This guide is intended to be an introductory resource for the study of Roman History. It contains a fairly broad amount of material, and is concise and brief enough to be accessible to newcomers to the category of Roman History.

This guide does not cover the complete range of questions that could be asked in NJCL Certamen’s Novice level, particularly in the Finals. Thus, one should move on to more rigorous study materials after mastering the content here. It also does not cover Roman Life or Geography, separate subjects that are asked about in the History category of Certamen. Additional study is necessary to acquire that knowledge.

However, any student who wants to develop a solid foundation in Roman History would benefit from mastering all the material here. **Bolded information is most helpful to memorize**, **but all information here is essential for acquiring a solid foundation in Roman History.**

*While I am merely speculating, I believe that a student who studies this material rigorously would be able to succeed (to some degree) at all levels of OJCL competition.*

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[**Monarchy: 753 BC - 509 BC**](#_7wj8iu2kdfjg) **1**

[**Republic: 509 BC - 27 BC**](#_eutxvzjek0kr) **5**

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# **Monarchy: 753 BC - 509 BC**

1. **Romulus** 753 - 717 BC
   1. Life
      1. Born to **Rhea Silvia** and **Mars**, god of war
         1. Rhea Silvia was the daughter of **Numitor** (“Nice Numitor”), king of Alba Longa, whose throne was stolen by his brother, **Amulius** (“Evil Amulius”)
         2. Rhea Silvia was forced to become a Vestal Virgin
         3. Numitor’s sons were murdered
      2. Romulus and his brother, Remus, were thrown into the Tiber River, where they were suckled by a she-wolf
      3. A shepherd, Faustulus, found and raised them with his wife, Acca Larentia
         1. Acca Larentia may have alternatively been a prostitute called *lupa* by the shepherds
      4. Wanting to settle a city, Romulus set up on the Palatine Hill, and Remus on the Aventine
         1. Remus first saw 6 vultures, and Romulus later saw 12, each claiming that their site was the divinely correct place for the city
         2. Teasing Romulus, Remus jumped over the wall of Romulus’ city (which was low because it was just being built), and Romulus then killed him
      5. Rome was founded by Romulus on **April 21st, 753 BC**
   2. Reign
      1. Romulus first fortified the Palatine Hill
      2. To increase population, Romulus opened an asylum for criminals on the Capitoline
      3. Romulus selected **100 senators**, called *patres*
         1. Romulus established the *Celeres*, a cavalry personal guard of 300 men (possibly named after *Celer*, who according to some accounts killed Remus)
         2. Romulus established the **lictors**, 12 men that followed him
      4. Rape of the Sabine Women
         1. Romulus invited the Sabines and other neighboring peoples to *Consualia*, a festival for Neptune
         2. The Romans took the women to increase their city’s population
         3. King Acron then led Caenina against Rome
            1. Romulus slayed Acron in hand-to-hand combat, winning the first ***spolia opima***
            2. Romulus consecrated a temple to Jupiter Feretrius, and offered the spoils of Acron
      5. King Titus Tatius led the Sabines against Rome
         1. **Tarpeia**, the daughter of the commander of the Capitoline citadel, betrayed her father by leading the Sabines into the city for “what they wear on their left arms”
            1. She asked them for “what they wear on their left arms,” expecting their gold bracelets
            2. Instead, she was crushed to death by their shields and thrown off the Tarpeian Rock
            3. The Tarpeian Rock was where traitors would be thrown off of in the future
         2. The Sabine women eventually stopped the fighting, particularly **Hersilia**, who married Romulus
         3. Afterwards, Titus Tatius **co-rules with Romulus**
   3. Death
      1. Romulus disappeared in a storm, supposedly ascending to heaven
      2. Alternatively, the senators may have killed him
      3. Romulus was deified as Quirinus
   4. *Interregnum* (“period between kings”) lasts for one year
2. **Numa Pompilius** 717 - 673 BC
   1. Life
      1. **Numa was a Sabine**
         1. Numa **lived in Cures** before becoming king
         2. Numa **married Tatia, the daughter of Titus Tatius**
         3. Numa was apparently taught by Pythagoras, though this is discredited by historians
         4. Numa’s **lover was the river nymph Egeria**
      2. Numa died of old age
   2. Reign
      1. Numa established the *Pontifex Maximus*, the high priest, the first one being Numa Marcius
         1. **Numa built the Temple of Janus**
            1. When the doors of the temple were closed, the Romans were at peace
            2. If the doors were open, the Romans were at war
         2. **Numa reformed the calendar**, adding the months of January and February
         3. Numa introduced the *ancilia*, sacred shields that were kept in the Temple of Mars, and carried by the 12 *Salii*, the jumping priests of Mars
         4. Numa brought the Vestal Virgins to Rome from Alba Longa
3. **Tullus Hostilius** 673 - 641 BC
   1. Life
      1. Tullus was born in Rome
      2. He was the grandson of **Hostius Hostilius**, a hero against the Sabines during Romulus’ reign
   2. Reign
      1. War against Alba Longa
         1. **Mettius Fufetius** was the king of Alba Longa
         2. Rome chose the **3 Horatii** brothers to fight against the **3 Alban Curiatii** brothers
            1. The Curiatii killed two of the Horatii
            2. Publius Horatius fled and killed the separated wounded Curiatii brothers one-by-one
            3. Publius later killed his sister because she mourned for one of the Curiatii (her dead groom)
         3. Later, Mettius did not help Rome in a fight and incited the town of Fidenae against Rome
         4. Rome won, and Tullus had Mettius drawn and quartered
         5. Tullus destroyed Alba Longa, and the Albans joined the Roman population
      2. Tullus built the *Curia Hostilia*, the first senate house
   3. Death
