



AHIX1220

The Fall of the Roman Republic

Session 1, Online with attendance for exam, Exam centre within Australia 2020

Department of Ancient History

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor and Tutor

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n/a

n/a

Unit Convenor and Lecturer

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Australian Hearing Hub, South Wing, Level 2, until April break then Arts Precinct, Building B110

n/a

Unit Convenor

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n/a

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit concerns itself with the beginnings of the so-called Roman Revolution, paying special attention to the period from 168 BCE (the battle of Pydna) to Sulla's dictatorship. The main questions will be how and why the traditional political order was challenged and finally overrun by violence, leading to military autocracy and the radical transformation of the Republic. Larger social and economic developments in Italy and the Mediterranean and the distinctive features of the moral and political thought of the period will also be considered. The course is largely a study of the Roman nobility and its members' response to change and crisis. All enrolment queries should be directed to Open Universities Australia (OUA): see open.edu.au

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- ULO1:** acquire knowledge of the Roman Republican political process and of the fundamental political developments in Rome at the beginning of the so-called Roman Revolution
- ULO2:** acquire basic research skills
- ULO3:** acquire the skill to evaluate source material and, in particular, an ability to use ancient sources critically and evaluate modern interpretations of those sources
- ULO4:** acquire the ability to formulate arguments and articulate ideas
- ULO5:** acquire the ability to demonstrate an appreciation of the larger issues that engage historians (for example, the factors that lead to social cohesion and the factors that lead to social and political dysfunction, the desirable qualities of political leadership)
- ULO6:** gain a lifelong ability to enjoy the study of ancient Rome and an inability to forget the word prosopography

Assessment Tasks

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Assessment details are no longer provided here as a result of changes due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Students should consult [iLearn](#) for revised unit information.

[Find out more about the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and potential impacts on staff and](#)

students

General Assessment Information

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION

This unit uses 'Turnitin Assignments' as the submission method for all assessment tasks. Assignments are submitted through the appropriate portal in the 'Assessments' section of the iLearn website.

N.B. (NOTA BENE), i.e. NOTE WELL: You should always keep a copy of completed assignment tasks in case of loss.

GRADING

Criteria and standards required for the assessment tasks will be found on the unit iLearn site.

The grade a student receives will signify their overall performance in meeting the learning outcomes of the unit. Grades will not be awarded by reference to the achievement of other students nor allocated to fit a predetermined distribution. In determining a grade, due weight will be given to the learning outcomes and level of the unit. Markers in the unit will use the following grades:

HD = High Distinction 85–100

D = Distinction 75–84

Cr = Credit 65–74

P = Pass 50–64

F = Fail 0–49

EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES FOR LATE SUBMISSION FOR ALL ASSESSMENT TASKS

Extensions for assignments can only be granted for serious and unavoidable disruptions that arise after a study period has commenced and may only be sought with the support of documentary evidence. If you anticipate any difficulty in meeting due dates for assignments then it is important that you contact the unit convenor as early as possible and before the deadline.

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved (on which, see below), (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for the final exam.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

A student who has experienced unexpected, unavoidable, and serious circumstances affecting their assessable work may lodge an application for Special Consideration.

Applications will only be accepted in the following circumstances:

- where academic work has been hampered to a substantial degree by illness or other cause; and
- the circumstances are serious and unavoidable and beyond the student's control; and
- the application for Special Consideration is lodged no later than five (5) working days after the assessment task due date, examination or test date.

<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/special-consideration>

IMPORTANT NOTE ON FINAL MARKS

Please note with respect to the marks you receive for work during the session: that the marks given are indicative only; final marks will be determined after moderation. See further the note on Results in the Policies and Procedures section below.

Delivery and Resources

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19.

Please check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

ABOUT THIS UNIT

The aim of this unit is to examine the ethos of the Roman Republic's political elite as it met Rome's changing circumstances. The period chosen for study also allows us to examine the complex phenomenon of that Republic's failure at the very time of Rome's successful imperial expansion around the Mediterranean basin.

