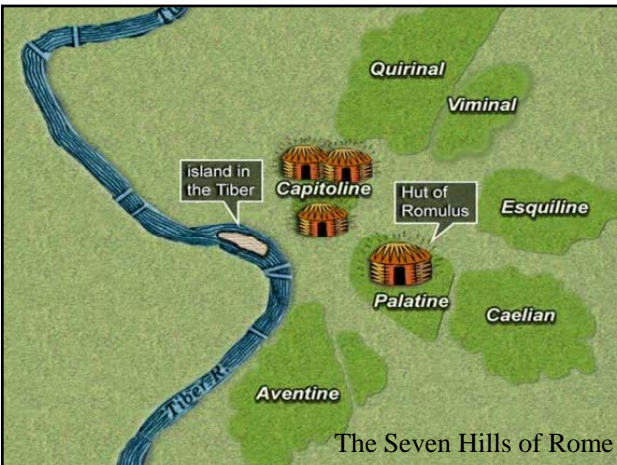
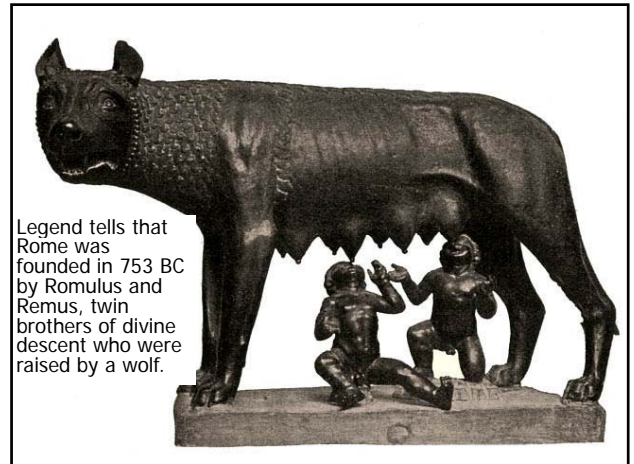


# Ancient Roman Civilization



## The Rape of the Sabine Women



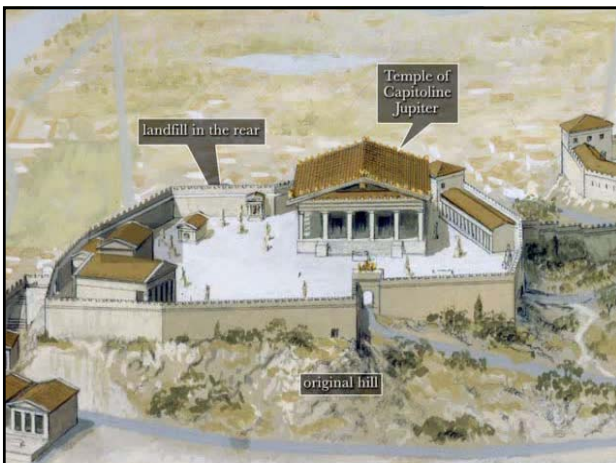
“Rape” is a conventional translation of the Latin *raptio*, which in this context means abduction.

## Periods of Roman History

- Monarchy/Etruscan Age  
– c. 800 BC - 510 BC.
- Republican Rome  
– 509 BC - 31 BC.
- Imperial Rome  
– 31 BC - 476 AD.

## Monarchy/Etruscan Period

- Roman civilization began as a city-state ruled by kings.
- Roman tradition says that Rome was conquered by their Etruscan neighbors around 600 BC....
- And that Rome expelled the last Etruscan king in 509 BC. and replaced it with a republic.
- Being ruled by the Etruscans left a lasting resentment against monarchy in Rome.



The Roman forum: the center of Roman civilization.

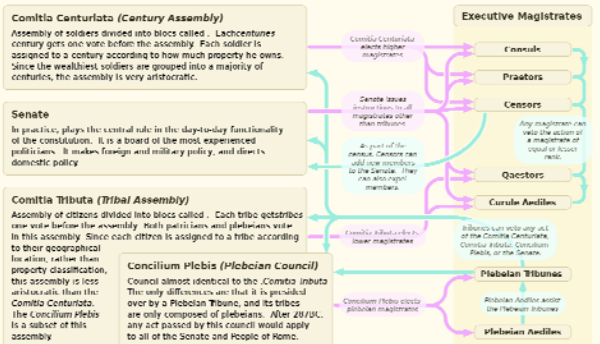
## Republican Rome (509 - 31 BC.)

- Balance of Power
  - Patricians: “Fathers.” Elite (landholding) citizens.
  - Plebeians: All of the other citizens of Rome.
- Republican government
  - Consuls: Chief magistrate, highest authority.
  - Senate: From *senex*, “old man”.
  - Tribunes: Protected Plebeian rights. “Veto!”