      1. **Tullus carried out the sacrifices to Jupiter wrong**
      2. Thus, **his house was struck by lightning, and he died in the fire**
4. **Ancus Marcius** 640 - 616 BC
   1. Ancus was the grandson of Numa Pompilius
   2. Reign
      1. Ancus added the Janiculum Hill to Rome
      2. Ancus built a bunch of stuff:
         1. Ancus built the *Pons Sublicius*, the first wooden bridge over the Tiber
         2. Ancus built the *Tullianum*, or the Mamertine Prison, Rome’s first prison
         3. Ancus established Ostia, a saltwater port
5. **Lucius Tarquinius Priscus** 616 - 579 BC
   1. Life
      1. Priscus, originally Lucumo, was from Tarquinii in Etruria
      2. Lucumo came to Rome with **his wife, Tanaquil**
         1. **An eagle took Lucumo’s hat and returned it**, a sign that meant he would be king
   2. Reign
      1. Priscus defeated the Latins, Etruscans, and Sabines
      2. Priscus **began** the Temple of Jupiter Optimus Maximus/Capitolinus
      3. **Priscus drained the forum** and started the ***Cloaca Maxima*** (big sewer)
      4. **Priscus built the *Circus Maximus***
   3. Death
      1. Priscus was **murdered** by **the sons of Ancus Marcius**
      2. Tanaquil claimed that Priscus was only wounded, and made Servius Tullius king
      3. The sons of Ancus Marcius were exiled
6. **Servius Tullius** 578 - 535 BC
   1. Life
      1. Supposedly he had a divine father, mother was a slave of Tarquinius Priscus
      2. As a young boy, Tanaquil saw Tullius’ head covered in flames, interpreting that Tullius would become king
   2. Reign
      1. Tullius created the census
         1. People assembled by tribe on the *Campus Martius*
         2. People not registered were killed
         3. A pig, sheep, and bull were sacrificed at the end of the census (*suovetaurilia*)
      2. Tullius added the Quirinal, the Viminal, and the Esquiline Hills to Rome, himself living on the Esquiline
      3. **Tullius constructed the first defensive wall around Rome, the Servian Wall**
   3. Death
      1. Tullia Minor, Tullius’ younger daughter, conspired with Tarquinius Superbus to murder his wife (and her older sister), Tullia Maior, and her husband, Arruns Tarquinius, and to take the throne from Tullius
      2. Tullia Minor sent assassins to kill Tullius
      3. Tarquinius Superbus pushes him down the steps of the Senate house
      4. On the *Via Scelerata,* Tullia Minor ran over her father with her chariot
7. **Lucius Tarquinius Superbus** 535 - 509 BC
   1. Life
      1. Superbus was the son of Lucius Tarquinius Priscus
      2. Superbus had three sons with his wife, Tullia: Titus, Arruns, and Sextus
   2. Reign
      1. Superbus’ rule was largely based on fear
      2. Superbus refused to bury Servius Tullius properly, giving him the name “Superbus”
      3. Superbus started war with the Volsci, won, and used spoils to build the **Temple of Jupiter Optimus Maximus**/**Capitolinus**, on the Capitoline
         1. At this temple, the **Capitoline triad, Jupiter, Juno, and Minerva**, were worshipped
      4. Superbus was **offered the Sibylline Books (prophesies)** by the Cumaean Sibyl, but initially refused because of the price, finally buying them after she burned six of the original nine
      5. Superbus sent Titus, Arruns, and Lucius Junius Brutus to the Oracle of Delphi because he had seen a snake coming out of a column, interpreting this as a bad omen
         1. The Oracle said that the next person to kiss his mother would become king of Rome
         2. Brutus, son of Tarquinia, the sister of Superbus, pretended to trip and kissed the ground, interpreting his mother as the Earth
   3. Exile
      1. Lucius Tarquinius Collatinus boasted at a party that his wife, Lucretia, was the most virtuous of all the wives of the men there
         1. The men went around visiting each other's homes, and found only Lucretia to be engaged in virtuous activities
         2. Sextus Tarquinius (son of Superbus) raped Lucretia, threatening that if she refused, he would kill her and frame it as an act of adultery with a slave
         3. Lucretia told Collatinus and her father before killing herself
      2. Brutus incited a rebellion against the monarchy and the Tarquinius family
         1. Superbus and his sons, Titus and Arruns, fled to Caere (in Etruria)
         2. Sextus Tarquinius fled and was killed
      3. After several failed attempts at regaining the throne, Superbus died in 495 BC

# **Republic: 509 BC - 27 BC**

1. The first two consuls were Lucius Iunius **Brutus** and Lucius Tarquinius **Collatinus**
   1. Collatinus stepped down because of his name Tarquinius, and was replaced by Publius Valerius Publicola/Poplicola
      1. Publicola was consul four times
      2. Publicola tried to build his house on the Velian Hill, and, in response to the idea that he was trying to become a king, stopped
2. War with Clusium
   1. Lars Porsenna, **king of Clusium**, led the Etruscans against Rome for the Tarquinii
   2. **Horatius Cocles** single-handedly defended the ***Pons Sublicius*** against the Etruscan army until the bridge was destroyed, when he swam back across the river under fire
   3. After **Mucius Scaevola** tried to assassinate Porsenna and was captured, **he put his hand into a fire to show his valour**, and was let free. (Scaevola = “lefty”, b/c his right hand was set on fire)
   4. **Cloelia**, a young woman hostage, led other hostages to freedom, and was demanded back by Porsenna, where he, impressed by her bravery, let her select half the hostages to be freed
      1. Cloelia picked the young boys
3. **Battle of Lake Regillus 496 BC**
   1. The Latin League fought with Rome, led by dictator Aulus Postumius Albinus
   2. The Dioscuri, Castor and Pollux, helped the Romans in battle, for whom the Temple of Castor and Pollux was built
4. First Secession of the Plebs 494 BC
   1. First of the five secessions of the plebs during the Republic
   2. Because of a concern about plebeian rights, the plebs seceded to the *Mons Sacer*, threatening to found a new town
   3. Menenius Agrippa convinced them to return with his fable about the belly and the limbs: “Patricians = belly, plebeians = limbs, you need the limbs to feed the belly, so plebeians are important”
