

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History
Summer 1983

HISTORY 112

Mr. Weber

HISTORY OF ROME: THE REPUBLIC AND EMPIRE

COURSE DESCRIPTION

History 112 is an entry level, general survey course of Roman History. It is designed to give the beginning student an introduction to the study of Roman History. In the regular sixteen-week session of the fall and spring semesters the course would cover the history of Italy from the founding of Rome (traditional date 753 B.C.) to the partitioning of the Empire in the sixth century A.D. During the 1983 Summer Session the plan of the class is to introduce the student to at least the period of the Roman Republic, until the time of Augustus in the first century B.C., and as much of the first two centuries of the period of the Roman Empire as time will allow. The instructional plan is to assign students a specific group of readings from the sources to Roman History and a modern textbook discussion of the material. Lectures are designed to discuss the material in the readings and help the student to organize and assess the material. By the end of the course, the student should have a knowledge of why the city-state of Rome was able to marshal the resources needed to conquer Italy and then the whole of the Mediterranean Basin, how this changed the social make-up of Italy, and why the vast Roman Empire contained the seeds of its own eventual destruction.

GRADING SYSTEM

There will be two exams, both with an essay format, each counting 50% of the final grade. Exams will be written during the lecture period.

SAMPLE EXAM QUESTION

The Greek historian Polybius (second century B.C.) presents the following capsule assessment of Rome's overseas conquest during the third and second centuries B.C.:

It was because of their defeat of the Carthaginians in the Hannibalic War that the Romans, thinking that the chief and most essential step in their scheme of universal aggression had been taken, were first emboldened to reach out their hands to grasp the rest, and to cross with an army to Greece and Asia.

How correct is Polybius's assessment?

READINGS

Readings will be assigned from several books, all readings in the syllabus are required. However, in order to cut the cost of books, some of the required texts have been placed on three-hour reserve in Room 1191 of Helen C. White.

REQUIRED PURCHASES

M. Cary and H. H. Scullard, A History of Rome Down to the Reign of Constantine.

D. Kagan, Problems in Ancient History, Volume II: The Roman World.

RECOMMENDED PURCHASES

P. A. Brunt, Social Conflicts in the Roman Empire.

E. Badian, Roman Imperialism in the Late Republic.

RESERVE READINGS

R. M. Errington, The Dawn of Empire: Rome's Rise to World Power.

J. Hatzfeld and A. Aymard, History of Ancient Greece.

H. Mattingly, Roman Imperial Civilisation.

SYLLABUS

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Required Reading</u>
Italian Prehistory	Cary, chapters 1 and 2
Early Peoples of Italy	Cary, chapter 3
Founding of Rome	Cary, chapters 4, 5, 6 Kagan, section 1
Conquest of Italy	Cary, chapters 8, 10 Brunt, pp. 1-19
Conflict of the Orders	Cary, chapters 7, 9, 11 Kagan, sections 2, 3 Brunt, pp. 20-59
Hellenistic World	Hatzfeld, p. 211-279
Conquest of the Mediterranean	Errington, pp. 3-269
Rome and Carthage	Cary, chapters 12, 13 Kagan, section 4
Conquest of W. Mediterranean	Cary, chapter 14
Conquest of Greece	Cary, chapter 15 Kagan, section 5 Hatzfeld, pp. 279-305
Conquest of Asia	Cary, chapter 16
Roman Republic in the 2nd Century B.C.	Cary, chapters 17, 18, 19 Brunt, p. 60-73 Badian, p. 1-28