The course concerns itself with the last century and a half of the period conventionally designated in modern times as the Roman Republic: from 168 BC, when Roman troops destroyed the Macedonian army at the battle of Pydna, and particularly from 146 BC, the year of the destruction of Carthage and Corinth, to 27 BC, the year in which C. Iulius Caesar Octavianus (Octavian) assumed the title Augustus, with the last lecture looking at the long *principatus* (or "premiership") of Augustus which lasted until his death in AD 14. (Special emphasis is placed on the second century BC.) Developments in this period, both internal and external, are of critical significance in the history of western civilization. We look closely at traditional political and social institutions, values and practice, and try to assess the effect on these of Rome's emergence as

the supreme power in the Mediterranean.

The main questions will be how and why the traditional political order was challenged and finally overrun by violence leading to military autocracy and the radical transformation of the Republic. Larger social and economic developments in Italy and the Mediterranean will need to be addressed, and the distinctive features of moral and political thought of the period will also be considered. The course is largely a study of the Roman nobility and its members' response to change and crisis. One of the themes of the course will be the values of Rome's elite.

Lectures:

The lectures for this unit have been recorded and the audio recordings can be downloaded or streamed via the Echo 360 system which can be accessed via the iLearn site.

Tutorials:

Topics for discussion and questions to be addressed are set out under the appropriate week on the iLearn unit site. **The material covered will form an essential preparation for your responses in Part (i) in the Examination.** Preparation for each tutorial is advised, since the material covered in these sessions will be examined. Only by reading the material set for discussion in advance will you receive the full benefit of these sessions. **Students are asked to discuss tutorial topics amongst themselves by posting online via the Discussion Forum for the appropriate week on the iLearn website.**

We hope that participation in these discussions will be a vital and rewarding part of the unit.

RESOURCES

Required Reading and Texts

Plutarch, *Makers of Rome* (London, Penguin Books Ltd, 1965)

Plutarch, *Fall of the Roman Republic* (London, Penguin Books Ltd, 1958, 2005 edition)

H.H. Scullard, *From the Gracchi to Nero* (5th edition, London, 1982)

NOTE

In this course emphasis is placed upon the direct examination of the ancient sources and evidence. Students are expected to base all their work on a personal examination of these sources. It will not be sufficient simply to read modern studies on any topic, however sound and highly recommended these are: it will be essential to look first at the ancient sources on which all modern studies are necessarily based.

Required texts are available for purchase at the Co-Op bookstore < https://www.booktopia.com.au/books-online/text-books/higher-education-vocational-textbooks/cXA-p1.html?utm_source=coop.com.au&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=301&utm_term=default&bk_source=coop&bk_source_id=default&hb=coop>.

UNIT WEBPAGE AND TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

This unit will use iLearn: <<https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/login/index.php/>>. PC and Internet access are therefore required. Basic computer skills (e.g., internet browsing) and skills in word processing are also a requirement. Please consult teaching staff for any further, more specific requirements.

SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF UNIT

Students are required to **participate in tutorial discussions online** via the Discussion Fora on the iLearn website.

Students will be expected to attempt each of the assessment tasks and will need to achieve an **overall mark of 50% or above** to complete the unit satisfactorily.

Unit Schedule

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

The unit schedule/topics and any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19. Please consult [iLearn](#) for latest details, and check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

Week 1 An Introduction to Roman Culture and History

Week 2 The Rise of Rome to 146 BC

Week 3 Scipio Aemilianus

Week 4 Problems Facing Rome in the Mid-Second Century

Week 5 133 BC: The Tribune of Tiberius Sempronius Gracchus

Week 6 The Killing of Tiberius Gracchus

Week 7 Archaeological Evidence for the Impact of Gracchus' Land Program

Week 8 The Tribunes of Gaius Sempronius Gracchus

Week 9 The Killing of Gaius Gracchus and the Rise of Marius

Week 10 From the Political Violence of 100 BC to the Dictatorship of Sulla

Week 11 Pompey the Great

Week 12 Caesar

Week 13 Augustus

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit [ask.mq.edu.au](#) or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Getting help with your assignment](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at [ask.mq.edu.au](#)

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Changes since First Published

Date	Description
11/02/ 2020	The assessment tasks have been changed because those published in the earlier version were incorrect.