## The Roman Senate



### The Constitution of the Roman Republic



By 287 BC, plebeians had their own assembly, the Plebeian Council, and could make laws binding on all citizens. (*Lex Hortensia*)

## Cincinnatus (519 BC – 438 BC)

- The model Roman.
- Cincinnatus served as consul in 460 BC and dictator in 458 and 439 BC.
- After defeating Rome's rivals, he immediately resigned his dictatorship and returned to the simple life of a farmer.
- His resignation of absolute authority at the end of the crisis was held as the epitome of civic virtue.



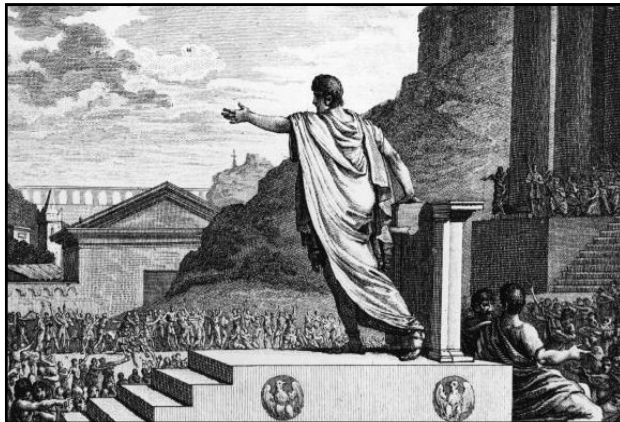
## Roman Philosophy

**Stoicism**: Although originating with the Greeks, traditional Roman beliefs conformed well to stoic values. Stoicism was a therapeutic philosophy that emerged during Hellenistic times:

- Patience in the face of trouble.
- Indifference to material things.
- Acceptance of one's destiny.

## Rome in 264 BC





Gaius Gracchus addressing the Plebeians.

### Optimates and Populares

- In 133 BC, the king of Pergamon bequeathed his kingdom to Rome.
- The Gracchi brothers used the new wealth to institute land reforms, causing a rift with the established senatorial elite.
  - *Optimates*: The “best men,” the traditional elite.
  - *Populares*: “Favoring the people.” Populist leaders that built power with policies favored by Plebeians.
- Both brothers, along with many of their followers, were assassinated by those that wanted to maintain the status quo.



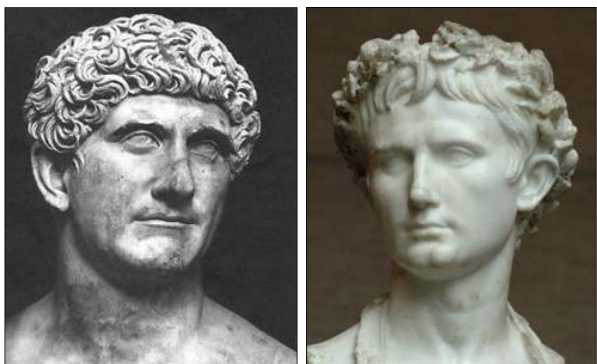
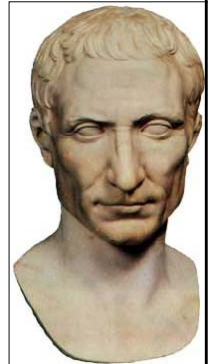
## The First Triumvirate

- The First Triumvirate was the political alliance of:
  - Gaius Julius Caesar
  - Marcus Licinius Crassus
  - Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus.
- Although the constitution remained in place, they had *de facto* control over Rome.
- The First Triumvirate was formed in 59 BC and lasted until Crassus's death in 53 BC.



## Julius Caesar (100 – 44 BC.)

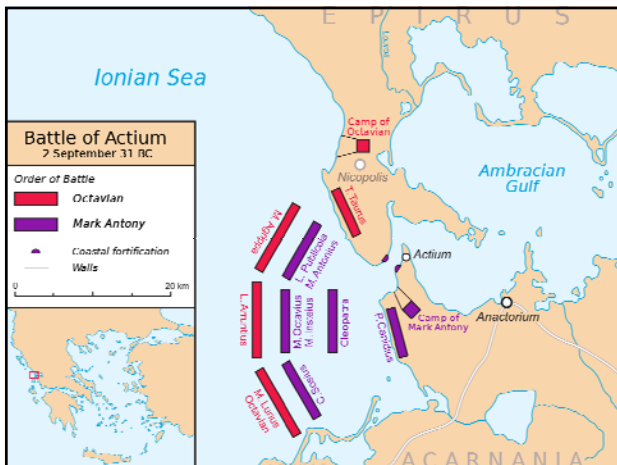
- A great general, he led the conquest of Gaul and invaded Britannia.
- He prompted a civil war (which he won) by “crossing the Rubicon”, after which he became dictator for life.
- Had an affair with Cleopatra, the last Ptolemaic monarch.
- Murdered in the Senate on the *Ides of March* (March 15), 44 BC.



