

# National Roman Civilization Exam (NRCE) Study Guide – Novice Level

By Connor Harrison and José Molina

This study guide is meant to be good approximation of the material needed to know for the NRCE exam. It is not meant to be fully comprehensive, but should cover most things that could be asked on the exam for Roman History and Roman Life. This guide is adapted from Connor Harrison's Roman History Notes and José Molina's Roman Life Notes.

Please note that Ancient Geography, although asked on the NRCE, is not yet included in this version of the study guide. Ancient Geography includes, but is not limited to, directions to and from ancient locations, modern names of ancient cities (and vice versa), and names and destinations of ancient Roman roads.

# Roman History

By Connor Harrison

## MONARCHY (753-510 B.C.)

### 7 KINGS

- Romulus
  - Lineage
    - Mother was Rhea Silvia, father was Mars (the God)
      - Romulus and his brother Remus were thrown into the Tiber River, recovered by a she-wolf, and raised by the shepard Faustulus
      - The wife of Faustulus was Acca Larentia
  - Romulus and Remus
    - Romulus had a brother, Remus
    - There was a dispute over where the city would be settled, so Romulus settled the Palatine hill, Remus settled the Aventine hill
    - According to one account, Romulus is said to have seen 12 vultures while Remus was said to have seen 6, meaning Romulus had superior augury and had say over where the city should be
    - Remus leaps over the walls on Romulus' hill and is killed by Romulus.
    - Rome is founded on April 21<sup>st</sup>, 753 B.C.
  - Rome under Romulus
    - Selects 100 of the most noble and wealthy fathers to be patricians and senators
    - Rape of Sabine Women – to populate city
      - Rape of Sabine Women causes Rome to go with war with the Sabines
      - In one famous story, the daughter of the Capitoline citadel commander, Tarpeia, lets the Sabines into the city in exchange for “what they wear on their left arms” - crushed by their shields,
        - Sabine Hersilia becomes the wife of Romulus
        - Thereafter, Romulus co-rules with the Sabine Titus Tatius - -
    - Legend has it that Romulus disappeared in a storm or whirlwind, during or shortly after offering public sacrifice on the Campus Martius.
- Numa Pompilius
  - Was a Sabine, son-in-law of Titus Tatius
  - Unlike Romulus, not warlike
  - The nymph Egeria was his lover
  - Established the Pontifex Maximus, the high priest
- Tullus Hostilius
  - Was Latin in origin, warlike
  - Conflict with Alba Longa, Horatii vs. Curatii
  - A plague falls on Rome, Tullus tries to fix things but does the ceremonies wrong and is killed when his house is struck by lightning (Tullus dies in a fire)
- Ancus Marcius
  - Sabine, grandson of Numa Pompilius

- establishes a priesthood called Fetiales who were to mediate disputes and declare war
- Tarquinius Priscus
  - Legend has it an eagle took his cap and returned it shortly after – an event which means he would become king.
  - Tarquinius Priscus was originally from Corinth and originally named Lucumo
- Servius Tullius
  - Legend has it that his head was covered in flame but he felt no harm – Tanaquil interpreted this as destiny and that he would rule
- Tarquinius Superbus
  - Because he had no right to the throne, his reign was based off fear
  - Built or completed the Temple to Jupiter Capitolinus (perhaps started by Tarquinius Priscus)
  - Built the Cloaca Maxima (sewer)
  - Finished the Circus Maximus (definitely started by Tarquinius Priscus)
  - Rape of Lucretia
    - Tarquin’s son, Sextus Tarquinius, raped Lucretia, the wife of Lucius Tarquinius Collatinus

## REPUBLIC (509-27 B.C.)

- EARLY HISTORY
  - Consuls replace the kings
  - Lucius Iunius Brutus and Lucius Tarquinius Collatinus are the first two consuls
    - Collatinus stepped down because his family name was “Tarquinius”
    - Brutus dies while fighting against Aruns, the son of Tarquinius Superbus.
  - First Secession of the Plebs (494 B.C.)
    - There are traditionally five secessions of the plebs throughout the history
    - In 494, Plebs succeed to the Mons Sacer (Aventine Hill)
    - Menenius Agrippa convinces the plebs to return from the secession
    - The *Lex Sacrata* creates the office of tribune for the plebs (Tribunus Plebis)
  - Battle of Lake Regillus (496 B.C.)
    - Famous battle that pitted the Romans against the Latin League + Tarquinius Superbus
    - Legend has it that the Dioscuri, Castor & Pollux, led the Romans in this battle
    - Roman commander was Aulus Postumius Albinus (second dictator)
  - Battle of Mt. Algidus (458 B.C.)
    - Famous battle that pitted the Romans against the Aequi. Lucius Quinctius Cincinnatus leads a relief effort to rescue Minucius’ army which had been trapped.
  - Gnaeus Marcius Coriolanus
    - Earned his cognomen after taking the Volscian town of Corioli (493 B.C.)
    - was said to have been very anti-plebeian – allied with the same Volscians he defeated and marched against Rome (491 B.C.) but was dissuaded by his mother Veturia and his wife Volumnia
  - Laws of the Twelve Tables (451-450 B.C.)

- From 451-450, twelve tables of laws are completed by the decemviri (two groups). After this came the second secession of the plebs (449 B.C.)
  - Marcus Furius Camillus
    - Soldier and statesman responsible for capturing the Etrurian city of Veii in 396 B.C. after a ten year siege (405 B.C.-396 B.C.)
- CONQUEST OF ITALY
  - Great Latin War (340-338 B.C.)
    - Romans captured the town of Antium in 338 B.C. and took the rostra (prows of enemy ships) and attached them to the speakers' platform in the Forum
  - First Samnite War (343-341 B.C.)
  - Second Samnite War (326-304 B.C.)
    - Disaster at Caudine Forks, Romans pass under yoke (321 B.C.)
  - Third Samnite War (298-290 B.C.)
    - Battle of Sentinum (295 B.C.)
      - This Publius Decius Mus also sacrifices himself in battle (*devotio*)
  - Pyrrhic War (280-275 B.C.)
    - Although the Romans lose both battles, Pyrrhus' losses in both are so great that they are fittingly known as "pyrrhic" victories
  - *Lex Hortensia* (287 B.C.)
    - Law made all resolutions passed by plebeians binding on all citizens.
- CONQUEST OF THE MEDITERRANEAN
  - First Punic War (264-241 B.C.)
    - Marmertines appeal to Rome for help against the Carthaginians
    - Battle of Mylae (260 B.C.)
      - Romans led by Gaius Duilius win their first naval victory here
      - The Romans set up a column in the Forum in Duilius' honor
  - Between Punic Wars
    - Rome gains control of Sicily after the end of the first war (their first province)
    - While Carthage has an internal fight, Rome also seizes control of Sardinia and Corsica (which had been under Carthaginian control)
  - Second Punic War (218-201 B.C.)
    - Ebro Treaty
    - Battle of Ticinus River (218)
    - Battle of Trebia River (218)
    - Battle of Lake Trasimene (217)
      - Hannibal defeats Gaius Flaminius, who dies in the battle
    - Quintus Fabius Maximus Cunctator
      - Was elected dictator after the disaster at Trasimene
      - Received the agnomen "cunctator" for the delaying tactics he used against Hannibal
      - Known as the "shield of Rome"
    - Battle of Cannae (216)
      - Famous disaster, Romans defeated by Hannibal

