AHIS1220
Introduction to Roman History: The Republic in Crisis
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 Lecturer
Lea Beness
lea.beness@mq.edu.au
Contact via lea.beness@mq.edu.au
Australian Hearing Hub, South Wing, Level 2, until April break then Arts Precinct, Building B110
By appointment

Unit Convenor
Ray Laurence
ray.laurence@mq.edu.au
Contact via ray.laurence@mq.edu.au
Australian Hearing Hub, South Wing, Level 2
By appointment

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.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://students.mq.edu.au/important-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

**ASSESSMENT TASKS**

1. **Self-assessment Exercise:**

You will provide ten short answers based on questions which relate to the lecture on "The Roman 'Constitution' & Roman Society" in Week 3. The tutorial this week will also touch upon the Roman political process. This exercise is compulsory but does not have an assessment weighting. The aim of this exercise is to measure your understanding of the Roman Republican political process which will form the basis for your future study of the political evolution of the Roman state in the period 168–80 BC.

You will self-assess your responses against the answers and feedback that we shall provide in the lectures of Week 4. Your answers will have already been submitted electronically in a pdf file using the Turnitin portal under Week 3 on the unit's iLearn website. This quiz will help prepare you for the short-answer questions in the examination at the end of the session.
Another aim of this exercise is for you to see how you are progressing in the unit.

You might ask yourselves: • What have I learned about mid-Republican Rome so far in this unit? • Do I have a basic understanding of the way in which Roman government worked in 168 BC? • Am I confident that I can now use this knowledge to move on to a study of the way in which the Roman state changed in the period we shall now study? • How could I improve my approach?

The exercise is due to be submitted on Friday March 13th by 11.59pm.

2. Preparatory (Documentation) Exercise:

This task counts towards only 10% towards your final grade. We would like to give you as much feedback as possible as soon as possible in the session. As many of you will be undertaking this unit as the first in your university career, we are offering a very short exercise based on Tutorial Topic Two (‘The Values and Goals of the Roman Nobility’), to ensure that you are familiar with the desired mode of presenting evidence and documenting an academic paper.

To that end we are asking that you submit a very short paper (of no more than 100 words) on the following topic:

*Identify three important values of the Roman nobility, and provide the evidence from the ancient sources for our knowledge of each of these values.*

(The means of referencing your paper will be discussed at the preceding tutorial for internal students and in the Discussion Group for externals.)

In this exercise, we are looking for three distinct Roman aristocratic values found in the sources provided, clearly outlined (within the word limit), the citation of ancient evidence, clarity of presentation, good expression and grammatical accuracy. The exercise will be graded according to these criteria (e.g., systematic citation, number of sources cited, and standard of presentation). The paper should be written in prose, not point form. This is what is termed a ‘low-risk task’. It will count relatively little towards your final assessment (thus removing a good deal of pressure), but it will get you into the swing of things early; it is due to be submitted on Friday March 27th by 11.59pm). The assignment is designed to assist you in the preparation for your essay. The mode of desired referencing will be found on the iLearn website.

3. Ancient Source Dossier (worth 15% of your final grade):

In this exercise, you will construct a ‘source dossier’ of at least ten ancient sources on a particular Roman politician to be identified in Week 7 (from a variety of source material that will be discussed in class in that week). In this way, you will become familiar with the different information that can be extracted from literary testimonia (i.e., written texts), epigraphical sources (i.e., inscriptions) and numismatic sources (i.e., coins). Exercises will be graded according to the number of sources found, proper source citation and clarity of presentation. The assignment must be submitted on Friday May 1st by 11.59pm.
4. Prosopographical Paper/Essay and Elogium (Funerary Epitaph):

One essay and *elogium*, counting for 35% of the final mark, is required. The staff will prepare a full ancient source dossier based upon the research we have undertaken together for the previous exercise. Using this dossier, you will submit a profile and an evaluation of the career of the same individual. You will also write a short funerary epitaph. **The Essay and the Elogium are both due Friday May 22nd by 11.59pm.** (Fuller details will be supplied later in the course [in Week 7], together with guides to the exercise). **This will be done in the 2nd lecture at 3.00pm on Thursday 9th April. (It is essential that you attend or listen to the recording of this lecture.)** The essay will be graded according to the rubrics provided on the iLearn site. Please note that Ancient History Essay Presentation Guides will be made available on the iLearn website.