Mark Antony and Octavian.

## Mark Antony (Marcus Antonius)

- He was a loyal friend and supporter of Julius Caesar, as a military commander and as an administrator.
- After Caesar's assassination, Antony formed an official political alliance with Octavian.
- Disagreement between Octavian and Antony erupted into civil war, the Final War of the Roman Republic, in 31 BC.
- Antony was defeated by Octavian at the Battle of Actium. Antony and Cleopatra committed suicide shortly thereafter.



## What would you give up for love?





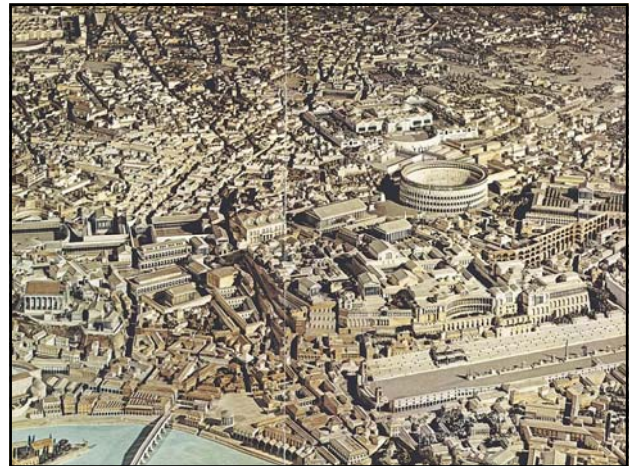
## Augustus (63 BC – 14 AD)



- Born Gaius Octavius Thurinus, he became Gaius Julius Caesar Octavianus after he was adopted by (and inherited the estate of) his great-uncle, Gaius Julius Caesar.
- He was later awarded the name Augustus (“the revered one”) by the Roman senate.
- Emperor of Rome from 31 BC until his death in 14 AD.

## Imperial Rome (31 BC – 476 CE)

- Battle of Actium (31 BC.)
  - End of the last of the Hellenistic kingdoms.
- Octavian inaugurated as Augustus (27 BC.), the first and most famous Roman emperor.
- Autocratic government - While the forms of the Republic were still in place, power resided entirely in the hands of the emperor.
- *Pax Romana* (28 BC to 180 CE) – Two centuries of peace when Roman power was at its peak.



## Augustus' Last Words

Publicly, his last words were:

*“I found Rome a city of clay, I leave it to you a city of marble.”*

His actual last words were:

*“Have I played my part well?”*



## The Roman Calendar

Why do we call the last month of the year December?

January -- Janus' month  
 February -- month of Februa  
 March -- Mars' month  
 April -- Aphrodite's month  
 May -- Maia's month  
 June -- Juno's month  
 July -- Julius Caesar's month  
 August -- Augustus' month  
 September -- the seventh month  
 October -- the eighth month  
 November -- the ninth month  
 December -- the tenth month



### Emperor Nero (37-68 AD)

- Emperor from 54 to 68.
- It is said that Nero played the lyre and sang while watching the Great Fire of Rome (64 AD).
- Afterwards, he had a massive pleasure palace built at the site of the fire, his *Domus Aurea* (Golden House).

*"To fiddle while Rome burns."*

A political cartoon showing President George W. Bush in a purple toga, playing a violin. In the background, a city is being flooded by water, with smoke rising from buildings. A hand is shown reaching out from the water. The caption reads: "A political cartoon showing President Bush playing the fiddle while New Orleans is ravaged by Hurricane Katrina."

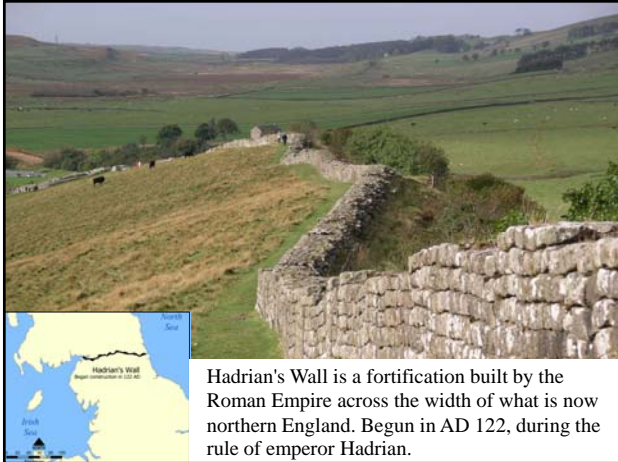
A map of the Roman Empire at its greatest extent in AD 117. The empire is shown in orange, covering the entire Mediterranean and Black Sea worlds, and all of western Europe. Provinces added between AD 14 and AD 117 are shown in a darker shade of orange. The map includes labels for various provinces and regions. A legend indicates:
 