- Metaurus River (207)
      - Hasdrubal Barca defeated
    - Battle of Zama (202)
      - Battle in which Scipio Africanus and Masinissa defeat Hannibal and end the Second Punic War
  - Third Punic War (149 B.C.-146 B.C.)
    - Rome lays siege to the city of Carthage (begins 149)
  - Rome has several conflicts in Iberia after the Punic Wars
    - Fight with the Lusitanian chieftain Viriathus from 146 B.C.-140 B.C.
      - Siege of Numantia (133 B.C.)
  - Second Macedonian War (200 -196 B.C.)
    - Against King Philip V
    - Battle of Cynoscephalae (197 B.C.)
  - Seleucid War (192-188 B.C.)
    - Rome makes war with Antiochus III of the Seleucid Empire
  - Third Macedonian War (171-168 B.C.)
    - Battle of Pydna (168 B.C.)
      - Lucius Aemilius Paullus defeats King Perseus of Macedon
- FALL OF THE REPUBLIC
- The Gracchi
    - Were the sons of Cornelia, daughter of Scipio Africanus
    - Cornelia called her sons “her jewels”
    - Tiberius Gracchus elected tribune in 133 B.C., attempted to push land law
    - Gaius Gracchus, brother of Tiberius, was elected tribune in 123 and 122
  - Gaius Marius
    - Significant in 1<sup>st</sup> century B.C. history, Marius was a novus homo from Arpinum, would hold the consulship seven times, and reformed the Roman army
  - War with Jugurtha (112-105 B.C.)
  - War with Cimbri and Teutones (105-101 B.C.)
  - The Social War (91-88 B.C.)
  - The First Mithridatic War (89-85 B.C.)
  - Sulla's Second March on Rome
    - Rome divided by political parties of Populares (popular assemblies and tribunate) vs. the Optimates (richer traditionalists wishing to limit the power of the popular assemblies and tribunate)
    - Battle of Colline Gate (82 B.C.)
      - Battle against the Samnites which solidified Sulla’s control of Rome
      - remodeled the Republican government
  - War with Spartacus (73 B.C.-71 B.C.)
    - Thracian slave Spartacus starts a slave revolt in Capua
  - Pompey versus the pirates (66 B.C.)
  - Conspiracy of Catiline (63 B.C.)
    - Cicero, famous orator

- The First Triumvirate (60 B.C.)
  - Powerful political alliance formed between Julius Caesar, Marcus Licinius Crassus, and Pompey the Great
  - Julius Caesar
    - Received a five year governorship that allowed him to wage his Gallic Wars
  - Caesar's Gallic Wars (58 B.C. - 51 B.C.)
    - Most important enemy was Vercingetorix of the Arverni
  - Civil War of Caesar (49 B.C.-45 B.C.)
    - Caesar crosses the Rubicon in 49 B.C., igniting civil war, and said "*alea iacta est*" – "the die is cast"
    - Battle of Pharsalus (48 B.C.)
      - Caesar decisively defeats Pompey
      - Pompey flees to Egypt where he was assassinated on the orders of Ptolemy XIII
    - Battle of Zela (47 B.C.)
      - After this battle Caesar said "veni, vidi, vici" - "I came, I saw, I conquered"
    - Battle of Munda (45 B.C.)
  - Caesar's dictatorship and death
    - in 44 B.C. he was appointed dictator for life
    - Marcus Junius Brutus and Gaius Cassius Longinus led the conspiracy against his life, and Caesar was stabbed to death at the foot of the statue of Pompey on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 44 B.C.
      - Caesar while being stabbed was said to have muttered "*Et tu, Brute?*" "And you, Brutus?" or in Greek, "*Kai su, teknon?*"
      - Sextus Pompeius (son of Pompey) in a naval battle off Sicily
  - Battle of Actium (31 B.C.)
    - Battle in which Octavian and Agrippa defeat Mark Antony and Cleopatra, who afterwards commit suicide

### EMPIRE (27 B.C. – 476 A.D.)

- JULIO-CLAUDIAN DYNASTY (27 A.D.-68 A.D.)
  - Augustus (27 B.C. – 14 A.D.)
    - Celebrated a triple triumph in 29 B.C.
    - Extended the boundaries of the empire, annexing Egypt
    - Received the title "*Pater Patriae*" in 2 B.C.
    - Disaster at Teutoberg Forest
      - 3 legions defeated under the command of Quintilius Varus
      - defeated by Arminius (of the Cherusci)
    - Established the praetorian guard
    - Said to have "found Rome a city of brick, left it a city of marble"
    - Built the Forum of Augustus
      - Had Temple to Mars Ultor

- Agrippa built the Pantheon and Baths of Agrippa
- 3 wives, 2 of significance – Scribonia (2<sup>nd</sup>), with whom he had Julia, and then Livia (3<sup>rd</sup>), mother of Tiberius
  - Marcus Agrippa and Augustus' daughter, Julia, had five kids
    - Lucius Caesar, Gaius Caesar, Agrippina the Elder, Julia the Younger, Agrippa Postumus
      - Lucius Caesar and Gaius Caesar were adopted by Augustus, but died in 2 and 4 A.D. respectively
      - Tiberius (emperor) forced to divorce his beloved wife Vipsania to marry Julia (Elder)
- Augustus died at Nola, his ashes placed in his mausoleum
- Tiberius (14 A.D.-37 A.D.)
  - Had been a successful general under Augustus with nephew Germanicus
    - Germanicus celebrated a triumph in 17 A.D.
      - Germanicus dies in 19 A.D., said to have been poisoned by the governor of Syria, Calpurnius Piso (who then killed himself)
  - Aelius Sejanus
    - Becomes Praetorian Prefect in 15 A.D.
    - Sejanus tries to kill or exile all members of the family of Agrippina the Elder
    - Sutorius Macro replaces Sejanus as Praetorian Prefect
  - Two candidates to be the next emperor – Tiberius Gemellus, grandson of the emperor, or Caligula, a son of Germanicus and Agrippina the Elder
    - Caligula made quaestor, Gemellus executed by Caligula at the beginning of his reign
- Caligula (37 A.D.- 41 A.D.)
  - Caligula means “little boot”
  - Known for the fake invasion of Britain – commanded his soldiers to collect seashells along the English channel (on the coast of France. His army never reached Britain).
  - His favorite horse was named Incitatus - attempted to make consul or a senator
  - He was killed by a member of the praetorian guard, Cassius Chaerea
  - The senate used Caligula's assassinations to try and restore the Republic
  - Claudius, the uncle of Caligula, was found hiding behind a curtain in the imperial palace by the Praetorian Guard who then hailed him as Emperor.
- Claudius (41 A.D.-54 A.D.)
  - Said to have been lame or handicapped (Cerebral Palsy)
  - First emperor born outside of Italy (Cisalpine Gaul)
  - Brother of Germanicus
  - Completed the annexation of Mauretania
    - The general Suetonius Paulinus put down the rebellions (41 A.D.)
  - Conquered Thrace and began the conquest of Britain.

