

CHAPTER OUTLINE

- I. Historical Overview
- II. The Colossus of the Mediterranean World
 - A. General characteristics of Roman civilization
 1. Contrast with Greeks
 2. The Roman character
 - a) The agrarian tradition
 - b) The sanctity of the family
 - c) Religious values
 - B. The Etruscan and Greek connections
 1. The Etruscans
 - a) A people with a high culture
 - b) Their legacy to Rome
 2. The Greeks of the Hellenistic Age
 - a) A people with a high culture
 - b) Their legacy to Rome
 - C. Rome in the Age of Kings, 753–509 B.C.
 1. Impact on Roman institutions
 2. The first appearance of class struggle in Rome
 - D. The Roman Republic, 509–31 B.C.
 1. The Early Republic, 509–264 B.C.
 - a) Defeat of the Etruscan overlords and the establishment of a republic
 - b) The domestic crisis
 - (1) Struggle between patricians and plebeians
 - (2) The emergence of the Senate to leadership
 - c) The foreign crisis
 - (1) The threat of nearby peoples
 - (2) Conquest of the Italian peninsula
 - (3) Rome's genius at dealing with conquered people
 2. The Middle Republic, 264–133 B.C.
 - a) The assimilation of Italy into the Roman orbit
 - b) The challenge of Carthage
 - (1) The issues making for war
 - (2) The three Punic Wars
 - (3) Ultimate Roman victory
 - c) The conquest of the Hellenistic world
 3. The Late Republic, 133–31 B.C.
 - a) Oligarchy
 - b) The problem of the equestrian order
 - c) The changing nature of the masses

- (1) Landless citizens, slaves, and foreigners
 - (2) “Bread and circuses”
 - d) Julius Caesar’s lofty vision and failed reforms
 - e) Civil war
- E. Growing autocracy: Imperial Rome, 31 B.C.–A.D. 284
 - 1. Historical overview
 - 2. *Pax Romana*, 31 B.C.–A.D. 193
 - a) Keeping the peace
 - b) The key role of Egypt
 - c) The spread of Roman civilization
 - d) The growing economy
 - 3. Civil wars, A.D. 193–284
 - a) The problem with choosing new emperors
 - b) The Barrack Emperors
 - c) Other imperial problems

III. The Style of Pre-Christian Rome: From Greek Imitation to Roman Grandeur

A. Foundation in Hellenistic Culture

B. Roman religion

- 1. Native cults and beliefs
- 2. Its syncretistic nature
 - a) The gods and goddesses of Greece
 - b) Innovative cults in the post-Punic War period
 - c) Emperor worship

C. Language, literature, and drama

- 1. The Latin language
- 2. The first literary period, 250–31 B.C.
 - a) Characteristics
 - b) The birth of Roman theater: Roman comedy
 - (1) Plautus
 - (2) Terence
 - c) Roman poetry
 - (1) Lucretius’s *On the Nature of Things*
 - (2) Catullus’s “small” epics, epigrams, and love poems
 - d) Cicero, the greatest writer of the age
 - (1) Philosophy
 - (2) Oratory
 - (3) Letters
- 3. The second literary period: The Golden Age, 31 B.C.–A.D. 14
 - a) Characteristics
 - b) Vergil
 - (1) Pastorals: *Eclogues* and *Georgics*

- (2) Epic: the *Aeneid*
 - c) Horace
 - (1) Odes
 - (2) Letters in verse
 - d) Ovid and the *Metamorphoses*
 - 4. The third literary period: The Silver Age, A.D. 145–200
 - a) Characteristics
 - b) Seneca and Roman tragedy
 - c) Juvenal and satire
 - d) Tacitus's *Annals* and *Histories*
 - (1) Heir to the Greek tradition
 - (2) History with a moral purpose
- D. Philosophy
- 1. Characteristics of Roman thought
 - 2. Stoicism
 - a) Seneca
 - (1) The *Letters on Morality*
 - (2) His influence
 - b) Epictetus
 - (1) Background
 - (2) *Discourses* and *Handbook*
 - c) Marcus Aurelius
 - (1) Background
 - (2) *Meditations*
 - 3. Neo-Platonism
 - a) Origins in Platonism
 - b) Plotinus
- E. Law
- 1. Rome's most original contribution
 - 2. The idea of natural law
 - 3. The evolution of Roman law
 - a) The Twelve Tables
 - b) The role of the praetors
 - c) The *jurisconsults*
 - d) The legal codifications of the second and third centuries A.D.
- F. The visual arts
- 1. Uses and influences
 - a) Roman practicality
 - b) Etruscan and Greek influences
 - 2. Architecture
 - a) Materials and style
 - (1) Changing types of building materials

- (2) The temple, the chief Roman architectural form
 - (3) Innovations: rounded arch, barrel vault, groined vault, and dome
 - b) The prototype of the Roman temple: the Maison Carrée
 - (1) Features and characteristics
 - (2) Influence
 - c) The round temple: the Pantheon
 - (1) Features and characteristics
 - (2) Influence
 - d) Urban planning: the forum
 - e) The triumphal arch
 - (1) A symbol of empire
 - (2) Characteristics
 - f) Amphitheaters
 - (1) The Colosseum
 - (2) Its relation to the realities of Roman life
 - g) Provincial town centers
 - h) Bridges and aqueducts
- 3. Sculpture
 - a) Tastes of artists and patrons
 - b) First phase, third to first century B.C.
 - (1) *Head of Brutus*
 - (2) Characteristics
 - c) Second phase, the Late Republic of the first century B.C.
 - (1) *Republican Portrait of a Man*
 - (2) Characteristics
 - d) Third phase, 31 B.C.–A.D. 284
 - (1) Characteristics
 - (2) Prima Porta portrait of Augustus
 - (3) The Ara Pacis altar
 - (4) *March of the Legions*, a relief from the Arch of Titus
 - (5) The frieze from Trajan's Victory Column
 - (6) *Marcus Aurelius*
- 4. Paintings and Mosaics
 - a) Techniques and subjects
 - b) The murals from the Villa of the Mysteries, Pompeii
 - c) Mosaics in the provinces
- G. Music
 - 1. The dominant role of the Greek tradition
 - 2. The imperial period

- a)* Spectacles and pantomimes for the masses
- b)* Private orchestras and choruses
- c)* Lyric poetry
- d)* Musical instruments