- Orange: Roman Empire, A.D. 14
- Dark Orange: Provinces added between A.D. 14 and A.D. 117

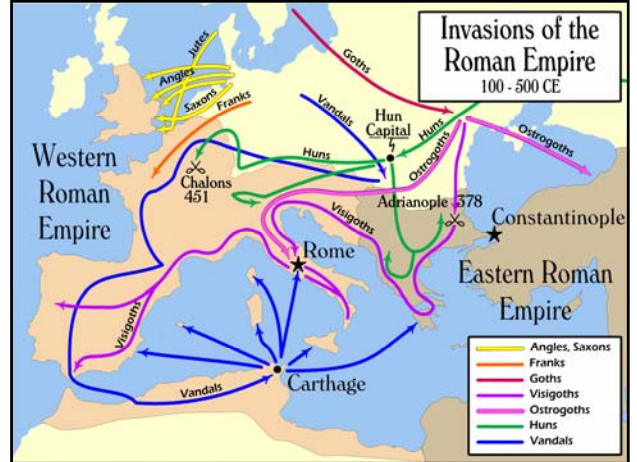
 A note at the bottom states: "The Roman Empire, 14 and 117 C.E. At its fullest extent, the Roman Empire included the entire Mediterranean and Black Sea worlds and all of western Europe, as well as the ancient civilizations of Egypt and Mesopotamia."

Completed in 113 CE, Trajan's Column is a Roman triumphal column in Rome, Italy, which commemorates (in spiral bas relief) Roman emperor Trajan's victory in the Dacian Wars (101–102 and 105–106).







Hadrian's Wall is a fortification built by the Roman Empire across the width of what is now northern England. Begun in AD 122, during the rule of emperor Hadrian.



### Marcus Aurelius

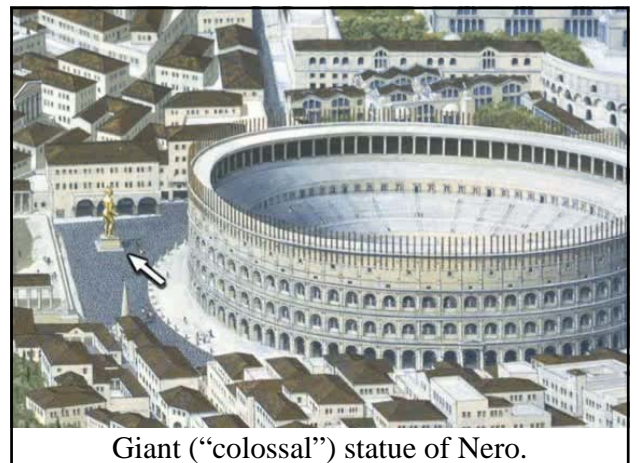
- Roman Emperor from 161 to 180.
- His *Meditations* is a collection of his thoughts on Stoic philosophy.
  - It was written in Greek while on campaign between 170 and 180.
  - Aurelius approached the Platonic ideal of a philosopher-king and symbolized much of what was best about Roman civilization.

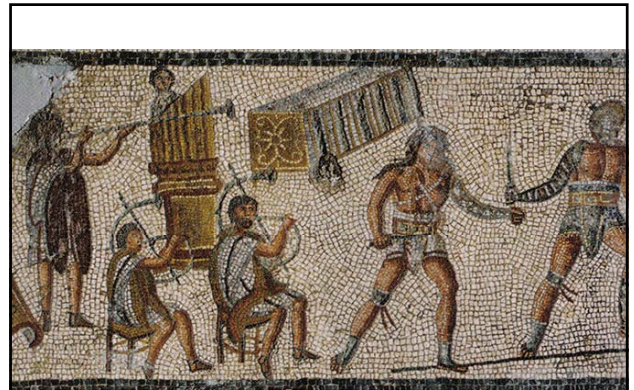
Richard Harris as Marcus Aurelius in *Gladiator*.