- The general Aulus Plautius led the invasion of Britain
    - Celebrated Rome's 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 47 A.D.
    - Valeria Messalina - Manipulative and promiscuous third
      - She was killed by the Praetorians in 48 A.D
    - Agrippina the Younger - Fourth wife of Claudius, mother of Nero by previous marriage
      - Claudius adopted Nero, makes him joint heir with Britannicus
    - Death of Claudius
      - Poisoned at dinner with a dish of mushrooms at the instigation of Agrippina the Younger
  - Nero (54 A.D.-68 A.D.)
    - Nephew of Caligula
    - Had his mother Agrippina murdered (59 B.C.)
    - Banished and then brutally killed his first wife Octavia
    - Great Fire (64 B.C.)
      - Said to have "fiddled" while Rome burned
      - Built his *Domus Aurea* (Golden House)
    - The general Gnaeus Domitius Corbulo restores order
    - Revolt of Boudicca (60 A.D.-61 A.D.)
    - Jewish Revolt (66 A.D.-70 A.D.)
      - Vespasian is sent to restore order
    - Pisonian Conspiracy (65 A.D.)
      - Conspiracy against Nero's life led by Calpurnius Piso
    - Death
      - Committed suicide in 68 A.D.
- EMPERORS OF 69 A.D.
  - Galba
    - Governor of Hispania Tarraconensis
    - Was supported by Julius Vindex, governor of Gallia Lugdunensis, who revolted against Nero and supported Galba as new emperor
      - Verginius Rufus, commander in Germania Superior, put down the Vindex Revolt
    - Ruled starting in summer 68, was killed by the Praetorian Guard on Jan.15, 69 A.D.
  - Otho
    - Former Governor of Lusitania (modern Portugal)
    - Ruled in the early part of 69
    - Defeated at the First Battle of Cremona (Bedriacum) by the forces of Vitellius, commanded by Valens and Caecina
    - Killed himself
  - Vitellius
    - Commander of the forces in Germania Inferior
    - Vespasian, commander of the Roman forces in Judaea, gains support
      - Supported by governor of Syria, Licinius Mucianus



- Vespasian's commander, Antonius Primus, defeats Vitellius at the Second Battle of Cremona (Bedriacum)
    - Was killed when Vespasian's troops entered Rome
- FLAVIAN DYNASTY (69 A.D. – 96 A.D.)
  - Vespasian (69 A.D.-79 A.D.)
    - Had been a soldier in Britain under Claudius, commanded the Judean forces against Jewish revolts
    - Placed an unpopular a tax on public toilet use (the toilets were called Vespasiani, "Vespasians")
    - On his death, said to have proclaimed "Vae, puto deus fio," - "Alas, I think I'm becoming a god!"
  - Titus (79 A.D.-81 A.D.)
    - Son of Vespasian
    - Fought for his father in Judaea
    - Had to deal with several disasters during his short reign
      - Mt. Vesuvius erupts in August 79 A.D., destroying Pompeii, Herculaneum, and Stabiae
      - A fire breaks out in 80 A.D.
      - A plague struck during the fire
    - Died of the plague
  - Domitian (81 A.D.-96 A.D.)
    - Younger son of Vespasian, brother of Titus
    - Completed the Arch of Titus on the Via Sacra, commemorating Titus' Judean victories
    - Completed the Temple of Vespasian and Titus
    - Gave himself the title "Dominus et Deus"
    - Fought against the Dacians under their King Decebalus, losing and then winning a battle at Tapae
    - Palace slave named Stephanus stabbed him
    - Suffered from *Damnatio Memoriae*
- FIVE GOOD EMPERORS ERA (96 A.D. – 193 A.D.)
  - Nerva (96 A.D.-98 A.D.)
    - Chosen by the senate to be emperor after Domitian's death
    - Was basically forced to adopt Trajan as his heir
      - This establishes the idea of cooptation – adopting someone to be your heir, not just a blood relative
  - Trajan (98 A.D.-117 A.D.)
    - Born in Italica in Spain
    - Considered one of the greatest Roman emperors, under him Rome reached its greatest territorial extent
    - His wife was Plotina
    - Conquered Dacians led by King Decebalus adding Dacia to the empire (106)
      - Trajan's column commemorates his victories there – it is built in Trajan's forum

- Fought the Parthians, sacking their capital city Ctesiphon, adding Armenia and Mesopotamia to the empire (116)
  - Given the title of “optimus princeps” by the senate
  - Died of a stroke in 117 A.D.
- Hadrian (117 A.D.-138 A.D.)
  - Born in Italica in Spain
  - Adopted son of Trajan (Hadrian was Trajan’s cousin)
  - Established a wall in Britain built from the River Tyne to the Solway Firth
  - Re-built the Pantheon
  - Was a big admirer of Greek culture (called “Graeculus” – “the Greekling”)
  - Spent the first part of his reign going on a large tour of the empire
  - Ashes placed in Mausoleum of Hadrian (the Castel Saint’ Angelo)
- Antoninus Pius (138 A.D.-161 A.D.)
  - Gained the name Pius because he encouraged the senate to deify Hadrian
  - Married Faustina the Elder
  - Celebrated Rome’s 900<sup>th</sup> anniversary
  - Established a wall in Scotland, north of Hadrian’s Wall
  - Ashes placed in Mausoleum of Hadrian
  - Of the Five Good Emperors, he ruled the longest
- Marcus Aurelius (161 A.D.-180 AD.)/Lucius Verus (161 A.D.-169 A.D.)
  - Marcus Aurelius was also a stoic philosopher
    - Wrote a work, the *Meditations*
    - Idea of being a “philosopher-king”
  - His wife was Faustina the Younger
  - Was the last of the five good emperors
  - Died at Vindabona, modern Vienna
- Commodus (180 A.D.-192 A.D.)
  - Was made Caesar under Marcus Aurelius in 177 B.C.
  - Was the blood son of Marcus Aurelius
  - His sister was Lucilla, his mistress Marcia
  - Reign was marked by lavish brothels and general upheaval
  - Was killed on New Year’s Eve, 192 A.D. in a conspiracy involving the praetorian prefect Aemilius Laetus
- Pertinax (193 A.D.)
  - Brought to the praetorian camp by the conspirators who had killed Commodus and was proclaimed emperor the day after the assassination
- Didius Julianus (193 A.D.)
  - Literally won the imperial thrown when he outbid a rival (Sulpicianus)
  - He paid each member of the Praetorian Guard 25,000 sesterces
- SEVERAN DYNASTY (193 A.D.-235 A.D.)
  - Septimius Severus (193 A.D.-211 A.D.)
    - Had a powerful and influential wife, Julia Domna
    - Opened the ranks of the Praetorian Guard to provincials; he also filled up the Praetorian Guard with his own, loyal troops

