43 BC – Antony / Octavian / Lepidus for a triumvirate. Antony and Octavian head east after Brutus and Cassius. Antony and Octavian defeat Brutus' and Cassius' armies, and Brutus and Cassius commit suicide.
- Triumvirate divides the empire. Octavian takes west of Illyricum, Antony takes east of Macedonia. Lepidus is given a post in Africa as *ponifex maximus*.
- 41 BC – Antony in Syria. Cleopatra sails up to Antony in grandeur. Antony is captivated and follow Cleopatra to Alexandria.

Antony v Octavian – Final Struggle of the Republic

- Early 30's BC, Antony and Octavian consolidating their rule.
- Octavian sought to portray himself as a man of peace wedded to restoration of traditional Roman values. Octavian condemning the influence of the east over Rome.
- 34 BC – Antony and Cleopatra staged an elaborate ceremony in Alexandria, with Cleopatra robed as Isis.
- Octavian condemned Antony as plaything of a woman who was corrupting Roman virtues.
- 31 BC – Antony and Octavian mustered forces, fought at Actium (Cape on west coast of northern Greece). Antony's fleet trapped; he fled with Cleopatra to Egypt while Octavian took the surrender of both Antony's army and navy.
- 30 BC – Octavian arrived in Egypt, seized Alexandria, Antony stabbed himself and Cleopatra killed herself using the bite of an asp. Octavian ordered the death of Cleopatra's son by Caesar.
- Egypt, the last of the great Hellenistic kingdoms, is now in the hands of Rome.

Why Did the Republic Collapse?

- Politically, the most successful years were when the senate's authority was respected.
- The growth of the empire after the Punic Wars caused rising social tensions, the need for good administration and effective defense – a variety of challenges which the body proved unable to meet.
- Senate didn't have a monopoly of coercive power and thus was vulnerable to those who did (such as consuls). When powerful men such as Pompey acquired commands, the senate was rendered impotent.
- Ultimately, he who dared won. The winner was Octavian, who promised he had no interest other than restoration of the republic.

Apr 19-Apr 22

Christianity

Date c4 BC – c29/30 AD

Themes Beginning of World Philosophy and Religions

Readings WR p48-63
SOTW Ch 37

Supplemental Readings

Anc Rom Wld – Ch 24
PSRWR – Ch 10

Topics

The World in Which Jesus Lived

Jesus was a Palestinian Jew. The Roman occupation of Israel began in 63 BC with Pompey's capture of Jerusalem. Rome was in a long line of invasions beginning with the Babylonians (539 BC), then with the Persians and Greeks.

By the time of Jesus' birth, the Romans had established a two-tiered system of government consisting of Roman overseers and Jewish leaders who exercised control in the name of Rome. This was the system of power in which the family of Herod the Great grew to prominence. Although half-Jewish, the Herodian family was detested by the Jewish people for its tyrannical rule and also because of its key role in selling out the Jewish heritage to a foreign power. One of Herod's sons was so brutal with his exercise of power in Jerusalem that Rome replaced him with one of its own governors, Pontius Pilate, who was to play a significant role in the crucifixion of Jesus.

Jesus was a Nazarene. He lived most of his life in the town of Nazareth within the province of Galilee. Galilee was under Roman influence. Although a small village, Nazareth was a Jewish enclave, unlike many of the neighboring Gentile (non-Jewish) cities.

Education was a priority for Jewish people. Jesus would have learnt the Jewish scriptures at the village school and at the local synagogue.

Jerusalem was the center of the Jewish world. Male Jews were supposed to make a pilgrimage to the Jerusalem temple for the three major Jewish feasts of Passover, Pentecost and Tabernacles.

Judaism at the time of Jesus was a complex mixture of divergent social, political and religious ideologies. In general, there were four distinct movements:

- Zealot movement – the revolutionary option. It advocated outward violence, even armed rebellion, to rid Israel of Roman oppression.
- Sadducees – the pragmatists of the day. As wealthy lay-nobles, priests and aristocrats, they sought to conserve their wealth and power through compromise with Rome.
- Pharisees – the idealists of Jewish society. Most of the Scribes were Pharisees. In general, the Pharisees sought to live a life of spiritual purity by a meticulous following of the torah (Jewish law). They did not believe in compromise with the Romans (as did Sadducees) nor in revolutionary activity (as did Zealots).
- Essenes – solved the problem of Jewish identity in a Roman-occupied Israel by withdrawing to a monastic-like setting.