5. Examination:

There is a two-hour examination scheduled in the University Examination Period. It is worth 40% of the final assessment. It will include:

(i) a compulsory question on the nature of Rome’s crisis and the Republic’s strengths and weaknesses (which is here pre-circulated.)

"A state without the means of some change is without the means of its conservation." (Edmund Burke)

Discuss this proposition with regard to the Roman Republic between the period 168 and 80 BC. Was the Roman Republic without the means of change? Was change the solution in your opinion? Discuss with regard to political developments between 168 and 80 BC. (In your answer, you should make specific references to the particular problems that Rome faced in this period and to the solutions proposed and/or enacted by various individuals.)

(ii) a set of ten short-answer questions testing your knowledge of the Roman political system (worth 10% of the overall examination mark); and

(iii) a range of passages for discussion (drawn from the passages that will be studied in lectures and tutorials).

**IMPORTANT: The University Examination period in 1st Session 2020 is from 8th of June to 26th of June.** You are expected to present yourself for examination at the time and place designated in the University Examination Timetable. The timetable will be available in draft form approximately eight weeks before the commencement of the examinations and in final form approximately four weeks before the commencement of the examinations at: <http://students.mq.edu.au/student_admin/timetables>. The only exception to sitting an examination at the designated time is because of documented illness or unavoidable disruption. In these circumstances you may wish to consider applying for Special Consideration. You are advised that it is Macquarie University policy not to set early examinations for individuals or groups of students. All students are expected to ensure that they are available until the end of the teaching semester, that is, the final day of the official examination period.
GRADING

Criteria and standards required for the assessment tasks will be found on the 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

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION AND RETURN

All written work (apart from that undertaken in the examination) must be submitted through the iLearn website. Please upload your assignment to the drop-box under the relevant week. Save your assignment as a pdf file. All assignment files should be saved with your full name in the label of the file. All assignments should include the following at the start: Student name; Student number; Assessment Task Title or Question. Assessments 2 to 4 will be returned via the Turnitin tool on the iLearn site and will contain feedback from the marker. Every effort will be made to return assignments in a timely fashion. Information about how to submit work online can be accessed through the iLearn site. Over the course of AHIS1220 your work will be marked by at least two members of staff.

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

ASSIGNMENT LENGTH

Markers will not read assignments which are more than 10% over the specified word length. Please note that footnotes and bibliography do not count in the word length in this particular unit. (You should not expect that this will be the case in other units that you are undertaking.)

EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES FOR LATE SUBMISSION OF 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 timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

The granting of extensions is subject to the University's Special Consideration Policy. 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 or examination date.


IMPORTANT NOTE ON FINAL MARKS

Please note with respect to the marks you receive for work during the session: 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

This unit concerns itself with the beginning of the Roman Republic's drift towards its political collapse, and in particular with the beginnings of the so-called "Roman Revolution". Special attention will be paid to the period from 168 BC, when Roman troops destroyed the Macedonian army at the battle of Pydna, to the establishment of Sulla's dictatorship (82–80 BC), when the age of the General was at hand and the Republic's days were numbered. 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 dominating 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 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.

CLASSES FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For lecture times and classrooms, internal students should consult the MQ Timetable website: <http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au>. This website will display up-to-date information on classes and classroom locations.

Lectures:

The lectures for this unit will be 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 site. All tutorials will focus upon the historiographical aspects of studying this period and 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. There are tutorials each week for most weeks of the session. We hope that participation in these discussions will be a vital and rewarding part of the unit.

EXPECTATIONS FOR EXTERNAL STUDENTS

Lectures:

As for internal students, the lectures for this unit will be 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 site. You should use the Tutorial Forum for External Students at the top of the iLearn site to discuss at least one of the questions posed each week. All tutorials will focus upon the historiographical aspects of studying this period and 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 the questions and issues
discussed in the forum. There are tutorial topics set each week for most weeks of the session. We hope that participation in these discussions will be a vital and rewarding part of the unit.