- Went east to Syria where he crushed his rival there, Pescennius Niger at the battle of Issus (194), then moved back west and defeated Clodius Albinus (whom Severus had made Caesar so he could focus on Niger) at Lugdunum (197)
  - Caracalla (211 A.D.-217 AD.) Geta (211 A.D.)
    - Sons of Septimius Severus and Julia Domna who took control of the empire
    - Caracalla had Geta killed by the end of 211
      - Geta suffers *Damnatio Memoriae*
    - Established the *Constitutio Antoniniana*, granting citizenship to all freedmen throughout the empire
    - Built the extensive and magnificent “Baths of Caracalla”
  - Marcinius (217 A.D.-218 A.D.)
    - Was not actually part of the Severan family
    - First non-senator (or was never of senatorial rank) to become emperor
  - Elagabalus (218 A.D.-222 A.D.)
    - Was the son of Julia Soaemias, niece of Julia Domna
    - Also forced people to worship a black stone from Syria
  - Severus Alexander (222 A.D.-235 A.D.)
    - Last of the Severan emperors, was the cousin of Elagabalus
    - His grandmother Julia Maesa and his mother Julia Mamaea had great power
- BARRACKS EMPERORS (235-284 A.D.)
  - During this time period, Rome saw many emperors with short reigns
  - Maximinus Thrax (235 A.D.-238 A.D.)
    - Thracian soldier who succeeded Alexander Severus, was one of the “6 emperors” of 238 A.D. - Gordian I, Gordian II, Gordian III, Puppianus + Balbinus were the five others of 238
  - Gordian III (238 A.D.-244 A.D.)
    - Lived through 238 and became Rome’s sole emperor
  - Phillip The Arab (244 A.D.-249 A.D.)
    - Celebrated Rome’s 1000<sup>th</sup> anniversary
  - Decius (249-251 A.D.)
    - Known for his harsh prosecution of the Christians
    - First emperor killed in battle
  - Valerian (253 A.D.-260 A.D.)
    - Captured by The Persians under Shapur I
  - Gallienus (253 A.D.-268 A.D.)
    - Son of Valerian
    - During his reign, The Gallic Empire is established by Postumus (260) independent of the Roman Empire; at its height it contains Germania, Gaul, Britannia, and Hispania
  - Aurelian (270 A.D.-275 A.D.)
    - Received the title Restitutor Orientis ("Restorer of the East") after defeating Zenobia and restoring her Palmyrene Empire in 273
    - Received the title Restitutor Orbis ("Restorer of the World") for defeating Tetricus of the Gallic Empire in 274.

- TETRACHY, CONSTANTINE, AND FALL (284 A.D.-476 A.D.)
  - Diocletian (284 A.D.-305 A.D.)
    - Dalmatian peasant whose reign marks the end of the Barracks Emperors
    - Initiated the Tetrarchy in Rome in which the empire was ruled by 4 people, two of them holding the title of Augustus, two of them holding the title of Caesar (293 A.D.)
    - Diocletian was Augustus in the East, his Caesar was Galerius
    - Maximian was Augustus in the West, his Caesar was Constantius Chlorus
    - His patron god was Jove (Jupiter)
    - Established the Edict On Maximum Prices
    - Established the Baths of Diocletian
    - Maximian and Diocletian jointly abdicate from the throne on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 305 A.D.
    - Retired to Salona (Split), modern day Croatia
  - Constantine I (The Great) (306 A.D.-337 A.D.)
    - Son of the Caesar in the west, Constantius Chlorus – he was proclaimed emperor in Eboracum (York) when his father died
    - Fought in several wars that developed after the fall of the first tetrarchy
      - Defeated Maxentius (son of Maximian) at the Milvian Bridge in 312 A.D.
        - Looked up to the sun and saw a cross of light above it, saw the words "in hoc signo vinces," both phrases have the literal meaning "In this sign,[you shall] conquer;"; used on shields
    - After Milvian Bridge, Constantine had full control of the west and Licinius had control of the east
    - Constantine eventually defeated Licinius in 324 A.D. and was emperor of the whole empire
    - Constantine issued the Edict of Milan that legalized Christianity across the whole Empire
    - Council of Nicaea (325 A.D.) – resolves the Arian controversy
    - Constantinople (former Byzantium) became the capital of the empire in 330 A.D.
    - Is famously known as the first emperor to convert to Christianity
    - Was baptized shortly before his death in 337 A.D.
  - After Constantine's death, his three sons split the empire
  - Julian (360 A.D.-363 A.D.)
    - Known as the apostate because he tried to restore paganism throughout the empire
  - Valentinian I (364 A.D.-375 A.D. in the west)
  - Valens (364 A.D.-378 A.D. in the east)
    - Killed at the Battle of Adrianople (378), crushing defeat for the Romans against the Ostrogoths
  - After their father Valentinian I, Gratian, Valentinian II rule in the west
  - Theodosius I (379 A.D.-395 A.D. in east; 392 A.D.-395 A.D. in all empire)

- Was the last emperor to rule both the east and the west
- Made Christianity the official state religion of the empire
- When he died, his sons split the empire; Honorius ruled in the west and Arcadius ruled in the east
- Romulus Augustulus (475 A.D.-476 A.D.)
  - Orestes, his father, placed him on the throne
  - Traditionally known as the last emperor in the west
  - Deposed by the German king Odoacer in September 476

# Roman Life & Customs

By José Molina

## The Roman Family

- *tutor* – guardian of underage son or unmarried daughter of *pater familiās*
  - *tutor* must be of the same *gēns*
- *gēns* – group of people with the same *nōmen* – common ancestor through males
- *stirps* – group of people with same *cognōmen*
- *agnātiō* – relation through males
  - *agnātī* – included one's wife and the wives of one's *agnātī* and the adopted children of oneself and one's *agnātī*
- *cognātiō* – blood relation – no legal rights
- *cognātī*
  - *pater, patris, m.* – father
  - *māter, mātris, f.* – mother
  - *filius, -ī, m.* – son
  - *fīlia, -ae, f.* – daughter
  - *frāter, frātris, m.* – brother
  - *soror, sorōris, f.* – sister
  - *avus, -ī, m.* – grandfather
  - *avia, -ae, f.* – grandmother
- *iūs ōsculī* – right to kiss – persons within the sixth degree of familial relation have this
- *adfīnēs* – relatives through marriage only (*adfīnitās* – relation through marriage)
- *adoptiō* – adoption of a *filius familiās* or son
- *adrogātiō* – adoption of a *pater familiās*
  - extinction of one family to prevent that of another
- *patria potestās* – power of the father (*pater familiās*) of the household over family
- *dominica potestās* – power of *pater familiās* over slaves and inanimate objects

## The Roman Name

- *praenomen* – first name of Roman's full name
- *nōmen* – second name, name of the *gēns*
- *cognōmen* – third or last name, name of the *stirps*
- list of abbreviations of *praenōmina*
  - *A. or Au.* – *Aulus*
  - *C.* – *Gāius* (developed before the letter G was created and C was used for it)
  - *Cn.* – *Gnaeus*
  - *K.* – *Kaesō/Caesō* (kept even after K was no longer used to avoid confusion with *Gāius*)
  - *L.* – *Lūcius*
  - *M.* – *Mārcus*
  - *M'.* – *Mānius*
  - *Mam.* – *Māmercus*
  - *P.* – *Publius*
  - *Q.* – *Quīntus*
  - *T.* – *Titus*
  - *Ti.* – *Tiberius*
- *agnōmen* – fourth name or nickname (sometimes also called *cognōmen*)

