

History of Ancient Rome Class Information

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Welcome to the History of Ancient Rome. I'm so excited that you have decided to take a semester to learn about one of the most incredible, exciting and bizarre, civilizations that has ever existed. The Romans were a unique people with a number of amazing qualities. They were ruthless and loyal, strong-willed and adaptive. What began as a small city on the Italian Peninsula became an empire that dominated the Mediterranean basin. They were cruel and sometimes barbaric, but contributed to the arts, sciences, politics and religion more than one can imagine. I am so excited to delve into this incredible civilization with you this upcoming semester. I hope you are ready to work and to learn about the History of Ancient Rome.

Course Information: The course will cover over 1000 years of Roman History, beginning well before the city's foundations ending after the demise of the Empire. We will cover Rome's beginnings as a monarchy and study its transformation into a Republic. One reason that the Romans are such a great civilization to study is that we can trace their developments from beginning to end. We can examine how they changed (or didn't) their government to cope with disillusionment. We can study their shortcomings and their successes. The course will examine the wars the Romans fought, the battles they won and lost, and the way they dealt with conquered peoples. We will see ways they attempted to ensure domestic tranquility, and will look at what happened when Romans disagreed with other Romans.

Grading: The course will utilize a multitude of resources to help us better understand the Romans. Our main textbook will be *The Romans: From Village to Empire* though we will also use numerous primary sources. Students are expected to keep up with assigned readings. When announced, there will be reading quizzes on which students will be encouraged to use notes from their reading; likewise, any material assigned for reading is considered fair game for tests. Additional content will be covered through a combination of lectures, discussion, research, projects, a research paper and a mock trial. The Final Exam is worth 20 % of your final grade.

The Analytical Research Paper will be assigned during the semester.

Academic Behavior: Students are expected to keep up with all assigned readings as well as any notes that are covered in class. All PowerPoints will be posted online. These PowerPoints are meant only to supplement lecture material. Students need to show up every day willing to learn and participate in the class