Beginnings of World Religion

Christianity

Origins:

Christians believe in one God. The central figure in Christianity is Jesus (or Christ), a Jew who came into this world, according to Christian scriptures, by the immaculate conception of the virgin Mary. Jesus was born in Roman occupied Judea c. 7-4 BC.

Significance:

Once the Roman Emperor Constantine converted to Christianity (in 313 AD) and made Christianity a legal religion, the Christian religion spread quickly throughout the Roman Empire. In 391 AD Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire, and had a significant impact on the development of western civilizations.

Major figure(s):

Jesus, Mary (mother of Jesus), John the Baptist, Apostle Paul, Peter
Adam, Eve, Abraham, King David

Sources:

Holy scriptures for Christianity is the Bible, which consists of the Old Testament (also considered sacred to Judaism and Islam) and the New Testament. The Old Testament chronicles the lives of Jews and others who lived before Jesus, who had been promised a savior by God, and were waiting for him. It contains the Books of Moses, major and minor prophets, histories, poems, songs and proverbs.

The New Testament is unique to Christianity, for it centers around the figure of Jesus and his effect upon the world. Christians believe that Jesus is the messiah that the Old Testament foretold, so instead of looking for a savior, they await the return of Jesus, who will fix the brokenness of the world. The New Testament contains the Gospels, Acts of the Apostles, epistles (letters) and the Book of Revelations.

Central beliefs

Following are the fundamental beliefs of Christianity. (Variations may exist among the different sects of Christianity).

- Christians believe there is only one God.
- The Bible is the final revelations of God. The Bible consists of The Old Testament (books written prior to Jesus) and The New Testament (books about Jesus and how, through Jesus, God could enter into a relationship with all people).
- Belief in the Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit existing as one entity.
- Death and Resurrection of Jesus: Jesus was crucified on the cross. Christians believe that Jesus died for the sins of people. He was resurrected from the dead 3 days later.
- Return of Jesus: Bible proclaims that Jesus will return.
- Salvation: Christians believe in life after death. Those who believe in Jesus will be forgiven, saved and live with God eternally.

Current number practicing and geographical areas:

There are currently about 2.1 billion Christians worldwide, or 33% of the world's population, according to the 2001 edition of World Christian Encyclopedia.

Top 10 Largest National Christian Populations

Rank	Nation	Number	Percent
1	USA	224,457,000	85%
2	Brazil	139,000,000	93%
3	Mexico	86,120,000	99%
4	Russia	80,000,000	60%
5	China	70,000,000	5.7%
6	Germany	67,000,000	83%
7	Philippines	63,470,000	93%
8	United Kingdom	51,060,000	88%
9	Italy	47,690,000	90%
10	France	44,150,000	98%
11	Nigeria	38,180,000	45%

Apr 28-May 4

Founding of the Empire

Date 27 BC – 14 AD (Augustus Caesar's reign as first emperor)
(27 BC – 476 BC *The Roman Empire*)

Themes Beginning of World Philosophy and Religions
Beginnings of Law and Government
Beginnings of Trade and Trade Routes
Literary Traditions of Oral History, Myth and Legends

Readings 4/28-4/29 – ACW p97-100, 112-121
SOTW Ch 36

5/3-5/4 – ACW p125-128, 133-136, 305-306, 312-314
Ox Ch 19 p252-257

Supplemental Readings

Anc Rom Wld – Ch 13
Story Rom – Ch 70-71

King Anc Atlas – p32-33

Topics

Augustus and the Founding of an Empire

Since the Social War of 90 BC, there had been periods of disruption in Italy, with the years 49-31 BC being almost continuous civil war. Octavian appeared to be able to offer peace. In the years that followed, he was able to forge a permanent settlement with the senators that transformed the collapse of the republic into an empire, all the while maintaining the pretense that republican ideals persisted.

Octavian never used a title grander than 'princeps' but he emerged with senatorial approval as 'Augustus' and a set of powers that gave him, and his successors, the status of an emperor.

- 29 BC – Octavian arrived back in Rome. To play down fears of a military dictator, he disbanded 100,000 soldiers and settled them with land bought out of his own wealth.
- 27 BC – Octavian proclaimed it was 'safe' to restore the republic and he surrendered all powers to the senate.
- Powers were transferred back to Octavian 'temporarily' it seemed, but as it turned out – it was permanent.
- Octavian was granted the new name Augustus.
- Augustus given "greater proconsular power" and also the powers of tribune (the guardian of the people's rights).

