

THE HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION 2: ROME

Helen Steele • HIST 150 • TTb 1100–1215 • Spring 2008

THE ROMAN REPUBLIC



KEY CONCEPTS

The Republic • Plebeians • Patricians •
Populares • Optimates • “Bread and
Circuses” • Cursus Honorum • Tribune •
Consul • Dictatorship • Civil War •
Barbarians

PEOPLE, PLACES & EVENTS

Etruscans • Celts • Carthage • Punic Wars •
Hannibal • Tiberius and Gaius Gracchus •
Catiline Conspiracy • First Triumvirate •
Pompey • Julius Caesar • The Gallic Wars •
Second Triumvirate • Mark Antony •
Octavian • Battle of Philippi • Battle of
Actium

753	Rome founded as a monarchy	210–206	Roman conquest of Spain
509	Rome becomes a REPUBLIC	189	Defeat of the Seleucids. Rome takes control of Seleucid property in Europe and Asia Minor
494	Revolt of the Plebeians	149	Rome conquers Greece
451	The Twelve Tables of Roman law	149–146	Third Punic War. Carthage destroyed
387	Gauls invade and sack Rome	148	Rome annexes Macedonia
396–264	Rome expands to all of Italian peninsula	133	Rome controls the whole Mediterranean
326	Circus Maximus	106	Romans defeat Jugurtha, king of Numidia
312	First aqueduct, the Aqua Appia	133	Tribunate of Tiberius Gracchus
280	First coinage	124–122	Tribunate of Gaius Gracchus
264–241	First Punic War	88	Italians are granted full citizenship
264	First gladiatorial games	83–82	Civil War between Sulla and Marius.
218–201	Second Punic War	82–79	Sulla’s dictatorship
212	Death of Archimedes	73–71	Slave revolt led by gladiator Spartacus
214–167	Macedonian Wars. Hellenization of Rome. Work of Ennius, Plautus and Terence		

64–63	Pompey conquers and annexes Syria and Palestine, captures Jerusalem	45	12-month Julian calendar
63	Cicero consul: Catiline conspiracy.	44	Julius Caesar assassinated
60	1 st Triumvirate (Pompey, Crassus, Caesar)	43	2 nd Triumvirate (Antony, Octavian, Lepidus); birth of Ovid
60–AD 17	Golden Age of Latin literature	42	Battle of Philippi
58–51	Caesar's Gallic Wars	36	Rome tries to invade Persia
49–45	Civil War between Caesar and Pompey	31	Antony and Cleopatra defeated at Actium
47	Caesar invades Egypt and proclaims Cleopatra queen	30	Antony and Cleopatra commit suicide
		27	Augustus inaugurates the Principate.



ROMAN NAMES

Freeborn Roman **MEN** had at least two names:

PRAENOMEN (Personal name) + NOMEN (Family name)

Many Romans, especially of the upper classes, had three or more names.

PRAENOMEN + NOMEN + COGNOMEN (Nickname / 2nd Family Name)

e.g.

<i>Praenomen</i>	<i>Nomen</i>	<i>Cognomen</i>	<i>Known as:</i>
Gaius	Julius	Caesar	(Julius) Caesar
Lucius	Cornelius	Sulla	Sulla
Gaius	Marius	-	Marius
Gnaeus	Pompeius	Magnus	Pompey the Great
Marcus	Antonius	-	Mark Antony
Gaius	Octavius	Thurinus	Octavius (1 st name)
Gaius	Julius	Caesar Octavianus	(after his adoption by Caesar)
Gaius	Julius	Caesar AUGUSTUS	(after assuming name AUGUSTUS)
Tiberius	Sempronius	Gracchus	Tiberius Gracchus
Tiberius	Claudius	Nero Augustus	Emperor Tiberius

It is useful to note that there were a very small number of praenomen. The most common praenomen were shortened to an initial in most records, e.g. Gaius (G.), Lucius (L.), Marcus (M.) and Tiberius (Ti.) The naming of freeborn Roman **WOMEN** was more variable but in general, a woman of the late Republic or early Empire would have NO personal name (praenomen) but instead used a feminine version of her father's name, her husband's name (usually either Nomen or Cognomen) or, if the mother was from a prominent family, her mother.

This all means that women in the same family often had the same name. For example, in the family of G. Julius Caesar there were numerous women called Julia including his aunt, his sister, his daughter, his adoptive granddaughter (also his great-great niece), her own two daughters and their three daughters. They might take a second name or nickname or be known as Major/Minor (Elder/Younger) or even Prima/Secunda/Tertia (the First, the Second, the Third) to distinguish them from their mother, sisters, daughters or aunts.

e.g.