   4. The office of the Tribune of the Plebs was created, giving the plebs political representation
5. Gaius Marcius **Coriolanus** took the Volscian town Corioli in 493 BC but was later banished from Rome
   1. Coriolanus allied with the Volscians and attacked Rome
   2. He was convinced to stop by his mother, Veturia, and his wife, Volumnia
6. **Battle of Mt. Algidus 458 BC**
   1. The **Aequi** defeated and trapped the Roman army under **Minucius Esquilinus**
   2. Lucius Quinctius **Cincinnatus** was called from his plow, made dictator, and defeated the Aequi
   3. Cincinnatus abdicated after **16 days**
7. Law of the Twelve Tables 451 - 450 BC
   1. Tribune Terentilius Harsa first proposed the codification of law in 462 BC
   2. Ten annually elected men, the *decemviri*, with other offices suspended, drafted twelve tables of law after two years
   3. **Appius Claudius Crassus**, having rigged the election, was the chief *decemvir* of both groups
      1. Crassus desired Verginia, the daughter of centurion Verginius; to free Verginia from becoming a slave/wife of Crassus, her father Verginius killed her
8. *Lex Canuleia* (445 BC): law allowing marriage between plebs and patricians
9. In 400s BC, **Aulus Cornelius Cossus** slayed **Lars Tolumnius, king of Veii**, **gaining the second *spolia opima***
10. For 10 years, Rome besieged Veii; Marcus Furius Camillus, dictator, captured it
11. **Battle of Allia River 390 BC**
    1. **Brennus, leader of the Gallic Senones**, attacked Clusium, who appealed to the Romans
    2. The Romans were defeated, and **Brennus sacked all Rome except the Capitoline Hill**
       1. **Marcus Manlius Capitolinus** was woken by the sacred geese of Juno, and rallied the Romans on the Capitoline
    3. The Romans agreed to pay Brennus 1,000 pounds of gold, but in a dispute over the scales (stalling tactic by the Romans), Brennus threw a sword on the scales and said, **“*Vae victis*,”** or “Woe to the conquered”
    4. **Camillus** returned with an army and saved Rome from the Gauls
       1. Because of this, he was proclaimed “pater patriae” and **“second founder of Rome”**
12. **Second Samnite War** 326 - 304 BC
    1. There were 3 Samnite Wars
    2. **Battle of Caudine Forks 321 BC**
       1. Samnites **destroyed** the Romans, trapped under a mountain pass
       2. Humiliated Romans by forcing them to **march under the yoke**
    3. **Battle of Lautulae 315 BC**: The Samnites defeated the Romans led by dictator Quintus Fabius Maximus, consul five times
    4. **Battle of Bovianum 305 BC**: The Romans defeat the Samnites and end the war
13. **Appius Claudius Caecus**, beginning censorship in 312 BC, built the first road (*Via Appia,* to Capua) and the first aqueduct (*Aqua Appia)*
14. **Third Samnite War** 298 - 290 BC
    1. **Battle of Sentinum 295 BC**
       1. Publius Decius Mus and another dude defeated the Samnites
       2. Mus committed *devotio* -- committing suicide to give his army good fortune in battle
          1. his father, also named Publius Decius Mus, also committed devotio at the Battle of Vesuvius (340BC)
    2. **Battle of Aquilonia 293 BC**
       1. Rome defeated the Samnites in the last battle of the war
       2. The Samnites were led by the **Linen Legion**, experienced soldiers in bright linen tunics
15. *Lex Hortensia* 287 BC: Dictator Quintus Hortensius made it so orders by plebes were binding on all citizens, ending the fifth secession of the plebs to the Janiculum Hill
16. **Pyrrhic War** 280 - 272 BC
    1. Tarentum fired upon Rome’s ships
       1. The reason for this is debated, though one cause is that Tarentum and Rome had a treaty that Rome could not come into Tarentum’s harbors, and Rome did enter on an expedition
    2. Tarentum asked King Pyrrhus of Epirus, cousin of Alexander the Great, for help
    3. **Battle of Heraclea 280 BC**: Pyrrhus with 20 war elephants defeated the Romans
       1. first time Romans encountered **war elephants** in battle
       2. After Heraclea, Cineas was sent to Rome to negotiate peace, but Appius Claudius Caecus roused the Senate to keep fighting; Cineas remarked that the Senate was an assembly of kings
    4. **Battle of Asculum 279 BC**: Pyrrhus defeated Publius Decius Mus (son of P.D.Mus at Sentinum) and the Romans in a pyrrhic victory, losing many men
       1. **“pyrrhic victory”**: you won the battle, but it was so costly that you basically lost; Battle of Asculum is where the term comes from
    5. **Battle of Beneventum 275 BC**: Consul Manius Curius Dentatus defeated Pyrrhus, renaming Maleventum (“bad wind”) to Beneventum (“good wind”)
    6. Pyrrhus left Sicily to fight the Carthaginians, and later died in a street fight in Argos
    7. Tarentum surrendered to Rome in 272 BC
17. **First Punic War** 264 - 241 BC
    1. Rome and Carthage had three previous treaties in 509, 348, and 306 BC
    2. In 262 BC, the Romans sieged Agrigentum, defeat Cathaginians led by Hanno and Hannibal Gisco, and take control of most of Carthage
    3. Battle of Mylae 260 BC
       1. Gaius Duilius led the Romans to their first naval victory against Hannibal Gisco
       2. Duilius used *corvi* (literally “raven”; a type of hook used to grab other ships) for the first time
    4. **Battle of Cape Ecnomus 256 BC**: Rome, led by Regulus and someone else, defeated Hanno and Hamilcar
    5. **Battle of Bagradas Valley/Tunis 255 BC**
       1. Regulus invaded mainland Africa but was defeated and captured by the Spartan mercenary Xanthippus, hired by the Carthaginians
       2. Regulus was sent to Rome to seek peace, but told the Romans to keep fighting
       3. Regulus returned to Carthage, and was killed by being stuck in a barrel full of spikes
    6. **Battle of Drepana 249 BC**
       1. Adherbal and Hamilcar defeated consul Publius Claudius Pulcher
       2. Pulcher should not have fought, as the sacred chickens of Juno would not eat, though he threw them into the ocean in response; “if they will not eat, let them drink!”
       3. Pulcher was tried and fined for this blunder
    7. **Battle of the Aegates Islands 241 BC**: Rome, led by Consuls Gaius Lutatius Catulus and someone else, defeated Hanno the Great at sea to end the First Punic War.