- Eventually there was no longer any independent center of decision making and (almost without realizing it) the senators had surrendered their traditional role as the dominant force in Roman political life.
- Augustus restored much of central Rome since the city had fallen into decay during the years of political breakdown.
- Stability allowed the continued spread of Latin, which acted as a lingua franca among the local languages and eventually replaced many of them.
- Augustus instituted the Praetorian Guard, the emperor's body guards. They were the only first class fighting force in Rome. Their role became crucial during times of instability (such as death of an emperor with no successor).
- 14 AD – death of Augustus. There was no imperial constitution and theoretically the Republic could have been revived on Augustus' death. However, by the time of his death, 45 years after Actium, the principate had become too firmly entrenched for the republic to be restored. In true monarchial fashion Augustus designated an heir to succeed him: his stepson Tiberius.

Augustus had created a new political system which brought peace and stability to the empire. This stability was achieved at the expense of the old republican liberties, the traditional powers of the senate and the assemblies, and the direction by noble families of government through the magistracies. The risk was that the new system would degenerate into tyranny and in several reigns that followed it did. Yet no alternative form of government ever emerged in the Roman empire and emperors stretched in an almost unbroken line to the final overthrow of Constantinople in 1453. This is the measure of Augustus' achievement.

May 5-May 11

Empire Rulers

Date 14 AD – 180 AD

Themes Beginning of World Philosophy and Religions
Beginnings of Law and Government
Beginnings of Trade and Trade Routes
Literary Traditions of Oral History, Myth and Legends

Readings 5/5-5/6 – Ox Ch 21 p274-275, 278-279; FMR- Nero
FMR Titus
SOTW Ch 39 p(R288-293); Ch 38 (Destruction of the Temple)

5/10-5/11 – Ox Ch 21 p280-281; FMR- Trajan
FMR- Marcus Aurelius
SOTW Ch 40

Supplemental Readings

Anc Rom Wld – Ch 14, 17, 23 HAW- Ch 82,84
PAW(Rom)- Ch 10 p 79-83
Story Rom – Ch 77-79, 85, 90

Topics

Nero – reigned 54-68 AD

- Nero became emperor at age 16.
- Viewed his position as emperor more in a Hellenistic way than Roman – he enjoyed music, writing poetry, and a genuine interest in Greek art.
- Nero had no military experience. Maintenance of good order in the army left to local commanders.
- Seneca, Nero's leading advisor, was proponent of Roman Stoicism. It was hoped (in vain) he would ensure stability of government since Nero was very young and inexperienced.
- Nero's activities became very sinister. He killed his own mother. Persecuted Christians brutally.
- Reign of terror began – wife Octavia killed, Seneca forced to commit suicide, many senators, 3 provincial governors were killed.
- When Senate and Praetorian Guard proclaimed Galba emperor, Nero killed himself.

Titus – reigned 79-81 AD

- Son of emperor Vespasian (who had brought a period of stability- after Nero's death, there were 3 emperors in a 2 year period prior to Vespasian's reign)

- 70 AD – when Vespasian became emperor, Titus stayed in Judea and brought the revolt to a bloody end with the capture of Jerusalem and destruction of the temple.
- 79 AD – Vesuvius erupted, destroying Pompeii and Herculaneum. Titus took personal control of the relief effort.
- 80 AD – the Colosseum was inaugurated with lavish games.
- According to Suetonius, Titus reputed to be “the darling and delight of the human race.” The brevity of his reign probably influenced his reputation.
- 81 AD – died suddenly from an illness, although there were rumors of poisoning.