RESOURCES

Required Reading and Texts

(i) Ancient Sources

All students are expected to have a copy of the ancient sources listed below. All tutorial exercises which do not draw on material in the Unit Book of Readings (see below) will be based on source material in these works.


* Please note that the Lives of Plutarch that are covered in this unit are also available in two Penguin editions: Plutarch *Makers of Rome* (Penguin Classics) and Plutarch *The Fall of the Roman Republic* (Penguin Classics). These two books could be purchased as an alternative to the first of the two books above.

Other essential ancient sources to which reference will be made in the lectures have been compiled in a Book of Readings: *Introduction to Roman History: The Republic in Crisis* (revised edition) which will be available at the beginning of the session from the Co-op Bookshop on campus: <https://www.booktopia.com.au/books-online/text-books/higher-education-vocational-textbooks/cXA-p1.html?utm_source=coop.com.au&utm_medium=rereferral&utm_content=301&utm_term=default&bk_source=coop.&bk_source_id=default&hb=coop>

**Internal students should bring the Book of Readings to all lectures and tutorials.**

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.

(ii) Modern Studies

A useful textbook account for the period will be found in H.H. Scullard, *From the Gracchi to Nero* (5th edition, 1982) whose notes on pp. 381ff. provide reference to more recent modern studies. It is highly recommended for background reading. An online version of Scullard is available through the Library website. Required and recommended 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=referal&utm_content=301&utm_term=default&bk_source=coop&bk_source_id=default&hb=coop>

Shorter paperbacks which provide an introduction to Republican history and a background to the period we are studying are: Michael Crawford, *The Roman Republic* (London 1978); P.A. Brunt,
Social Conflicts in the Roman Republic (London 1971); David Shotter, The Fall of the Roman Republic (New York, 2nd edition 2005); and Catherine Steel, The End of the Roman Republic 146 to 44 BC. Conquest and Crisis (Edinburgh 2013). These (the last two especially) are readily available and are recommended for purchase to those wanting a wider perspective. A stocktaking of modern scholarship and a useful summation of many of the problematic issues arising in this topic will be found in M. Beard and M. Crawford Rome in the Late Republic. Problems and Interpretations (London 1985). Even more recent introductions to various themes are provided by Harriet I. Flower (ed.), The Cambridge Companion to the Roman Republic (Cambridge 2004), designed for readers new to the subject; and Nathan Rosenstein and Robert Morstein-Marx (eds), A Companion to the Roman Republic (Oxford 2006).

There are two essential works of reference for the course which are to be consulted in the Library: The Oxford Classical Dictionary (abbreviated OCD) is the standard work of reference in English for Roman and Greek history and culture. It provides reliable and succinct explanations and definitions of technical terms, summary biographies of prominent individuals, and accounts of institutions, etc. Hard copies of the various editions are held in the library and the latest edition is available online through the library website. Copies of T.R.S. Broughton The Magistrates of the Roman Republic (abbrev. MRR; 2 vols, 1951-2; Vol. 1 covers the period 509-100 BC; vol. 2 the period 99-31 BC) will be held in Reserve in the library and is available for consultation online. This is an invaluable work which gives, year by year, a full, systematic list of the known political officials and magistrates, a summary of their actions in office and full references to the known ancient sources. A supplementary volume (vol. 3) was published in 1986. Also to be regarded as a standard work of reference is J.A. Crook et al. (ed.), The Cambridge Ancient History vol. IX (Cambridge 2nd ed. 1994). More detailed reading lists relating to particular topics will be made available electronically on the iLearn unit site. The most important recommended books and articles will be held either in Reserve in the Library or will be available electronically on the Library website or through the Leganto link on the iLearn website.

UNIT WEBPAGE AND TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

This unit will use iLearn: <https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/login/MQ/>. 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

Attendance It is expected that internal students attend lectures and tutorials and that they spend 10 hours per week on individual study and participation in class across the 15 weeks of the session. External students should devote the same time to the unit, listening to lectures through the Echo 360 system and participating in the discussion forum on the set tutorial topics online. The importance of a regular commitment to the activities in the unit is reflected in the final examination in which questions are drawn directly from material covered in the lectures and tutorials. Students will be expected to attempt each of the 5 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

Lecture and Tutorial Program

Week 1
Lecture 1: Introduction to the Course
Lecture 2: The Culture of Republican Rome

There are TUTORIALS in the first week but they will be introductory (no preparation required).