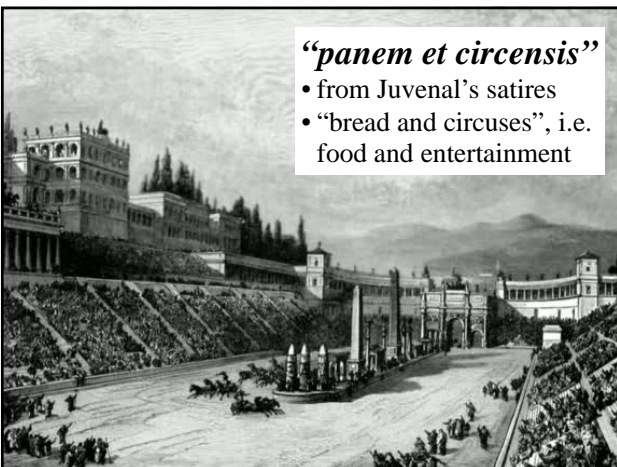

The Roman Colosseum, built c. 80 AD.



Giant ("colossal") statue of Nero.



Musicians and gladiators



***“panem et circensis”***

- from Juvenal’s satires
- “bread and circuses”, i.e. food and entertainment



THE ROMAN EMPIRE, AD 337

## Constantine

- First Christian Roman emperor (ruled 306-337 CE)
- The *Edict of Milan* was a letter signed by Constantine that proclaimed religious toleration in the Roman Empire (313 CE).
- He founded the city of Constantinople and the Eastern Roman Empire.



## The Fall of Rome

The end of the Roman Empire is traditionally placed on 4 September 476, when the Western Roman Empire fell to Germanic invaders. However, this view does not recognize the Eastern Roman Empire (which evolved into the Byzantine Empire), which maintained many Roman legal and cultural traditions. Developing a distinct Greek Christian character, it managed to survive and even thrive for a millennium after the fall of the Western Roman Empire.



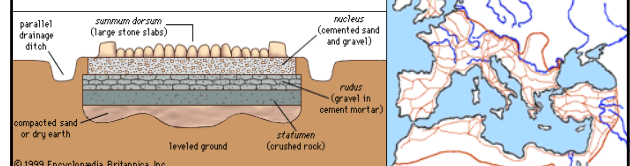
## What is Rome remembered for?

- Republic and Empire, a legacy of strength and stability.
- Public Works and Engineering
  - Roads, Arches, Aqueducts, Baths
  - Monuments
    - The Colosseum, the Pantheon
- Roman Law
- Sculpture
- Latin Literature
- Pompeii



## "All roads lead to Rome."

- At its peak, the Roman road system spanned 53,000 miles.
- These long highways were important in maintaining both the stability and expansion of the empire.





Pompeian road with ruts worn from wagon wheels.



One of the finest examples of a surviving Roman road in Britain, Blackstone Edge, near Manchester, is remarkably well preserved with rain gullies and close-fitting cobbles still intact.

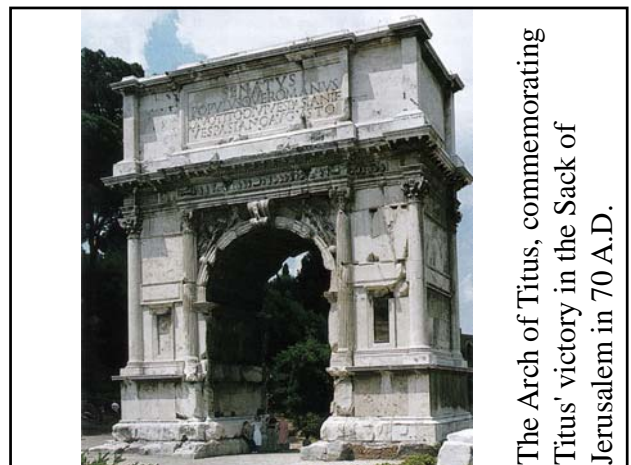
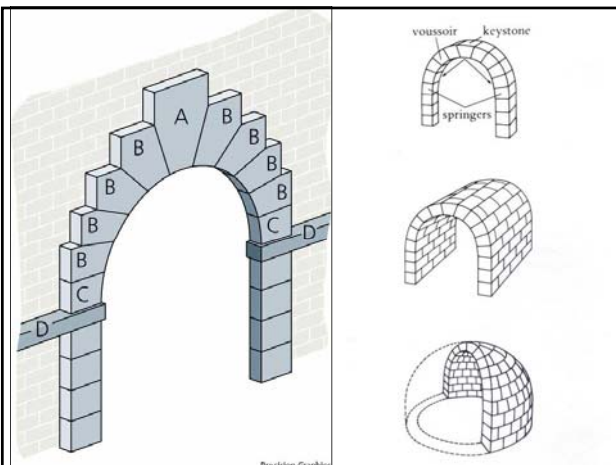


The Roman forum:  
"Mile Zero" for road markers.