<i>Father</i>	<i>Mother</i>	<i>Daughters</i>
G. Claudius Marcellus	Octavia Thurinia Minor	Claudia Marcella Major Claudia Marcella Major
M. Vipsanius Agrippa	Pomponia Caecilia Attica Julia Caesonis the Elder	Vipsania Agrippina Vipsania Julia (known as Julia the Younger or Julilla) Julia Vipsania Agrippina (known as Agrippina the Elder)
N. Claudius Drusus Germanicus	Julia Vipsania Agrippina	Julia Agrippina (known as Agrippina the Younger or as Agrippinilla) Julia Drusilla Julia Livilla
<i>Father</i>	<i>Husband</i>	<i>Wife</i>
L. Julius Caesar	M. Antonius Creticus	Julia Antonia
M. Livius Drusus Claudianus	G. Julius Caesar Augustus	Livia Drusilla (known officially as Julia Augusta)

THE ROMAN EMPIRE



27 B.C.	Octavian claims title of AUGUSTUS. Beginning of the Pax Romana	66–70	Jewish revolt in Palestine; destruction of the Temple.
20	Treaty between Rome and Persia	69	Year of the Four Emperors.
13	Augustus expands borders to the Danube	69–96	Flavian period begins with Vespasian
A.D.		ca. 70	Earliest Gospel (St. Mark) written down
1	Rome has about one million people	79	Eruption of Vesuvius
6	Augustus expands Empire to the Balkans	80	Colosseum finished
14	Augustus dies; Tiberius becomes emperor; 5 million people live in the Roman empire	96–138	Empire reached greatest extent under Emperors Trajan and Hadrian
17	Death of Ovid	107	The Roman Empire sends embassy to India
c. 30	Crucifixion of Jesus.	116	Trajan conquers Mesopotamia
ca. 30–180	Silver Age of Latin literature	120	Death of Plutarch
37	Tiberius dies; Caligula succeeds him	ca. 122	Suetonius writes Lives of the Caesar
41	Caligula assassinated; Claudius succeeds	132–136	Hadrian crushes Jewish revolt
43	Claudius invades Britain	161	Marcus Aurelius begins rule
54	Nero succeeds Claudius	165–180	Antonine plague kills up to 5 million
58	Conquest of Armenia	180	Death of Marcus Aurelius – the last Good Emperor – ends the Pax Romana
64	Great Fire of Rome; first persecution of Christians		

212	Caracalla grants Roman citizenship to all free people in the Roman Empire	293	Establishment of the Tetrarchy
250	First empire-wide persecution of Christians	300	The population of the Roman Empire is 60 million (ca. 25% Christian)
256	Sassanids defeat the Romans in Mesopotamia	303	Diocletian orders a general persecution of the Christians
272	Dacia ceded to the Goths	312	Constantine becomes emperor
284	Diocletian becomes emperor		

OVID'S *ART OF LOVE*

Ovid (43 BC – AD 17) was one of the most important of the poets of the Golden Age of Latin literature. Popular in his lifetime and subsequently, he wrote on both mythology – the *Metamorphoses* – and on love and seduction – the *Ars Amatoria* or *Art of Love*. Love poetry in the period usually conveyed a moral meaning, intended to educate not merely entertain. The *Art of Love*, however, is a parody of such poetry and celebrates not merely moral love but sex and seduction. Ovid played a price, however. Augustus took offence to Ovid's "immorality" and banished him from Rome to the Black Sea region. Despite Augustus' death, Ovid was never allowed to return and died there.

Books I, II, III

Pages 105-178 in Humphries translation

- What are the basic themes of Book I, II, and III
- When Ovid writes in the first lines of Book I that "This is a book for the man who needs instruction in loving," do you think he is serious? Is this really meant to help men?
- Is this text about Love, or about something else? Sex? Power? Politics?
- Do you think this text is particularly immoral, or advocates immoral behavior? If so, what kind of immoral behavior does Ovid promote?
- How would you describe Ovid's attitude towards women? What can you tell about the status of women in the Roman Empire? Do women have power?
- What are men like? Vain? Deceitful? Loving?
- Who do you think actually read this text and why?
- Is this all about the game, or the chase? Why do you think Romans were so fascinated with the hunt or pursuit? Only of love, or the pursuit of power, or wealth, or glory?
- Why all the secrecy in the text? Do you think love affairs of the rich and famous are ever really secret?
- Have things changed all that much?
- Do you think this is good advice?
- How do you think Alexander the Great would have responded to this sort of advice? Would this have made sense to him? What about Caesar? And Cicero?
- What is the masculine ideal, according to Ovid?
- Is there a feminine ideal?
- Do you think Romans were more preoccupied with sex than other civilizations? If so, why?