Week 2
Lecture 1: The Rise of Rome I
Lecture 2: The Rise of Rome II

THERE ARE NO TUTORIALS THIS WEEK. Use the time to do your preparatory reading for next week's tutorial topic on Rome's Destruction of Carthage and to familiarize yourself with the Unit Guide and the AHIS1220 iLearn site.

Week 3
Lecture 1: The Roman 'Constitution' & Roman Society
Lecture 2: The Roman 'Constitution' & Roman Society

Tutorial Discussion Topic: Rome's Destruction of Carthage

*The Self-Assessment Exercise is due this week.

Week 4
Lecture 1: Scipio Aemilianus I
Lecture 2: Scipio Aemilianus II

Tutorial Discussion Topic: The Values and Goals of the Roman Nobility
Week 5
Lecture 1: Problems facing Rome in the mid-2nd Century I (military)
Lecture 2: Problems facing Rome in the mid-2nd Century II (agrarian/slave)
Tutorial Discussion Topic: The Attitudes and Values of Cato the Elder
*The Preparatory (Documentation) Exercise is due this week.

Week 6
Lecture 1: Problems facing Rome in the mid-2nd Century III (urban problems)
Lecture 2: Tiberius Gracchus (early career)
Tutorial Discussion Topic: The Introduction of the Secret Ballot

Week 7
Lecture 1: Tiberius Gracchus (reform and revolution: the crisis of 133 BC)
Lecture 2: Essential Essay Preparation: an introduction to prosopography
Tutorial Discussion Topic: a discussion on the Ancient Source Dossier, Essay and Elogium
*(No preparation is required but don't miss this tutorial!)

MID-SESSION RECESS (two weeks)

Week 8
Lecture 1: Archaeological Evidence for the Gracchan Land Program
Lecture 2: The Gracchan Aftermath: Punishments, Crisis and Politics
Tutorial Discussion Topic: The Latin Sources for Tiberius Gracchus
*The Ancient Source Dossier is due this week.

Week 9
Lecture 1: Gaius Gracchus (early career and character)
Lecture 2: Gaius Gracchus (reform program)
Tutorial Discussion Topic: Greek Sources on the Deposition of M. Octavius and the Death of
Tiberius Gracchus

**Week 10**
Lecture 1: The assassination of Gaius Gracchus and the Rise of Marius
Lecture 2: The Extraordinary Military Career of Marius

**Tutorial Discussion Topic:** The Letter of Cornelia, mother of the Gracchi

**Week 11**
Lecture 1: Saturninus and Political Violence
Lecture 2: The Italian Question and the Italian War

**THERE ARE NO TUTORIALS THIS WEEK.** You will be working on Assessment 4 (due this week).

*The Prosopographical Paper and Elogium are due this week.*

**Week 12**
Lecture 1: Sulla, Pompeius Strabo, Cinna and Civil War
Lecture 2: The Cinnan dominatio and the Return of Sulla

**Tutorial Discussion Topic:** Marius’ Consular Speech and Plutarch’s *Life of Marius* (in the first part we return to the topic of Roman elite values and in the second we focus on historiography in preparation for the examination).

**Week 13**
Lecture 1: Sulla’s Dictatorship
Lecture 2: Epilogue: from Sulla to Augustus

**Tutorial Discussion Topic:** Sulla’s memoirs and Plutarch’s *Life of Sulla* (This tutorial will also focus on historiographical issues in preparation for the examination.)

**Friday June 5th Last day of classes** (Valete!)

**Monday June 8th Examination Period begins** (All the best!)

**Friday June 26th Examination Period ends** (Have a good break!)

**Policies and Procedures**
Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au)
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). 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 (http://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 Enquiry Service**

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

If you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@mq.edu.au).

**Equity Support**

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](mailto:disability.service@mq.edu.au) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

**IT Help**

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

The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.