## Roman Architecture

- Considered *classical architecture*, along with Greek architecture, but with significant differences...
- Engineering Achievements
  - Roads and covered sewers
  - Aqueducts and public baths
  - The Colosseum
- Arches
  - Triumphal arches, internal arches
  - Barrel Vault
  - Dome (hemispherical vault)
- The Pantheon
  - the *oculus*



The Arch of Titus, commemorating Titus' victory in the Sack of Jerusalem in 70 A.D.

## Aqueducts

- Among the greatest engineering feats of the ancient world.
- The combined length of the aqueducts in Rome was nearly 260 miles and they supplied up to one million cubic meters of water per day.



Aqueducts in Rome

Name	Year built	Length (km)	Height at source (m)	Height in Rome (m)	Average gradient (%)	Capacity (m <sup>3</sup> a day)
Aqua Appia	312 BC	16.561	30	20	0.06	73,000
Anio Vetus	272 - 269 BC	63.64	280	48	0.36	175,920
Aqua Marcia	144 - 140 BC	91.424	318	59	0.28	187,600
Aqua Tepula	125 BC	17.745	151	61	0.51	17,800
Aqua Julia	33 BC	21.677	350	64	1.32	48,240
Aqua Virgo	19 BC	20.697	24	20	0.02	100,160
Aqua Alsietina	2 BC ?	32.815	209	17	0.59	15,680 (not drinkable)
Aqua Claudia	38 - 52	68.681	320	67	0.37	184,280
Anio Novus	38 - 52	86.876	400	70	0.38	189,520
Aqua Traiana	109	32.500	-	-	-	
Aqua Alexandrina	226	22	-	50	-	120,000 to 320,000



Pont du Gard, Roman aqueduct, France, built c. 19 BC.

## Roman Baths

Roman *thermae* were facilities for bathing and socializing, much like a modern spa complex.



Bath, England



The Pantheon, Rome, c. 126 AD.

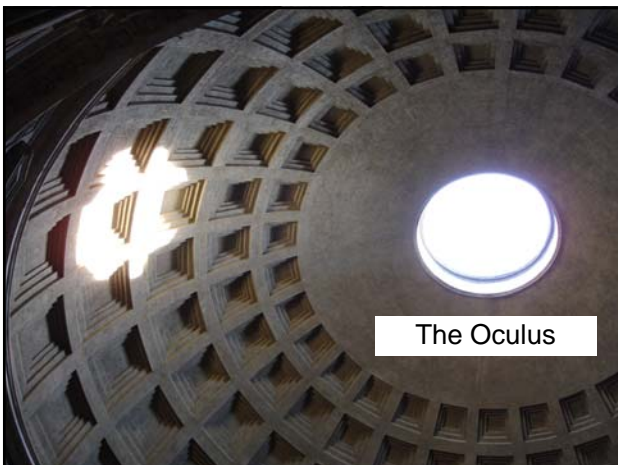
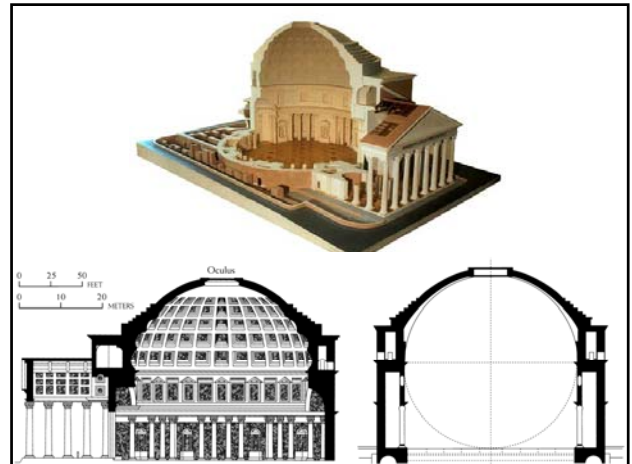
Pantheon: from *pan* (all) + *theos* (god)  
A temple for all the gods.

The principal Roman deities and their Greek equivalents.

ROMAN	GREEK	ROMAN	GREEK
Jupiter	Zeus	Diana	Artemis
Juno	Hera	Ceres	Demeter
Neptune	Poseidon	Venus	Aphrodite
Vulcan	Hephaestus	Minerva	Athena
Mars	Ares	Mercury	Hermes
Apollo	Apollo	Bacchus	Dionysus



M·AGRIPPA·L·F·COS·TERTIVM·FECIT  
"Marcus Agrippa, son of Lucius, Consul for the third time, built this"

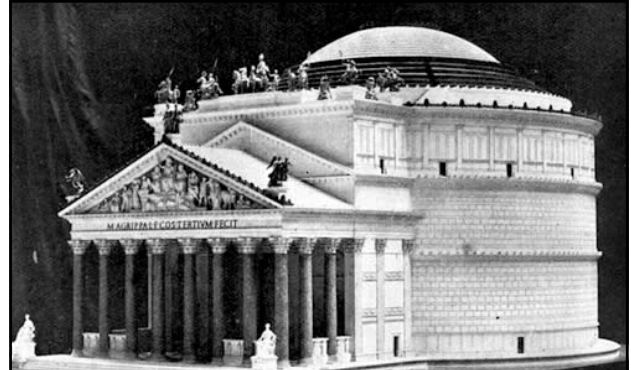


The Oculus



*pozzolana*

Pozzolanic ash – The cement in Roman concrete.