## The Roman Marriage

- *spōnsālia* – betrothal – maiden was promised to a man by *pater familiās* or *tūtor*
- *spōnsus* – fiancé, betrothed man – “he having been promised”
- *spōnsa* – fiancée, betrothed woman – “she having been promised”
- *ānulus* – wedding ring – worn on the ring finger of the left hand because it was believed that vein went from the finger straight to the heart
- *nūbere* – term for women used to mean “to marry” – literally “to veil oneself”
- *in mātirimōnium dūcere* – term used for men to mean “to marry” – literally “to lead into matrimony”
- *manus* – the power of a husband over his wife
- *ūsus* – plebeian form of marriage
  - did not involve *manus*
  - wife remained in power of her father, not her husband
- *coēemptiō* – mock sale marriage
  - involved a dowry (*dōs, dōtis, f.* – dowry)
- *tunica rēcta* – bridal tunic
- *flammeum* – saffron veil worn by bride
- *nōdus Herculanēus* – knot on bride’s dressed only to be untied by husband
- *cōnfarreātīō* – most elaborate, religious marriage
  - bride and groom brought together by the *prōnuba*, a matron that was married to her first husband – *prōnuba* joined their right hands – *dextrārum iūctiō*
  - 10 witnesses (*gentēs* of the *cūria*) present for the *dextrārum iūctiō*
  - *dēductiō* – the taking of the bride to the house of the husband
  - husband carried her over the threshold to avoid her tripping over it
  - woman said “*ubi/quandō tū Gāius, ego Gāia*” (when you are Gaius, I am Gaia)
  - wife kindled the fire with the torch carried in front of her during the *dēductiō*
    - unlit torch then thrown into the crowd – lucky possession
  - *cēna nūptiālīs* – wedding feast
- days unlucky for marriage
  - the Kalends, Nones, and Ides of every month and the day after each
  - all of May and the first half of June (*Lemūria* {May 9, 11, 13} and *diēs religiōsī*, days to honor Vesta)
  - *diēs parentālēs* – February 13–21
  - August 24, October 5, November 8 – entrance to the Underworld open
  - major holidays were avoided but not necessarily unlucky
    - women marrying for a second time purposely chose holidays to get married to be less conspicuous

### Children and Education in Rome

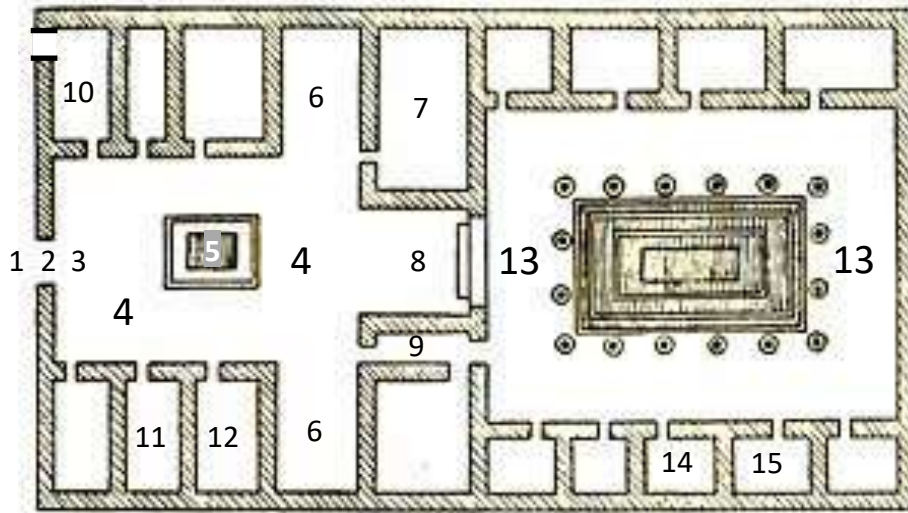
- *susceptiō* – “lifting” – act of acknowledging a child
- *prīmordia* – first eight days of *pūpus*’ life
- *diēs lustricus* – naming ceremony 9 days after a son’s birth, 8 days after a daughter’s
- *cūnae, -ārum, f. pl. / cūnābula, -ōrum, n. pl.* – cradle
- *bullā (aurea)* – two concave pieces of gold containing an amulet worn around the neck to protect a child from the *fascinātiō* (evil eye)
- toys
  - *crepundia* – a rattle – a toy that was composed of several toys tied together by string that rattled when shaken – *monumenta* of Terrence – identification to children
  - *tālī* – knucklebones for playing jacks
- elementary schools – taught by a *litterātor*
- grammar schools – taught by a *grammaticus*
- schools of rhetoric - taught by a *rhētor*
- *nūndinae* – market days – no school
- *paedagōgus* – accompanied children to school and tutored them
- *tīrōcinium* – apprenticeship, or “rookie-ship” (from *tīrō*, rookie)
- *Liberālia* – March 17
  - man gave up his *bullā* and *toga praetexta* (*īnsignia pueritiae*)
  - hung his *bullā* on hearth (to the *larēs*) and put on his *toga virīlis*

### Roman Dependents: Slaves and Clients

- *mangōnēs* – wholesale dealers – sellers of slaves
- *contubernium* – slave marriage
- *vernae* – slaves born in the house
- *titulus* – scroll around the slaves neck that indentified the slave showing his character – it served as a warrant for the buyer
- *lēnō* – pimp – sold slaves for immoral purposes
- *vīlicus* – slave in charge of latifundia
- *ātriēnsis* – butler
- *ōstiārius/iānitor* – door keeper (usually chained to the door post)
- *tōnsor* – barber
- *nōmenclātor* – reminded master of names of people
- *pecūlium* – property of a slave if so granted by master
- *vicārius* – the slave of a slave
- *paedagōgus* – accompanied children to school and tutored them
- *fugitīvus* – fugitive – branded with an F on the forehead – sometimes had a metal collar around his neck
- *carnifex/lōrārius* – slave to punish a slave
- master could pronounce a slave free before a witness
  - *pilleus* – liberty cap
  - former master remained as his *patrōnus*
- *salūtātiō* – a client’s greeting to his patron in the *ātrium* of the patron’s house
- *sportula* – basket given to the client by the patron



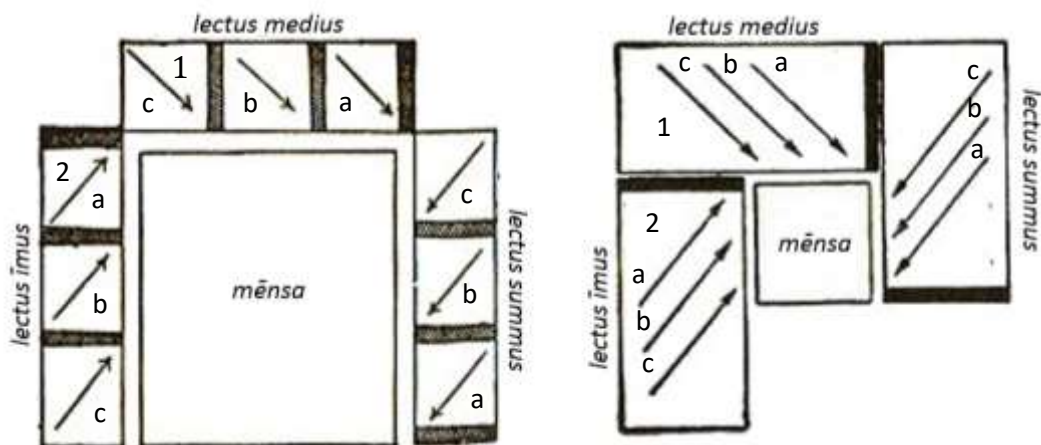
## The Roman House



Source: Harold W. Johnson's *Private Life of the Romans*, edited by Mary Johnson, §192  
(modified by me for names, letters, and numbers)