    8. **Sicily became the first Roman province**
18. Battle of Clastidium 222 BC: **Marcus Claudius Marcellus won the third and final *spolia opima*** by killing chief of the Gallic Insubres, **Viridomarus**
19. **Second Punic War** 218 - 201 BC
    1. **Hannibal Barca**, son of Hamilcar, began to siege Saguntum, a Roman ally south of the Ebro River, in 219 BC; when Saguntum fell, Rome declared war
    2. Battle of Ticinus River 218 BC
       1. After crossing the Alps, Hannibal defeated Publius Cornelius Scipio (the Elder)
       2. Scipio’s life was saved by his son, the future Scipio Africanus
    3. **Battle of Lake Trasimene 217 BC**
       1. Gaius Flaminius was ambushed and killed by Hannibal
       2. An earthquake apparently took place during this battle
       3. After this, Quintus Fabius Maximus Cunctator, the “Shield of Rome” and named Cunctator for delaying the Carthaginians, was elected dictator
    4. **Battle of Cannae 216 BC**
       1. Hannibal destroyed **Varro** and **Paullus** (the latter dying in the battle) by encircling the Roman army
          1. Hannibal lines up his troops in a semi-circle
          2. Romans break through the weak center of Hannibal’s army, but are then encircled by its strong flanks
       2. **This was the most disastrous defeat in Roman history**
       3. Several states began to defect from Roman to Carthaginian allegiance
    5. Siege of Syracuse 214 - 211 BC
       1. After Sicilian King Hiero II died in 215 BC, Hieronymous, a Carthage supporter, rose to power in Syracuse
       2. Hieronymous died in 214 BC and pro-Carthage leaders were removed by Rome, although war still broke out
       3. Marcellus defeated the Syracusans and gained back all of Sicily
       4. **Archimedes,** the great scientist, died during this siege
    6. Battle of Baecula 208 BC: Scipio Africanus routed Hasdrubal Barca
    7. **Battle of the Metaurus River 207 BC:** Romans **kill Hasdrubal Barca, throwing his head into the Carthaginian camp**
    8. Battle of Ilipa 206 BC: Scipio Africanus defeated Mago and Hasdrubal Gisco, securing Spain from Carthaginian rule
    9. **Battle of Zama 202 BC**: Scipio Africanus defeated Hannibal, ending the war
    10. As a result of this war, Carthage’s navy and army is limited and they are in debt to the Romans
20. **Second Macedonian War** 200 - 196 BC
    1. After Philip V tried to expand more in Greece and Asia Minor, Pergamum and Rhodes asked Rome for help
    2. Battle of Cynoscephalae 197 BC: Flamininus with the Aetolian League defeated Philip V
    3. Flamininus declared liberty to the Greeks at the Isthmian Games in 196 BC
21. **Third Macedonian War** 171 - 168 BC
    1. Perseus succeeded Philip V to the throne, after his brother, Demetrius, was executed
    2. Battle of Pydna 168 BC: Lucius Aemilius Paullus defeated Perseus
22. AfterFourth Macedonian War (150-148BC), Macedonia is annexed and becomes a province
23. **Third Punic War** 149 - 146 BC
    1. Masinissa and the Numidians attacked Carthage, who attacked back without Rome’s consent
    2. Cato the Elder was famous for saying, “*Carthago delenda est*,” or Carthage must be destroyed
    3. Scipio Aemilianus besieged Carthage;Carthage was set on fire, its fields sowed with salt, and its people sold into slavery
    4. **Africa was made a province in 146 BC**
24. **Battle of Corinth 146 BC**; Rome destroys Corinth
    1. important to know that Rome takes both Carthage and Corinth in 146 BC
25. Viriathus (chief of Lusitania, i.e. Portugal), wages guerilla warfare against Rome in 146 BC
26. Tiberius and Gaius Gracchus were the sons of Cornelia, daughter of Scipio Africanus
    1. Cornelia considered her sons her jewels
    2. Tiberius was elected tribune of the plebs in 133 BC
       1. Tiberius made a **land reform law**, confiscating a person’s land in excess of 500 iugera
       2. Tiberius went directly to the *concilium plebis* rather than the Senate
       3. The other tribune, Marcus Octavius, tried to veto the law, and Tiberius forcibly removed him
       4. The commission who would enforce this law consisted of Tiberius, Gaius, and Pulcher
    3. While Tiberius was campaigning for re-election to the tribunate, he was informed that the Senate was meeting in the Temple of Fides, conspiring to kill him
       1. The *pontifex maximus* Publius Cornelius Scipio Nasica accused Tiberius of trying to become king, though the consul refused to respond
       2. **Scipio Nasica** led the senators to kill Tiberius and over 300 of his followers in a mob
    4. Gaius was tribune from 123 to 122 BC
       1. Gaius had previously served as quaestor of Sardinia in 126 BC
       2. *Lex Rubria (123 BC)*: **Proposed by Gaius’ ally, Rubrius**, Junonia, a colony on the site of Carthage, was founded
       3. In 121 BC, after someone was killed on the Capitoline, the Senate passed a *Senatus Consultum Ultimum*, giving Lucius Opimius power to stop Gaius
       4. Gaius, Flaccus, and 3,000 followers were killed; Gaius ordered his slave to kill him
27. **Jugurthine War** 112 - 105 BC
    1. Jugurtha claimed that Rome was a “*urbs venalis”* (“city for sale”) after bribing a bunch of people to stay safe
    2. Quintus Caecilius **Metellus** Numidicus took command of the war in 108 BC
       1. Metellus’ legate was Gaius Marius
          1. Marius ran for consulship in 107 BC and won as a *novus homo*, the first of his **seven consulships**
          2. Marius introduced the Marian Reforms to the army, which, among other things, allowed a man without property to become a soldier
       2. Marius gained control of the Jugurthine War in 107 BC, elected by the people, not the Senate
    3. Thanks to the work of Sulla, Jugurtha is betrayed, captured, and thrown in jail / killed by Rome
28. War against the Cimbri and Teutones 105 - 101 BC
    1. **Battle of Arausio 105 BC:** Romans destroyed by Cimbri and Teutones (German tribes)
       1. second most devastating defeat in Roman history, after Cannae
    2. **Battle of Aquae Sextiae 102 BC**: **Marius** defeated the Teutones