Practice Questions: How is the Pantheon in Rome an example of the enduring influence of Greek culture on the Roman Empire? How is it not?

## Roman Law

- Law of the Twelve Tables (c. 450 BC)
- Julius Caesar's *Ius Civile* (c. 44 BC)
- Justinian's *Corpus Iuris Civilis* (529 AD)



Roman law is the foundation for the legal systems used in most countries today.



## Roman Law

- Rome's law created a notion of justice founded on such ideals as fairness for both citizens and subjects, as well as the presumption of innocence in criminal cases.
- From Stoicism, the legal system adopted the principle of *natural law*, a higher justice than that made by human forces.  
(Also seen in the American Declaration of Independence...)

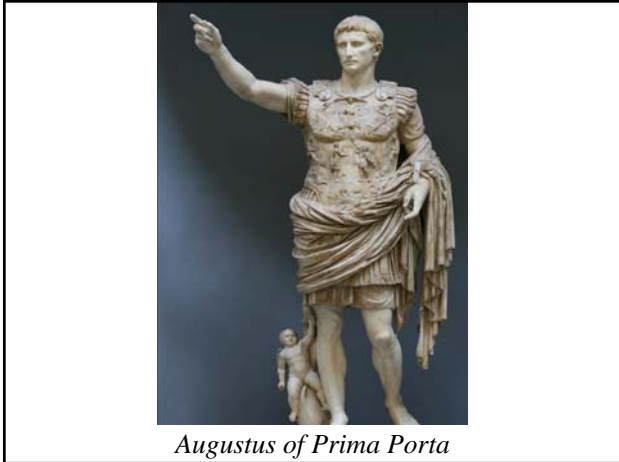
## New Testament: Acts 16:37-39

- But Paul said to the officers: "They beat us publicly without a trial, even though we are Roman citizens, and threw us into prison..."
- The officers reported this to the magistrates, and when they heard that Paul and Silas were Roman citizens, they were alarmed. They came to appease them and escorted them from the prison, requesting them to leave the city.

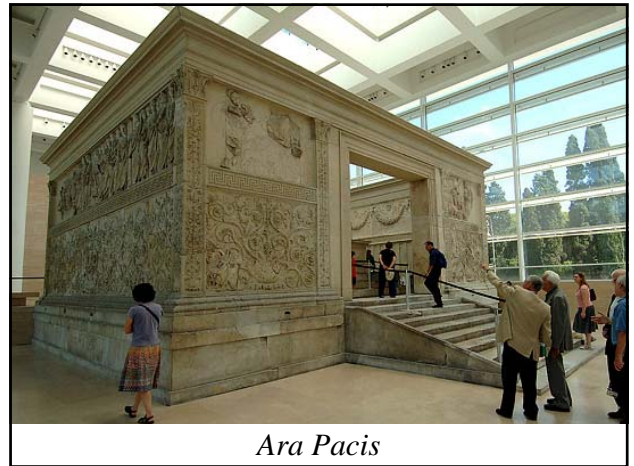
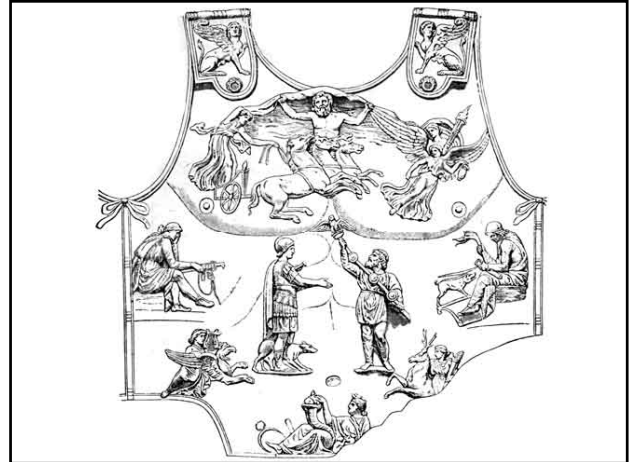


## Augustan Sculpture

- *Augustus of Prima Porta*
  - Propagandistic
  - Celebrates his 'victory' over the Parthians
- *Ara Pacis (Altar of Peace)*
  - Characteristics of Vergil's poetry
  - Political and social message
  - Dedicated to the spirit of Peace
  - Celebrates the abundance of nature



Augustus of Prima Porta



Ara Pacis





Aeneas guiding the refugees from Troy.