- 1) *vestibulum* – open courtyard between the street and the door to the house
- 2) *ostium/iānua* – door or door way – doors had one huge cylindrical hinge
- 3) *faucēs* – passage or entrance to the *ātrium*
- 4) *ātrium (cavum aedium)* – main room or center of the house
- 5) *impluvium* – large basin for collecting rain water that fell from the *compluvium*, a hole in the roof that allowed light to pass through
- 6) *ālae* – “wings” (had no door between it and the *ātrium*) on either side of the *ātrium* that might contain the *imaginēs*, or wax busts of the family’s ancestors
- 7) *triclinium* – dining room with three couches – customary to have several for the change of seasons
- 8) *tab(u)linum* – master’s study – separated from *ātrium* by curtains (*vēla/aulaea*) and the *peristylum* by folding doors (*valvae*)
- 9) *andrōn* – passage between the *ātrium* and the *peristylum* – avoids the *tab(u)linum* in order to give the master privacy
- 10) *taberna* – shop where the household sold goods – usually has doors to both the house and the street
- 11) *cubiculum diurnum* – bedroom for midday siesta
- 12) *cubiculum nocturnum* or *dormitōrium* – small bedroom or sleeping quarter
- 13) *peristyl(i)um* – large open courtyard surrounded by columns
- 14) *lātrīna* – bathroom – always next to *culīna*
- 15) *culīna* – kitchen – place for slaves to cook

- doors of the house
  - *iānua* – door
  - *ōstium* – front door
  - *forēs* – double doors
  - *postīcum* – back or side door
- furniture
  - *lectus* – couch or bed
  - *scamnum* – foot stool used to reach the bed
  - *sella* – stool for one person
  - *subsellium* – *sella* for more than one person (bench)
  - *sella curūlis* – “curule seat” with curved legs of ivory, could be folded up
  - *cathedra* – chair with a curved back and no arms
  - *mēnsa* - table
  - *monopodium* – small table with one leg
  - *mēnsa delphica* – table with three legs
  - *lucerna* – Roman lamp that used oil (*lampas* – Greek lamp)
  - *arca* – strongbox or chest kept in the *tablīnum*
  - *hōrologium* – clock
  - *sōlārium* – sundial brough from Greece in 268 BC
  - *clepsydra* – water clock (allowed water to pass through at a certain rate filling it up at marks to tell time)
- roofs of the house
  - *tēgulae* – subrectangular, slightly tapering tiles for rooving
  - *imbricēs* – tubes cut in half lengthways for covering flanges on the sides of the the *tegulae*
- floors of the house
  - *pavīmentum* - floors of the poor – stones, bricks and tiles pounded together and leveled by a havy rammer (*fistūca*)
- dining couches (*lectī trīclīniārēs*) in the *trīclīnium*



Source: Harold W. Johnson's *Private Life of the Romans*, p. 205  
(modified by me for names, letters, and numbers)

- a) *locus summus* – “the highest place”
- b) *locus medius* – “the middle place”
- c) *locus īmus* – “the lowest place”

## Roman Attire

- *indūtus* – clothing that is put on
  - *tunica rēcta* – bride’s tunic
  - *tunica angustī clavī* – knight’s tunic – “tunic with a narrow border”
  - *tunica lātī clavī* – senatorial tunic – “tunic with a wide border”
  - *stola* – woman’s full dress/outer garment
  - *palla* – woman’s shawl-like garment worn outdoors
  - *abolla* – a heavy woolen cloak worn by poor people for sharing
- *amictus* – clothing that is wrapped around
  - *toga praetexta* – toga with a purple border worn by boys and curule magistrates
  - *toga virilis* – man’s toga assumed on the *Liberālia* when a boy turned 16
  - *toga candida* – chalked-white toga worn by candidates running for office
  - *toga pulla* – black wool toga worn at funerals by mourners
  - *toga picta* – colored or painted toga worn by triumphant generals
  - *synthesis* – bright dinner garment worn to banquets
  - *endromis* – bathrobe, robe worn after exercise
- shoes and footwear
  - *calceus* – regular tied shoe made of leather always worn with the toga
  - *solea* – sandal or slipper worn only indoors except during meals
  - *caliga* – boot worn by soldiers
  - *mulleus* – red shoe worn by curule magistrates
- other terms related to the clothing of the Romans
  - *ānulus* – ring
  - *armilla* – bracelet
  - *pilleus* – conical felt cap worn by laborers and freedmen
  - *petasus* – broadrimmed, sombrero-like hat of foreign origin
  - *apex* – conical, pointy hat worn by the *flāminēs*
  - *subligāculum* – underwear
  - *zōna/cingulum* – girdle worn around the waist
  - *fībula* – brooch or pin used by women to keep a tunic in place
  - *fasciae* – strips of woolen cloth
  - *vittae/taeniae/fasciōlae* – ribbons
  - *sinus* – fold in a toga used as a pocket
  - *cinctus Gabīnus* – way of wearing the toga over the head for religious reasons

## Roman Food, Meals, and Agriculture

- pork was the choicest of all domestic meals
- dormouse – a great delicacy in Ancient Rome
- seafood – *piscis* (fish)
  - *garum/liquāmen* – fish sauce from sturgeon or mackerel
- pressing and preparation of the olive
  - *mola* – mill
  - pressings of the olive
    - first pressing – olive oil used for cosmetics
    - second pressing – olive oil used for cooking
    - third pressing – olive oil used as fuel for lamps

- *oleum (olīvum)* – olive oil
- *māla* – fruits (*mālum* – apple)
  - *mālum Persicum* – peach
  - *mālum Pūnicum* – pomegranate
  - *mālum Armeniacum* – apricot
  - *mālum Corinthum* – currant
- *pānēs* – (circular loaves of) bread
  - *pānis siligneus* – best bread made of pure wheat flour
  - *pānis plēbēius* – common bread made of coarse flour and/or bran
- *puls* – porridge – mashed *far* with water
- drinks – *pōtūs*
  - *aqua* – water
  - *mustum* – grape juice
  - *vīnum* – wine
  - *mulsum* – honeyed wine (four parts wine, one part honey)
  - *mulsa* – honeyed water (one part honey, two parts water)
- meals and such
  - *iētāculum* – breakfast
  - *merīdiātiō* – midday siesta
  - *prandium* – lunch
  - *cēna* – dinner
    - *gustātiō* – appetizer
    - *fercula* – main course
    - *secunda mēnsa* – dessert
  - *merenda/vesperna* – supper
  - *convīvium* – banquet/drinking party
  - *umbrae* – unwelcomed guests
- common foods the Romans did not have
  - rice, pasta, potato, corn, sugar
  - tomatoes, oranges, bananas, strawberries, raspberries
  - chocolate, coffee, tea
  - distilled spirits
- farming and country life
  - *arātrum* – plough – fields were to be ploughed twice
    - first time straight, second time sloping
  - Cato’s rules of farming
    - 1. plough well
    - 2. plough well
    - 3. manure well