29. Social/Italian/Marsic War 91 - 88 BC
    1. Marcus Livius Drusus the Younger was tribune in 91 BC
       1. Drusus wanted to make all Italian allies Roman citizens
       2. When Drusus was assassinated because of this, the war broke out
    2. ***Lex Iulia* 90 BC:** Lucius Julius Caesar (no, not the famous Caesar) extended Roman citizenship to Italians who had not warred against Rome

***Lex Plautia Papiria* 89 BC:** Any citizen of an allied town could become a Roman citizen

1. **First Mithridatic War** 89 - 85 BC
   1. Mithridates VI of Pontus was expanding his kingdom, intruding on the territories of Bithynia and Cappadocia
      1. In 88 BC in the Asiatic Vespers, Mithridates massacred 80,000 Italians in Asia
   2. Command against Mithridates was given to Marius
      1. Sulla returned with his army and marched on Rome, declaring Marius and his supporters enemies
   3. Sulla made peace with Mithridates in 85 BC
2. **Third Mithridatic War** 74 - 63 BC
   1. *Lex Manilia* 66 BC: Tribune Gaius Manilius transferred command of the Mithridatic War to Pompey
      1. Pompey decisively defeated Mithridates in 66 BC and continued to chase him
      2. Mithridates tried to raise another army
         1. Mithridates’ son, Pharnaces II, rebelled against Mithridates, who, having lost, killed himself with a sword, as he had made himself immune to poison
3. **Third Servile War** 73 - 71 BC
   1. **Spartacus**, a **Thracian** gladiator, led a slave revolt in Capua
   2. Marcus Licinius **Crassus** stopped the war
   3. **Pompey** crucified 6,000 slaves on the *Via Appia* and claimed most of the credit for winning the war
4. **Pompey and Crassus were co-consuls in 70 and 55 BC**
5. *Lex Gabinia* 67 BC: Aulus Gabinius gave Pompey command to fight pirates in the Mediterranean, whom he defeated in three months
6. (Second) Catilinarian Conspiracy 63 BC
   1. Because Catiline had lost the consular election for 64 BC to **Cicero and Antonius Hybrida**, he wanted to overthrow the republic
      1. Cicero, a *novus homo* (first man in his family to become consul), under *Senatus consultum ultimum* (gave consul full power to do things in time of crisis), wrote speeches against Catiline revealing that Cicero knew his plan and all the co-conspirators
         1. famous picture of Cicero giving a speech in the Senate: all the other senators moved away from Catiline (who was in the audience), leaving him alone
      2. He executed the other conspirators, ruining Catiline’s political career and earning the title *pater patriae*
      3. Catiline and Hybrida were supported by Caesar and Crassus
   2. Catiline raised an army in Gaul, but the Romans, tipped off by the Allobroges, defeated him
   3. Caesar wanted to give them life sentences
   4. Cicero and Cato the Younger, who opposed the members of the Triumvirate, decided to execute the conspirators in the Tullianum
7. In 62 BC, **Claudius Pulcher** snuck into the **Bona Dea festival**, hosted by Caesar, *pontifex maximus*, dressed as a woman, because men were not allowed
   1. Claudius was allegedly the lover of Caesar’s second wife, Pompeia, so he divorced her
      1. famous quote: *“Caesar’s wife must be above suspicion”*
   2. Cicero and others argued to convict Claudius, but he was acquitted by Crassus’ bribery
   3. This Claudius became tribune in 58 BC, adopting himself into a plebeian family (weird, because he’s a patrician pretending to be lower class) and changing his name to the plebeian Clodius
      1. Clodius passed a law exiling anyone who executed a Roman citizen without trial, specifically targeting Cicero, who was exiled to Greece and had his house burned down by Clodius’ gang
   4. Clodius was a really bad guy in my opinion (“Who’s starving the people?”)
8. In 60 BC, **Caesar, Crassus, and Pompey formed the first Triumvirate**, a political alliance
   1. Gaius Iulius Caesar was born in 100 BC to a patrician family
      1. Caesar married Cornelia, the daughter of Cinna, though Sulla told him not to
      2. After divorcing Pompeia on account of her being unfaithful, Caesar married Calpurnia
      3. Caesar was quaestor in 69 BC, aedile in 65 BC, ***pontifex maximus* in 63 BC**, and **consul in 59 BC**
         1. His consulship with Marcus Calpurnius Bibulus was called the consulship of Julius and Caesar because, after Bibulus was attacked, he stayed inside for the rest of his term
   2. Pompey gained land for his veterans
   3. Pompey married Caesar’s daughter, Julia
   4. Crassus gained … money, as always
9. **Gallic Wars** 58 - 51 BC
   1. Caesar took command in Transalpine Gaul, aided by lieutenants Titus Labienus, Decimus Brutus, and Quintus Tullius Cicero, brother of the orator
   2. In Gaul, there were three tribes: the **Belgae, Aquitani, and Celts**
   3. Caesar crossed the Rhine into Germany in 55 BC but never engaged in battle
   4. Vercingetorix, chief of the Arverni, united the Gauls and revolted against Rome in 52 BC, using scorched earth and guerilla tactics
      1. Caesar was initially defeated by Vercingetorix
      2. Battle of Alesia 52 BC: Caesar defeated Vercingetorix after besieging the town
      3. Vercingetorix was paraded in Caesar’s triumph in 46 BC before being executed
10. In 57 BC, Cicero returned to Rome to great celebration, though he did not return to politics, being told not to interfere with the triumvirate
11. Alliance is renewed for five more years with the *Lex Trebonia*, passed by tribune Gaius Trebonius in 55 BC
    1. Julia, wife of Pompey, died in 54 BC
    2. **Battle of Carrhae 53 BC**: Crassus fought against the Parthians and died
       1. Molten gold was poured down Crassus’ throat as a symbol of his wealth
       2. Crassus’ head was used as a prop in a staging of Euripides’ *The Bacchae*
    3. Pompey married Cornelia, the widow of Publius Crassus
    4. When Caesar asked to marry Pompey’s daughter, Pompey refused
    5. Pompey, supported by the senate, was the sole consul of 52 BC
12. **Caesar’s Civil War** 49 - 45 BC