The journey of Aeneas, according to Vergil's *Aeneid*.

## Vergil's *Aeneid*

Systematically echoes and alters  
Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*

- Compare opening lines
  - Instead of wrathful Achilles . . .
  - *Pius* (pious) Aeneas
- Books 1-6: Aeneas' journey
  - Echoes of the *Odyssey*
- Books 7-12: Founding Rome
  - Echoes of the *Iliad*

Opening line of the *Aeneid* compared  
to the *Iliad*.

*Mene allede thea*  
Rage, sing, goddess

*Arma virumque cano*  
Arms, man, I sing

## Roman Literature During Augustus

Vergil – author of the *Aeneid*

- The national epic of Rome
- The epic was a tribute to Rome and to Augustus, who was "refounding" Rome like a new Aeneas.
- For this reason, some critics consider the poem to be a work of propaganda.



Ovid

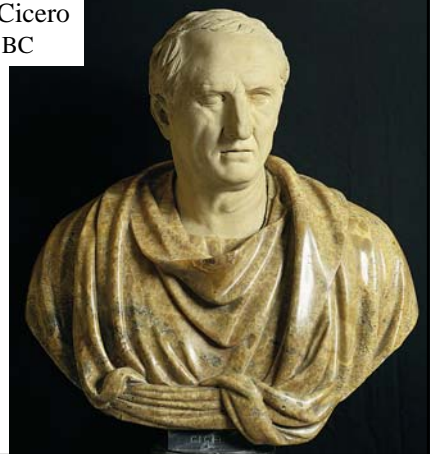
- Wrote poems about love and seduction
- He also wrote much of what we know about classical mythology in *Metamorphoses*
- Exiled in 8 AD - "A poem and a mistake."



## Roman (Latin) Literature

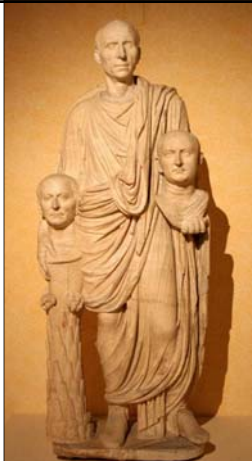
- Julius Caesar – His *Commentaries* became a mainstay of teaching Latin.
- Cicero – Roman statesman and orator remembered for his mastery of Latin prose and for his letters about Roman politics.
- Virgil – wrote the *Aeneid*, a major inspiration for Western poets.
- Ovid – famous for *Metamorphoses*.
- Horace and Juvenal – famous for further developing political satire.

Marcus Tullius Cicero  
106 BC – 43 BC



## Roman Portraiture

- Realistic details.
- Expressed outer appearance and inner character.
- All Roman homes kept statues, or burial masks, of their ancestors.



## The Roman City of Pompeii



## Pompeii

- Mt. Vesuvius erupted on August 24, 79 CE.
- The deluge of volcanic ash preserved a day in ordinary Roman life:
  - Buildings
  - Domestic art
  - even the food





Pompeian steps worn from wear.



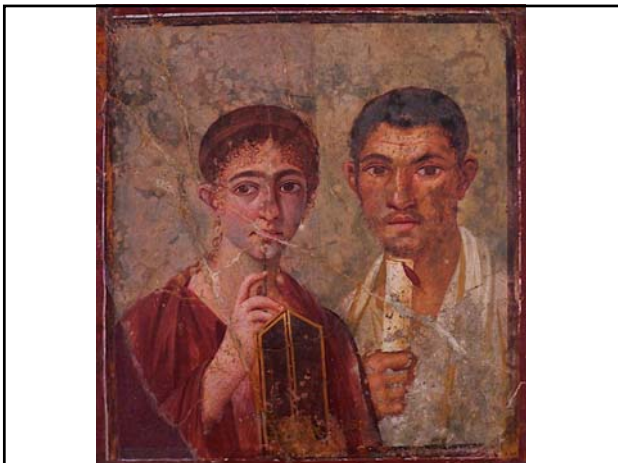
### Pornography

- *porne* – prostitutes
- *graphe* - writing

CENSORED!

CENSORED!

CENSORED!



### The Legacy of Rome

Rome made many contributions to the Western heritage, notably the shining image of a strong, stable, and diverse society, but perhaps none of its contributions were greater than its assimilation and preservation of ancient Greek culture for future generations.