Trajan – reigned 98-117 AD

- Extolled down the ages as the ideal emperor, the monarch that medieval rulers took as their example
- Last great conqueror of Roman empire – added new provinces to empire: Dacia (north of the Danube River), Arabia, Armenia, Mesopotamia
- Modelled himself after Alexander
- Corresponded with Pliny
- A paternalist; assiduous in intervening in settling disputes in cities
- He repaired roads and harbors, built libraries, dug canals, repaired sewers, took “an oath that he would not shed blood”, which pleased the people.
- Reputation as a good emperor rested on his basic fairness, lack of paranoia, decent administration of Rome, and treated Senators with dignity. (*In this atmosphere, thoughtful attempts were made to justify the domination of an emperor over a nation whose name itself denied any such possibility.*)

Marcus Aurelius – reigned 121-180 AD

- When emperor Pius died, his adopted heir Marcus Aurelius was in line for the succession
- An intense introvert, scholarly by nature, not enthusiastic about becoming emperor
- He reigned during a time of war. He spent most of his reign in the German provinces, fighting against invasions that had intensified.
- Reputation for keeping empire safe and dealing gently with people.
- When treasury drained from constant wars, he auctioned jewels and furniture from imperial palace rather than raise taxes.
- Wrote *Meditations of Marcus Aurelius*, which became one of the classics of Stoicism. They are the musings of a man trapped by his own duty, carrying the weight of an empire that he was happiest when farthest from.
- 180 AD – died, probably from cancer

The Mistake of Inherited Power

With the practice of choosing an adoptive heir when sons by blood were unavailable, an unintentional but positive consequence was that emperors choose an heir based on qualities conducive to good governance. But Marcus Aurelius allowed his young son Commodus to inherit the throne, who became a decadent, murderous emperor. (Marcus Aurelius’ admirers said the appointment was the only failure in his life. According to historian Dio Cassius, ‘a greater curse to the Romans than any pestilence or crime.’)

Commodus was eventually assassinated and civil war erupted. The victor of the civil war (192-193 AD) was Septimus Severus. Severus did not learn from Marcus Aurelius' mistake, and appointed his son Caracalla to be heir. Caracalla murdered his father-in-law, and tried to murder his wife and father. Despite this, he remained his father's first choice as heir, although Severus appointed his younger son to be co-emperor.

Marcus Aurelius had dealt the empire a near-fatal wound. The Republic died, but the empire had grown to replace it. Romans had managed to figure out how to combine imperial rule with republican trappings, while avoiding dynastic declines. But now the principle of hereditary succession was about to pull the power of the empire apart.

Crisis of Mid-3rd Century

- Period of major instability
- 18 emperors during this time
- Almost continual unrest as invasions struck even deeper within the empire
- Increasing cost of war – debasement of coinage. Silver content of coins eventually cut to 2% silver, which led to hoarding of old coins
- Defensive walls were built throughout the empire for protection

Slavery

- Roman slavery differed from that of the Greeks in that in Rome, slaves could be freed and their descendents could be full citizens.
- Manumission was an ancient concept found as far back as the Twelve Tables in the 5th century BC.
- Traditional Romans, however, viewed the rise of the freedman to a position of wealth with horror.
- Slavery was an integral part of the Roman society. It has been estimated that up to 40% of the Roman population were slaves at the end of the 1st century BC.
- In the early days of Rome, slaves were defeated enemies whom the victor had the right to kill but chose to preserve, under a suspended death sentence as it were.
- Slavery was most prevalent in Italy. In the western parts of the empire, slaves were used less.

May 12-May 13

Constantine

Date 272 – 337 AD

Themes Beginning of World Philosophy and Religions
Beginnings of Law and Government
Beginnings of Trade and Trade Routes
Literary Traditions of Oral History, Myth and Legends

Readings Ox Ch 24 p306-307; FMR Constantine
SOTW Ch 39 p(R293-296)

Supplemental Readings

Anc Rom Wld – Ch 24	Usb p192-193
Story Rom – Ch 97, 98	HAW – Ch 85
HMW – Ch 1, 4	

Topics

By the time Diocletian became emperor in 284 AD, the third century ‘crisis’ had been tackled with some success. Diocletian reformed and restructured the empire. His first concern was succession. Imperial responsibilities were best shared, he realized. Diocletian, himself an Augustus, named Maximian a joint Augustus in 286 AD. Two years later he named Constantius and Galerius Caesars. The Tetrarch was formed. In the 290’s, the Tetrarchs achieved a series of victories. There was to be peace on the eastern frontier for decades to come. In 305 AD, Diocletian and Maximian abdicated. Although Diocletian’s achievements are remarkable, they depended upon his ultimate successor Constantine to bring them to fruition. As a result, the 4th and 5th centuries were not as they might have been – solely a period of decline – but one in which imperial government was invigorated.