    1. The *Optimates* wanted to remove Caesar from power, but Pompey wanted to let his five years expire
       1. Pompey was handed his sword and the senators asked him to defend the city against Caesar
       2. The senate ordered Caesar to disband his army, but Caesar’s tribunes vetoed this
       3. The senate passed a *Senatus Consultum Ultimum*, declaring Caesar an enemy and necessitating action against him and his tribunes
    2. When Caesar heard of the *Senatus Consultum Ultimum*, he crossed the Rubicon with a single legion, declaring, **“*alea iacta est*”** (“the die has been cast”)
       1. Caesar marched on Rome, causing Pompey and other senators to flee the city
    3. Battle of Dyrrhachium 48 BC: Caesar was defeated by Pompey in a naval battle
    4. **Battle of Pharsalus 48 BC: Caesar defeated Pompey**
       1. **Pompey then fled** to Alexandria, where he **was assassinated** on the orders of Ptolemy XIII
    5. Caesar pursued the late Pompey to Alexandria, where he sided with Cleopatra VII in the Egyptian Civil War against Ptolemy XIII
       1. Caesar and Cleopatra had a son, Caesarion
    6. **Battle of Zela 47 BC**: Caesar easily defeated Pharnaces II, uttering “*Veni, vidi, vici*” (“I came, I saw, I conquered”)
    7. **Battle of Thapsus 46 BC**: Caesar defeated supporters of Pompey
       1. After this, Cato the Younger committed suicide
    8. **Battle of Munda 45 BC**
    9. In 44 BC, Caesar was made **dictator for life**
       1. Caesar’s *magister equitum* was at first Antony, but later replaced by Lepidus
       2. Caesar reformed the calendar, resulting in a 15-month year in 46 BC
       3. Caesar made many other reforms, and was titled *pater patriae* and *imperator*
    10. On March 15, 44 BC, Marcus Iunius **Brutus** and Gaius **Cassius** Longinus led a conspiracy, killing Caesar in front of the senate in the Theater of Pompey, at the feet of Pompey’s statue
        1. He was stabbed 23 times and then died
13. Antony delivered an oration at Caesar’s funeral, displaying his bloodied toga and corpse
    1. “I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him”
    2. Antony made Lepidus *pontifex maximus*
    3. Cicero had made several speeches against Antony, the *Philippics*
14. In 43 BC, **Antony, Octavian, and Lepidus** met near Bononia and formed the second triumvirate
    1. This group had absolute power for five years and was legalized by the *Lex Titia*
    2. All governed different regions...
       1. Lepidus governed Transalpine Gaul and Spain
       2. Antony governed the rest of Gaul
       3. Octavian governed Africa, Sicily, Sardinia, and Corsica
    3. **Battles of Philippi 42 BC** (Brutus+Cassius v. Antony+Octavian)
       1. Brutus defeated Octavian, but Antony defeated Cassius, who committed suicide, believing Brutus had lost too
       2. Brutus lost and committed suicide as well
15. **Battle of Actium 31 BC** (Antony v. Octavian)
    1. Octavian used propaganda to make Antony look bad, especially after he divorced Octavia
    2. Octavian declared war on Cleopatra, with whom Antony was in love
    3. Fighting for Octavian, Agrippa defeated Antony and Cleopatra’s navy; they escaped but later committed suicide

# **Empire: 27 BC - 476 AD**

1. **Augustus** 27 BC - 14 AD
   1. Life
      1. Augustus was the first of the Julio-Claudian Emperors
      2. adopted by Julius Caesar
      3. Octavian was **given the name Augustus** by the senate in 27 BC
      4. Augustus was titled *Pater Patriae* in 2 BC by the senate
      5. Augustus had three wives
         1. His first wife was **Claudia**, who was exiled to Pandateria in 2 BC for adultery
         2. His second wife was **Scribonia**, with whom he had Julia the Elder (daughter)
         3. His third wife was **Livia**, who mothered Tiberius (the emperor) and Drusus with her former husband, Tiberius Claudius Nero
      6. Augustus **originally intended his heir to be** Marcus Claudius **Marcellus**, his nephew, to whom he married Julia
      7. After Marcellus died, Julia married Agrippa, with whom she had five children: Lucius Caesar, Gaius Caesar, Agrippina the Elder, Julia the Younger, and Agrippa Postumus
         1. **Lucius Caesar** and **Gaius Caesar** were adopted by Augustus but each died
         2. **Julia the Younger** was exiled
         3. Agrippa Postumus was adopted by Augustus but then exiled
         4. Because Agrippa died in 12 BC, and Augustus had no other possible successors, **he adopted Tiberius**
            1. Tiberius was made to adopt his nephew Germanicus, who was married to Agrippina the Elder
      8. Mausoleum of Augustus held ashes of emperors Augustus - Nerva
   2. Domestic Affairs
      1. Augustus began the *Pax Romana*
      2. In 27 BC, Augustus gave up power to the senate, though he remained consul for several consecutive years, had the loyalty of the military, and was given imperium over several provinces
         1. Augustus established the principate, making himself *princeps*
      3. Augustus created the Praetorian Guard, and, with it, the Praetorian Prefect
      4. Augustus was said to have **“found Rome a city of brick, left it a city of marble”**
         1. Augustus built the Forum of Augustus, Mausoleum of Augustus, Pantheon, and many other building projects
   3. Foreign Affairs (Germans)
      1. From 12 - 9 BC, Drusus I was fighting against the Germans along the Rhine and the Danube, but died when he fell off a horse
         1. Tiberius took Drusus’ command, but was recalled
         2. **Battle of Teutoburg Forest 9 AD:** **Varus** and **three legions** were defeated by **Arminius (“Herman the German”)**
            1. third most devastating defeat in Roman history
         3. Germanicus was given command of Germany in 12 AD
2. **Tiberius** 14 - 37 AD
   1. Life
      1. Tiberius was the adopted son of Augustus
      2. Tiberius adopted his nephew Germanicus
      3. Tiberius’ heir was Caligula, the son of Germanicus and Agrippina the Elder
      4. first exiled to **Rhodes**; **retired to Capri** later in life