## Roman Entertainment

- *trigōn* – catch, played with three people and two balls
- *latrunculī* – “little bandits” – chess
- *duodecem scrīpta* – “twelve tables” – backgammon
- *calculī* – checkers
- *tālī* – knucklebones of a sheep or goat – five are thrown and caught on the back of the hand kind of like jacks – also used to refer to dice
- *tesseræ (aleae)* – four sided dice that lacked the numbers 2 and 5
  - *fritillus* – dice-box from which the dice were thrown
  - *Venus* – highest throw – all different numbers (6,4,3,1)
  - Vulture – lowest throw – all the same number  
(1,1,1,1)(3,3,3,3)(4,4,4,4)(6,6,6,6)
  - Dogs – lowest of the vultures – (1,1,1,1)
- *munera* – private games
- *lūdī* – public games
- the Roman theater
  - *lūdī scaenicī* – dramatic performances in a theater
  - *proscenium/proscēnium* – front line of the stage
    - behind it was the *scaena/scēna* – the stage for actors
  - *vēla* – awnings that protected from rain or sun
- the Roman circus (*circus* – circle, ring)
  - *lūdī circēnsēs* – chariot races
  - *factiōnēs* – chariot companies/factions (originally 4)
    - *russāta* – red
    - *albāta* – white
    - *veneta* – blue
    - *prasina* – green
    - Domitian then added two more (*purpurea* – purple & *aurea* – gold)
  - *porta pompae* – starting gate
    - *carcerēs* – “prisons” – starting gates – like stables where the chariot drivers waiting for the race to begin
  - *porta triumphālis* – ending gate
  - *spīnae* – “backbone” – the center part of the circus
  - *mētae* – pillars or turning posts
  - *curriculum* – one lap around the circus
  - *missus* – full seven lap race around the circus
  - *ova et delphīnī* – “eggs and dolphins” marble in those shapes to count laps
  - *aurīga* – chariotdriver (usually a freedman or slave)
- *vēnātiōnēs* – beast hunts
- *naumachiae* – mock naval battles
- Colosseum/Coliseum – Flavian Amphitheater
  - opened in 80 AD
  - *munera gladiātōria* – gladiator fights
  - *rudis* – wooden training sword given to gladiator
  - *porta Libitīnēnsis* – narrow passage for carrying the dead

- *gladiātōrēs/gladiātōriī* – gladiators
  - *rētiārius* – fought with a net (*rēte*) and trident (*fuscina*)
  - *andābata* – fought blindfolded
  - *murmillō/mirmillō* – had a helmet with a fish crest
  - *essedārius* – fought in a war chariot
  - *bestiārius* – fought wild animals
  - *tīrō* – rookie gladiator
  - *dimachaerus* – fought with two daggers
  - *laqueātor/laqueārius* – fought with a lasso (*laqueus*)
  - *Thrāx* (Thracian) – had short shield (*parma*) & grieves on both legs
  - Samnite – had thick sleeves on the right arm (*manicae*), greaves on his left leg, and a visored helmet
    - fought with a short sword and a long shield (*scūtum*)
    - *hoplomachī* – Samnites often pinned against Thracians
  - *pālus prīmus* – “first sword” – highest ranked gladiator
  - *missus* – spared gladiator
- *lanista* – gladiator trainer
- *cēna lībera* – banquet for gladiators day before exhibition

### Roman Baths

- *balneum* – public bath (plural *balneae*)
- *thermae* – largest type of baths that had the features of the Greek *gymnasia*
- *testūdō* – metal heater used to heat water in the baths
- *alveus* – hot water tank
- *capsārius* – slave who rubbed oil, scraped it off, and handed the bather his towel
- parts of the Baths
  - *apodytērium* – dressing room
  - *tepidārium* – warm-watered room
  - *cal(i)dārium* – hot-watered room
  - *frīgidārium* – cold-watered room
  - *ūnctōrium* – rub down and oil room
  - *lacōnicum/sūdātōrium* – sweat room
  - *dēstrictārium* – body scraper room
    - *strigil* – tool used to scrape the body
  - *palaestra* – exercise courtyard (mainly for boxers and wrestlers)
  - *natātiō* – large swimming pool open to the sky and surrounded by porticos
  - *piscīna* – small fish pond or pool

### Roman Occupations

- *āmanuēnsis* – secretary
- *argentārius* – banker
- *carnifex* – butcher
- *caupō* – innkeeper
- *fullō* – fuller, laundry man
- *lēnō* – pimp – sold female slaves for immoral purposes
- *mangō* – wholesale dealer – seller of slaves
- *nūntius* – messenger
- *nūtrix* – nurse
- *pictor* – painter
- *piscātor* – fisher
- *pīstor* – bread baker
- *pūblicānus* – tax collector
- *scrība* – scribe
- *sūtor* – shoe maker
- *tabellārius* – mailman (slave)
- *tōnsor* – barber
- *vigilēs* – watchmen, firmen, policemen

### Traveling and Road Building

- types of carts and wagons
  - *pīlentum* – four-wheeled, two-horsed cart for vestals and priests
  - *carpentum* – two-wheeled, two-horsed cart for vestals and priests
  - *petōritum* – cart used for baggage, slaves, and also to carry spoils in triumph
  - *carrūca* – luxurious traveling cart with a bed
  - *raeda* – large and heavy, four-wheeled cart with either two or four horses
  - *cisium* – quick, light, two-wheeled, two-horsed, uncovered cart
- *agger (viae)* – the mound on either side of the road
- *sēmitae/marginēs* – footpaths or sidewalks

### Correspondence

- *stilus/stylus* – ivory/metal instrument for writing on tablets
- *calamus* – reed pen
- *ātrāmentum* – ink
- *līnum* – thread for sealing a letter
- *cōdex* – modern-style book
- *palimpsēstum* – reused parchment or paper
- *umbilīcus* – the pole about which a scroll is bound
- *cornua* – knobs on ends of *umbilicus*
- *titulus* – small strip of paper with the name of the work attached to the knob
- *capsa/scrīnium* – wooden box that held scrolls
- *cēra* – wax used to seal a letter
- *signum* – seal used to enclose a letter
- *armāria* – cupboards that could sometimes hold books

## Magistrates and Important Political Officials

Roman Office	Chosen by	Responsibilities	Number and Duration	Notes on Age
<i>cōsul</i>	<i>comitia centuriāta</i>	Acted primarily as commanders of military forces, presided over meetings of the Senate and implemented its decisions	2 elected annually	36 originally, then changed to 42 later
<i>praetor</i>	<i>comitia centuriāta</i>	Acted as supreme civil judge	2 (then 6) annually	around 40
<i>cēnsor</i>	<i>comitia centuriāta</i>	Took censuses of property, kept a register of all citizens and assigned them to their centuries, controlled public morals and could expel senators, prepared lists of members of the Senate, had the right to take judicial proceedings against citizens suppressing information about their property, supervised the leasing of public land, decided on new construction, and awarded government contracts	1, 18 months (but elected every 5 years)	
<i>aedilis curūlis</i> (curule aedile)	<i>comitia tribūta</i>	Administered public buildings and archives and were in charge of the maintenance and repair of public buildings, of markets, of the annona, and of public games and festivals	2 elected annually	around 36
<i>aedilis plēbis</i> (plebeian aedile)	<i>concilium plēbis</i>	Administered public buildings and archives and were in charge of the maintenance and repair of public buildings, of markets, of the annona, and of public games and festivals	2 elected annually	around 36
<i>quaestor</i>	<i>comitia tribūta</i>	Maintained public records, administered the treasury ( <i>aerarium</i> ), acted as paymasters accompanying generals on campaigns, were financial secretaries to governors	4 (then 10) annually	27 originally, then changed to 30
<i>tribūnus plēbis</i> (plebeian tribune)	<i>concilium plēbis</i>	Presided over <i>concilium plēbis</i> , could veto any act by any magistrate or any assembly		
<i>pontifex maximus</i>	<i>comitia tribūta</i>	Exercised control over the entire state religion, regulated calendar, oversaw Vestal Virgins, administered laws of adoption, testament, and succession		
<i>dictātor</i>	<i>senātus</i> (senate)	Had supreme military and judicial authority, although other magistrates remained in office	1, 6 months (only in crisis)	