Peter Brown wrote: “Far from being a melancholy epilogue to the classical Roman empire, a fleeting and crudely conceived attempt to shore up a doomed society, the first half of the 4th century witness the long prepared climax of the Roman state.”

Constantine

- Upon abdication by Diocletian and Maximian, Constantius and Galerius were named Augusti and they named 2 new Caesars.
- The system fell apart. Constantius died in 306 AD, the troops of Britain and Gaul acclaimed Constantius’ son **Constantine** as Augustus, instead of one of the Caesars that was to have succeeded Constantius.
- By 308 AD, there were 7 rival emperors contending for power.
- 312 AD, **Battle of Milvian Bridge** – established Constantine emperor. Constantine later claimed that he had a vision or dream (the accounts are confused) that the God of Christians had enabled his victory.
- 313 AD – **Edict of Milan** – ‘no one whatsoever should be denied freedom to devote himself either to the cult of the Christians or to such religion as he deems best suited to himself, so that the highest divinity, to whose worship we pay

allegiance with free minds, may grant us in all things his wonted favor and benevolence.’

- The Edict of Milan stopped the persecution of Christians and can be seen as the culmination of the traditional Roman tolerance for religious cults.
- Constantine’s support for Christianity was crucial in establishing the religion’s respectability and ensuring its continued spread. There was financial help for building churches. Constantine was responsible for the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem, built over the supposed burial place of Jesus.
- Constantine sustained many of Diocletian’s reforms and was preoccupied with – as was Diocletian – defending and financing the empire and securing a stable succession.
- 324 – Constantine defeats Licinius, emperor in the east, becoming the sole emperor. Founds the city of Constantinople, which was dedicated in 330.
- 337 – Constantine dies, succeeded by his three sons Constantine III, Constantius, and Constans.

May 17-May 18 *Split into Eastern and Western Roman Empire*

Date 395 AD (permanent division of the empire)

Themes Beginning of World Philosophy and Religions
 Beginnings of Law and Government
 Beginnings of Trade and Trade Routes
 Literary Traditions of Oral History, Myth and Legends

Readings SOTW p(R299-301; 310-314)

Supplemental Readings

Anc Rom Wld – Ch 26
Story Rom – Ch 99
HMW – Ch 10

Topics

395 AD – Death of emperor Theodosius. By the time of Theodosius, the western and eastern empires had begun to assume different characters. The division of the empire into 2 parts had sounded the death knell for any chance that the empire would be held together by any identity as Roman citizens. The empire was split between his 2 sons:

- Honorius (10 yrs old) – took the WEST. Theodosius left instructions that Stilicho, the half-Vandal general, should act as guardian. (Stilicho, too barbarian to be emperor in name, was now emperor in practice).
- Arcadius (18 years old) – took the EAST. Ruled with the help of Rufinus, who was the highest military official in the east and final decision maker in the empire. Like Stilicho, he held ultimate power. Unlike Stilicho, he had no barbarian blood, and could nurse ambition to become emperor.

The split was consolidated by:

- More buoyant economy in the east, based on peasant production rather than large estates
- More defensible borders and less intractable enemies
- Preservation of civilian rather than military rule for everyday administration
- (And perhaps even an element of luck, in that eastern emperors lived longer and were more resolute than western emperors)

Both sides of the empire was now threatened by a previous ally of Theodosius: Alaric, commander of the Gothic regiments at the Battle of Frigidus (fought in 394 – Theodosius had won largely because of Alaric and Stilicho).

Alaric had hoped to become a regular Roman commander. Neither Arcadius nor Honorius offered him this honor. Alaric believed he was denied because of his Vandal blood (which he was). Ten thousand of his troops died at Frigidus, and his troops

suspected they were used as human shields. So Alaric took control of his Gothic army and made himself its supreme commander. In doing so, he created a newborn nation and became its ruler: King of the Visigoths. (Before this time there wasn't a Gothic nation, just a shifting collection of Germanic tribes. They became a self-constituted nation, bound not by a single tribal heritage but by a single purpose.

Alaric's Visigoths became an independent people who existed right in the middle of Roman land. They raided surrounding Roman provinces, heading towards Constantinople.

The eastern emperor Arcadius was not well equipped to resist. Most of the Roman army was further west with Stilicho. Stilicho provided soldiers to head off Alaric. Alaric went to Greece instead.