      5. Tiberius may have been smothered in bed by Praetorian Guard Macro
   2. Reign
      1. Germanicus celebrated a triumph for his campaign in Germany
      2. Sejanus was Tiberius’ original Praetorian Prefect
         1. Sejanus was also just a bad dude
      3. Macro replaced Sejanus as Praetorian Prefect
3. **Caligula** 37 - 41 AD
   1. Life
      1. Caligula, “little boot,” was called this because he was on the battlefield as a small child, son of Germanicus, with boots on
      2. Caligula became ill and turned insane
         1. Caligula was said to have incestuous relationships with his sisters
      3. Caligula was killed by Praetorian Guard **Cassius Chaerea** in 41 AD
      4. Caligula’s remains were placed inside the Mausoleum of Augustus
   2. Reign
      1. Caligula planned to wage war in Britain, but he had the troops march along the shore and collect seashells
      2. Caligula made his favorite horse, **Incitatus**, a senator
4. **Claudius** 41 - 54 AD
   1. Life
      1. Claudius was the brother of Germanicus, and thus uncle of Caligula
      2. First emperor not to be born in Italy
      3. Although he was intelligent, Claudius had physical and speech impediments
      4. When Caligula died, Claudius was found hiding behind a palace curtain by a member of the Praetorian Guard and named emperor
      5. Claudius had four wives
         1. His last wife (also his niece), Agrippina the Younger had a child, Lucius Domitius Ahenobarbus, who would become Nero
            1. Claudius adopted Nero, making him joint heir with Britannicus
            2. Agrippina poisoned Claudius with a dish of mushrooms supplied by Locusta
   2. Reign
      1. Claudius completed the conquest of Britain in 43 AD
      2. Claudius built a harbor at Ostia with a lighthouse
5. **Nero** 54 - 68 AD
   1. Life
      1. Nero was the last of the Julio-Claudian emperors, nephew of Caligula
      2. When Agrippina began to support Britannicus in 55 AD, Nero killed him
      3. In 59 AD, Nero ordered the murder of Agrippina, who escaped an intentionally sinking boat only to still be killed
      4. Nero wanted to divorce his wife, Octavia, for Poppaea Sabina, but Agrippina didn’t allow it
         1. After Agrippina died, Nero divorced and exiled Octavia to Pandateria and married Sabin, who died after Nero kicked her in the stomach
   2. Reign
      1. Nero’s first five good years, with the guidance of Seneca the Younger and Praetorian Prefect Burrus, were called the *quinquennium Neronis*
      2. A great fire destroyed many parts of Rome in 64 AD; Nero supposedly **“fiddled while Rome burned”**
         1. Afterwards he built the ***Domus Aurea***, his golden house
         2. Nero **blamed the Christians** for this arson and began persecuting them
      3. His general **Suetonius Paulinus conquered Britain** in 60/1 AD
         1. Britsh **Queen Boudicca** led the **Iceni** on a rebellion, killing 70,000 there
         2. Battle of Watling Street 61 AD: Paulinus defeaed Boudicca and she committed suicide
      4. Gaius Calpurnius Piso led an unsuccessful conspiracy in 65 AD
   3. Rebellion against Nero begins in 68 AD
      1. Nero, when he heard of the coming rebellion, committed suicide, declaring “*Qualis artifex pereo”*
      2. Galba arrived to Rome and was proclaimed emperor by the senate
6. four emperors all serve during AD 69
7. **Galba** 68 - 69 AD
8. **Otho** 69 AD
9. **Vitellius** 69 AD
10. **Vespasian** 69 - 79 AD
    1. Life
       1. Vespasian was the first Flavian emperor
       2. In 79 AD, Vespasian died, proclaiming, **“*puto deus fio*”** (I think I am becoming a god)
    2. Reign
       1. Vespasian **began** the **Colosseum**/Flavian Amphitheater
       2. Rebuilt the Temple of Jupiter Optimus Maximus
       3. Among other unpopular measures, imposed a tax on public urinals
11. **Titus** 79 - 81 AD
    1. Titus was the son of Vespasian, and served as his Praetorian Prefect
    2. Titus had sacked Jerusalem in 70 AD
    3. People love him -- he is known as the “darling of mankind”
    4. Titus finished construction of the Colosseum and began construction of the Temple of Vespasian and Titus
    5. Natural disasters: Mount Vesuvius erupted in 79 AD and destroyed Pompeii, a fire broke out in 80 AD, and a plague broke out (that killed Titus)
    6. Titus was deified after his death
12. **Domitian** 81 - 96 AD
    1. Domitian was the last Flavian emperor, brother of Titus
    2. Domitian gave himself the title ***Dominus et Deus***
    3. Several officials, including Domitia and his Praetorian Prefect, Petronius Secundus, made a conspiracy to kill Domitian, where a slave, Stephanus, stabbed him
    4. Domitian was given a ***damnatio memoriae***(all mention of him erased from public monuments)
    5. Domitian **built the Arch of Titus** on the *Via Sacra*, and finished Vespasian/Titus building projects
13. **Nerva** 96 - 98 AD
    1. Nerva was the first of the Five Good Emperors
    2. Nerva adopted Trajan, governor of Upper Germany
14. **Trajan** 98 - 117 AD
    1. Under Trajan, Rome reached its greatest territorial extent
    2. “*optimus princeps*”
    3. Trajan warred with Decebalus and the Dacians starting in 101 AD
    4. Trajan’s Column built to commemorate military successes (esp. vs. Dacians)
15. **Hadrian** 117 - 138 AD
    1. **Hadrian loved Greek culture**
       1. Hadrian was the lover of a Greek boy, Antinous, whom he later deified
       2. As a sign of his love for Greek culture, he wore a beard (first emperor to do so)
    2. Hadrian **built Hadrian's Wall in Britain**
    3. **Simon Bar Kokhba** led a rebellion against him, capturing Jerusalem
16. **Antoninus Pius** 138 - 161 AD
    1. Antoninus married Faustina the Elder
    2. Antoninus was titled Pius because he buried and deified Hadrian
    3. Antoninus built the **Antonine Wall** of turf and wood between the **Firth of Forth and the Firth of Clyde**
    4. Antoninus ruled the longest of the Five Good Emperors
17. **Marcus Aurelius** 161 - 180 AD
    1. Aurelius was the last of the Five Good Emperors