- Other officials
  - *prōcōnsul* – governor of a province
  - *prōpraetor* – extended praetorship
  - *senātor* – senator (old men whose main power was to advise)
    - *cūria* – senate house (*comitia cūriāta* – oldest assembly)
- Magisterial Terms
  - *cursus honōrum* – course of honor: quaestor → praetor → consul
  - *suō annō* – term that describes a man who completed the *cursus honōrum* in their first year of eligibility
  - *novus homō* – man who did not have previous members in their family hold office (particularly a consulship)
  - *intercessiō* – right to veto held by tribunes
  - *fascēs* – bundle of rods surrounding an axe – symbol of power
    - *fascēs* were carried by lictors (*lictōrēs*)
      - praetors were accompanied by 6 lictors
      - consuls were accompanied by 12 lictors
      - dictators were accompanied by 24 lictors
  - *comitiae* and the *concilia* (committees and assemblies for voting)
    - *comitia cūriāta* – oldest assembly – met only as a formality
    - *comitia centuriāta* – elected major offices
    - *comitia tribūta* – elected minor offices
    - *concilium plēbis* – elected plebeian offices

### The Roman Army

- *peditēs* – foot soldiers/infantry men
  - *legiō* – legion – largest unit – 3600 men (6000 before the time of Caesar)
  - *cohors* – cohort – a tenth of a legion
  - *manipulus* – maniple – a third of a cohort
  - *centuria* – century – half a maniple – 60 men (100 originally)
- *auxilia* – auxiliary troops
  - *equitēs* – cavalry men
    - *āla* – a squad of 300 *equitēs*
    - *turma* – a tenth of an *āla* – 30 men
    - *decuria* – a third of a *turma* – 10 men
- army officers
  - *dux* – commanding officer or general – after his first important victory he became *imperātor* (the commander-in-chief)
  - *lēgātī* – legates / staff officers – next in rank to *dux*
  - *tribūnī militum* – military tribune – six to a legion
  - *centuriōnēs* – centurions and captains – noncommissioned plebeian officers who were experienced on the battlefield
  - *praefectī* – prefects – commanded the auxiliaries of cavalry
  - *decuriōnēs* – decurions – commanded the *decuriae*
- military equipment and clothing
  - *sagum* – a woolen cloak for severe weather which can also be used as a blanket

- *caligae* – leather boots with heavy hobnailed soles, fastened on by straps
- *lōrica* – leather breastplate with metal bands
- *galea* – leather or metal helmet often ornamented with a crest
- *scūtum* – a curved, rectangular shield
- *pīlum* – throwing javelin or pike
- *gladius* – heavy, two edged sword
- military standards
  - *aquila* – eagle – the standard of the legion made of silver or bronze mounted on a pole carried by the *aquilifer*.
  - *signum* – standard of a cohort or maniple carried by the *signifer*.
  - *vēxillum* – rectangular banner or flag – standard for the auxiliaries
- battle formations
  - signals in battle
    - *tuba* – trumpet – a straight instrument, three feet long, of metal
    - *cornū* – horn – a large curved instrument of metal
- marching formations
  - *agmen* – the main column of legionary troops
  - *primum agmen* – the vanguard consisting of scouts, cavalry squads and light-armed infantrymen
  - *impedimenta* – baggage that followed the legion, carried on pack animals or wagons – food, extra weapons, clothing, artillery, tools, etc.
  - *sarcīna* – personal knapsack of a soldier
    - *impeditus* – refers to when a soldier was wearing his *sarcīna*
    - *expeditus* – refers to when a soldier was not wearing his *sarcīna*
- The Roman Camp
  - *castra* – camp – built after a day’s march for retreat – rectangular in shape
  - *fossa* – a ditch or trench dug around the camp
  - *tabernācula* – soldiers’ tents
  - *tessera* – military password used to get into the camp
  - *vigiliae* – the four “watches” into which the night was divided
    - *prīma vigilia* – 6 PM to 9 PM
    - *secunda vigilia* – 9 PM to 12 midnight
    - *tertia vigilia* – 12 midnight to 3 AM
    - *quarta vigilia* – 3 AM to 6 AM
- Military Operations
  - *ariēs* – a battering ram
  - *testūdō* – a protective screen formed by the overlapping of shields held in a tortoise-like fashion
  - *tormenta* – artillery
    - *ballista* – a machine for hurling heavy stones and blocks of wood
    - *catapulta* – hurled large arrows and javelins
    - *scorpiō* – light catapult for hurling stones and darts
- Roman Ships
  - *nāvis longa* – a battleship propelled by oars and sails
  - *nāvis onerāria* – transport ship

## Roman Religion

- *pontifices* – pontiffs – had overall control of the state religion
  - *pontifex maximus* was head of the pontiffs
- *augurēs* – augurs – elected for life
  - only priests authorized to take the auspices (read and interpret signs from the gods to find out if a proposed course of action had divine approval
    - signs from the gods mostly by observing the flight patterns of wild birds or the feeding habits of captive birds such as chickens
    - auspices were taken before any major event, such as a voyage or battle
- *haruspex* – plural *haruspices* – priest who interpreted entrails of sacrificed animals
- *flāminēs* – priests appointed to serve particular deities
  - *flāmen diālis* – priest of Jupiter
- *fētīālēs* – priests present in dealings with foreign nations and were particularly concerned with the rituals involved in declaring war and making treaties
- *salī* – “leaping” or “dancing” priests of Mars
- Vestal Virgins – women who were in charge of the worship of Vesta at her temple
  - Vestal Virgins must be between the ages of six and ten years at choosing
  - if proven unchaste, a Vestal Virgin would be buried alive
  - ten years to learn their duties, ten to perform them, ten to teach youths
- *rēgia* – residence of the *pontifex maximus*
- *larēs & penātēs* – household gods
  - *lār* – family god
  - *penātēs* – cupboard gods
- *mānēs* – spirits of the dead

## Roman Funerals

- *fūnus acerbum* – “bitter funeral” funeral for the death of small children
- *pōmērium* – boundary line for city of Roman within which no one could be buried
- *cenotaphium* – empty tomb
- *sepulc(h)rum* – room inclosed in a building for burying the dead
- *columbārium* – “dove cote/pigeon house” – a family tomb that had many inside
  - urns were kept in niches on the walls of the *columbārium*
  - *gradūs* – rows of niches
  - *ōrdinēs* – columns of niches
  - *titulus* – marble above the nich with the name of the dead
- *sarcophagus* – a sarcophagus on a podium for dead bodies
- *cēpotaphium* – garden tomb
- *rogus* – funeral pyre
- *ūstrīna* – places for burning bodies and where ashes were collected and dried
- *olla* – urn or jar
- *conclāmātiō* – formal oration given by the oldest son of the deceased
- *lectus fūnebris* – “death bed”
- *dēsīgnātor* – undertaker
- *laudātiō* – funeral oration given in the forum by a public authority
- *nēniae/naeniae* – funeral songs or poems