Stilicho ordered the Roman soldiers to continue on to Constantinople to meet up with the eastern army. When they met, the soldiers acted impulsively (the official story) and killed Rufinus.

Another courtier of the weak Arcadius rose to fill the power vacuum: Eutropius. Eutropius deduced that Stilicho was the master of everything in the west, therefore he persuaded the emperor to revoke the senate and by public decree to declare Stilicho an enemy of the empire. Since Eutropius couldn't use armies to attack the western empire, he used the law instead. This brought into full view the duality of the Roman empire. The empire had held together under dual emperors and twin capitals, and it still existed as a single domain in name. But the crack that would divide it had become visible – Stilicho, guardian of the west, was now an outlaw in the east.

May 19-May 20

Barbarian Invasions

Date 395 AD – 476 AD
(By the end of the 400's, the western empire settled by various tribes)

Themes Beginning of World Philosophy and Religions
Beginnings of Law and Government
Beginnings of Trade and Trade Routes
Literary Traditions of Oral History, Myth and Legends

Readings Ox Ch 24 p302-305, 308-309

Supplemental Readings

Anc Rom Wld – Ch 25 Usb p 194-195
HMW – Ch 6, 7, 11, 13, 16, 17

Topics

The first series of invasions into Roman Empire lands in the 5th century begun with the Germanic tribes, due to pressure from the Huns. The Huns moved from central Asia into the lands of the Germanic tribes. Rome had suffered the attack of many barbarian tribes in the past, but she was not as prepared to resist them now. In the 5th century, Rome was in a middle of an economic, social and political crisis.

Visigoths

- Germanic tribes
- Led by Alaric
- 400 AD – Alaric (with women and children) invaded northern Italy, intending to settle. They were looking for a homeland.
- 402 AD – Stilicho defeated them in northern Italy. (Not entirely an honorable victory: Alaric was a Christian and assumed that Easter was a sacred holiday on which fighting was banned. Stilicho, ignoring the prohibition, initiated battle). Alaric retreated back across the Alps.
- 407 AD – Stilicho dies. Alaric lays siege to Rome again. Rome negotiates a ransom and Alaric leaves.
- 410 AD – Alaric, unsatisfied with his dealings with Rome, marches into Rome without difficulty, and plunders the city. Not since 387 BC, 800 years prior, had Rome been overrun in defeat.
- Alaric died suddenly from an illness shortly afterward. His men diverted the path of a nearby river, then led captives to the middle of the river bed to dig a grave. They buried Alaric with many treasures, then turned the river back to its channel. All the diggers were then killed so that no one would know of the burial place.
- The Visigoths ended up settling in southwestern Gaul (France), and later moved into Hispania (Portugal and Spain) when the Vandals had left that area.

Vandals

- Germanic tribe
- 406 AD – breached the Roman frontier at Mainz, eventually crossing the Pyrenees into Hispania (Spain)
- 429 AD – Geiseric, king of the Vandals in Hispania, built a fleet of ships and sailed to North Africa. He marched along the North African coast, conquering cities along the way.
- 431 AD – Conquered Carthage. Geiseric abandoned Hispania and ruled as a North African pirate king. North Africa was lost to Rome.

Huns

- Central Asian, Mongolian tribe who invaded southeast Europe c 370 AD. Maintained their dominance at the Danubian frontier.
- 451 AD – Attila led the Huns into Gaul. Attila was defeated by Aetius, leader of the western Roman empire who had Visigoths, Franks, and Burgundians with him. An expensive victory though – up to 300,000 men died, according to Hydatius. Attila retreated to the other side of the Rhine River.
- 452 AD – Attila watched the allies leave, then attacked once more, and won. Attila marched to Rome. Pope Leo the Great met with Attila and negotiated peace.
- Attila married but on his wedding night, while he was passed out drunk, he died due to a hemorrhage.
- 455 AD – By now, because there was no strong leader, the Huns were defeated and scattered.

Angles and Saxons and Jutes

- Germanic tribes
- After Rome left Britain c 410 AD, Britain became a collection of local warlords – mostly Romanized Celt or Celticized Romans.
- 455 AD – Vortigern, the high king, had the task of defending Britain from invaders such as the Irish Scoti pirates and the Picts from the north.
- Vortigern asked their Saxon allies (from the North Sea coast west of Denmark) to help fight against the invaders. The Saxons brought their allies the Angles (from west Germany).
- Once the Angles and the Saxons arrived, they helped defeat Vortigern defeat the Picts, but then they settled and spread. The Jutes, allies of the Angles, came to settle also.