    2. Aurelius practiced Stoicism, writing the *Meditations* (philosophy on life)
    3. Loved peace, but spent nearly his whole reign at war
    4. Aurelius’ son, Commodus, became co-emperor and then succeeded Aurelius
    5. Aurelius co-ruled with Lucius Verus, but Verus died in 169 AD
18. **Commodus** 180 - 192 AD
    1. Commodus was made co-emperor in 177 AD by his father, Marcus Aurelius
    2. Commodus believed himself to be an incarnation of **Hercules** and regularly participated in gladiatorial games, killing men and animals
    3. Commodus (temporarily, lol) changed the name of Rome to *Colonia Commodiana*
    4. Famously cruel
       1. watch the movie Gladiator (if you are allowed -- rated R)
    5. Commodus’ wrestling partner, Narcissus, strangled him as he was bathing
19. **Pertinax** 193 AD
20. **Didius Julianus** 193 AD
    1. Julianus bought the throne at auction, outbidding Sulpicianus (father-in-law of Pertinax)
21. **Septimius Severus** 193 - 211 AD
    1. Severus was the first of the Severan emperors
    2. Severus married Julia Domna, and had **two children: Caracalla and Geta**
       1. Severus told his heirs, Caracalla and Geta, to **get along with each other**, **pay the soldiers**, and **scorn everyone else**
    3. He defeated rivals Pescennius Niger and Clodius Albinus (in that order)
    4. Severus built the Arch of Septimius Severus to celebrate his victory over the Parthians
    5. Severus died at Eburacum in 211 AD
22. **Caracalla** 211 - 217
    1. Caracalla was called this because of his Gallic cloak
    2. In 211 AD, Caracalla murdered **Geta** in the hands of their mother, massacred his supporters, and condemned his memory
       1. *so much for getting along with each other*
    3. Caracalla built the Baths of Caracalla
    4. Caracalla **gave Roman citizenship to all free men** living in the empire
23. **Macrinus** 217 - 218 AD
24. **Elagabalus** 218 - 222 AD
    1. Worshipped “Sol Invictus” -- the sun
25. **Severus Alexander** 222 - 235 AD
    1. last of the Severan emperors
26. **six emperors** all serve during **238 AD**
27. **Maximinus Thrax** 235 - 238 AD
    1. first of the Barracks emperors
    2. nearly 8 feet tall
28. **Gordian I** and **Gordian II** (238 AD): each very briefly emperor, killed by Maximinus’ army
29. **Pupienus** and **Balbinus** 238 AD: They were appointed as emperors by the senate, but killed by the Praetorian Guard
30. **Gordian III** 238 - 244 AD
    1. Gordian became **emperor at 13**
31. **Philip the Arab** 244 - 249 AD
    1. Philip celebrated Rome’s 1,000th birthday
32. **Decius** 249 - 251 AD
33. **Trebonianus Gallus** 251 - 253 AD
34. **Aemilianus** 253 AD
35. **Valerian** 253 - 260 AD
    1. Captured by King Shapur I of the Persians in 260 AD
36. **Gallienus** 253 - 268 AD
37. **Claudius Gothicus** 268 - 270 AD
38. **Quintillus** 270 AD
39. **Aurelian** 270 - 275 AD
    1. Aurelian defeats the ruler of Gallic Empire, earns title ***Restitutor Orbis***
    2. 273 AD: Defeated Queen Zenobia of Palmyra (which had seceded from Rome)
40. **Tacitus** 275 - 276 AD
41. **Florianus** 276 AD
42. **Probus** 276 - 282 AD
43. **Carus** 282 - 283 AD
    1. Carus died when he was **struck by lightning** (or, more likely, killed by his Praetorian Prefect, Aper)
    2. Succeeded by his sons **Numerian** (East) and **Carinus** (West)
44. **Diocletian** 284 - 305 AD
    1. **Diocletian created the Tetrarchy** in 293 AD
    2. Tetrarchy: Rule of Roman empire is divided between two Augusti and Caesar in the East and West
    3. Original tetrarchy:
       1. East Augustus: **Diocletian**
          1. capital was Nicomedia
       2. East Caesar: **Galerius (**later replaced by Licinius)
       3. West Augustus: **Maximian** (later replaced by Maxentius)
       4. West Caesar: **Constantius Chlorus**
    4. Diocletian reignited the persecution of Christians
45. **Constantine (I) (the Great)** 306 - 337 AD
    1. Life
       1. **First Christian Emperor**
       2. Constantine became sick in **337 AD**, and was baptized before he died
       3. son of Constantius Chlorus
    2. Reign
       1. Battle of Milvian Bridge 312 AD
          1. Constantine saw a cross in the sun with the words ***in hoc signo vinces*** *(“by this sign, you will conquer”)*; he then defeated his rival **Maxentius**
          2. this victory caused him to **convert to Christianity**
       2. Through Edict of Milan in 313 AD, **Constantine made Christianity legal in Rome**
       3. Constantine **moved the capital to Constantinople (formerly Byzantium)**
       4. After Licinius executed in 325 AD for treason, Constantine becomes sole ruler
       5. Council of Nicaea 325 AD: Constantine calls council of bishops, representing all Christian believers, to determine whether Christ was divine (spoiler: yes)
    3. After Constantine’s death, the Roman empire was divided between his three sons: **Constantine II, Constans, Constantius II**
46. **Julian the Apostate** 361 - 363 AD
    1. Julian was the last of Constantine’s family
    2. Julian gave freedom of religion to Rome, but **tried to revive Paganism** and was thus called the **Apostate**
47. **Jovian** 363 - 364 AD
    1. Jovian rescinded Julian’s Pagan policies and re-established Christianity as the state church
48. **Valentinian I** 364 - 375 AD
49. **Valens** 364 - 378 AD
50. **Gratian** 375 - 383 AD
51. **Valentinian II** 375 - 392 AD
52. **Theodosius I** 379 - 395 AD
    1. **Made Christianity the official state religion** of Empire
    2. banned Olympic Games (booooooo)
53. **Arcadius** 395 - 408 AD (East)
54. **Honorius** 395 - 423 AD (West)
    1. **Alaric of the Visigoths** sacked Rome on August 24, 410 AD
55. **Theodosius II** 408 - 450 AD (East)
56. **Valentinian III** 423 - 455 AD (West)
57. **Gaiseric**, **king of the Vandals**, sacked and plundered Rome on June 3, 455 AD
58. **Romulus Augustulus** was the last emperor in the West, ruling from 475 - 476 AD
    1. He was killed by Odoacer, a German king
59. The Byzantine Empire fell in 1453 AD