Overview

<u>Name</u>	<u>Origin</u>	<u>Roman territory settled</u>
Vandals	Germanic	North Africa
Angles	Germanic	Britain

Saxons	Germanic	Britain
Jutes	Germanic	Britain
Visigoths	Germanic	SW France, Spain, Portugal
Huns	Central Asian	France
Franks	Germanic	France
Burgundi	Germanic	France
Ostrogoths	Germanic	Italy

May 24-May 25

Fall of Western Roman Empire

Date 476 AD
Eastern Roman Empire (Byzantine Empire) continues until 1453 AD

Themes Beginning of World Philosophy and Religions
Beginnings of Law and Government
Beginnings of Trade and Trade Routes
Literary Traditions of Oral History, Myth and Legends

Readings Ox Ch 24 p310-313
FMR End of the Western Empire
SOTW Ch 42

Supplemental Readings

Anc Rom Wld – Ch 26, 27
Story Rom – Ch 101-102

PAW(Rom)-Ch 11
HMW – Ch 20

Topics

- 454 AD – Valentinian III had been emperor of Rome for 30 years but ruled in the shadow of his general Aetius.
- He had lost much of his empire:
 - Hispania and much of Gaul to the Suevi and Visigoths
 - North Africa and Sicily to the Vandals
 - Huns marched through Italy easily
- 455 AD – Emperor Valentinian III was convinced that he needed to kill his general, which he did when Aetius visited him in Ravenna (north Italy).
 - Emperor Valentinian III was assassinated shortly after, beginning a cycle of death and destruction.
 - Vandals sack Rome. Rome goes through many emperors.
- 467 AD – Roman territory consists only of the peninsula of Italy. Rome is fruitlessly fighting against Vandals and Visigoths.
- 475 AD – Rome had 5 emperors during past 8 years. Finally a barbarian soldier named Orestes took control of the army, hired German mercenaries, marched to the Ravenna to take control of the throne, appointing his 10 year old son, Romulus, to the imperial throne.
- 476 AD – Odavacer, head of the German mercenaries, fights Orestes because Orestes refused to give more land to the mercenaries. Orestes is killed.
 - Odavacer goes to Ravenna – imprisons Romulus, and becomes “King of Italy.”
- Interesting to note that both the founder of Rome and the last sitting emperor were both named Romulus.

Susan Wise Bauer writes: “The death warrant for the western empire had been signed by Constantine over a century before, when he had decided that *Romanness* alone could hold the empire together. Odavacer’s rise to the throne of Italy was merely the final admission of what had already happened: the barbarians had given up on becoming Roman. Italy was largely Christian; Odavacer was a Christian. He took the title “King of Italy,” separating himself from the old imperial past. He was a competent soldier, and a decent administrator; and as far as his supporters were concerned, his blood no longer mattered.”

The Western Roman Empire had ceased to exist.

The Eastern Roman Empire, known as the Byzantine Empire, survived for another thousand years, falling in 1453 AD.

Abbreviations for Resource Books

SOTW	Story of the World, Vol 1: Ancient Times <i>Susan Wise Bauer</i>
OX	Oxford First Ancient History <i>Roy Burrell</i>
WR	The Usborne Encyclopedia of World Religions (Internet Linked) <i>Meredith & Hickman</i>
ACW	Augustus Caesar's World <i>Genevieve Foster</i>
PSRWR	Primary Source Readings in World Religions <i>Jeffrey Brodd</i>
Usborne	Usborne Encyclopedia of World History (Internet Linked) <i>Bingham, Chandler & Taplin</i>
HAW	History of the Ancient World From the Earliest Accounts to the Fall of Rome <i>Susan Wise Bauer</i>
HMW	History of the Medieval World From the Conversion of Constantine to the First Crusade <i>Susan Wise Bauer</i>
PAW(Rom)	Peoples of the Ancient World Series – The Ancient Romans <i>Allison Lassieur</i>
King Anc Atlas	Kingfisher Ancient Atlas <i>Simon Adams</i>
Anc Rom World	The World in Ancient Times - The Ancient Roman World <i>Mellor & McGee</i>
Story Rom	The Story of the Romans by <i>H A Guerber</i>