

PRESENTATIONS ON HISTORICAL TOPICS

TOPICS

1. Wars of Roman Expansion (Week 6)
2. Punic Wars (Week 7)
3. Sulla & Catiline (Week 11)
4. Founding of Rome (Week 12)

BASIC INFORMATION

GOAL: gain insight on an important period of Roman history and provide your classmates with an introduction/review of this period, with an eye towards how Vergil invokes the average Roman's (and now your) knowledge of that period in the *Aeneid*.

DURATION: 15-20 minutes

INCLUDE: a handout with basic bibliography; timeline; list of major names/themes/concepts; map(s) if relevant.

PROCESS AND INSTRUCTIONS

1. With a partner, select which historical topic you would like to present.
2. Develop a basic bibliography on this topic.
 - a. I suggest starting with a general political history to illuminate the major actors and events for your topic, as well as provide some additional bibliography, and a survey of the relevant sources. The following suggestions are on reserve:
 - Heichelheim, Yeo, and Ward. *A History of the Roman People*. Prentice-Hall, 1984: DG209 .H5 1984.
 - Le Glay, Voisin, and Le Bohec. *A History of Rome* (A. Nevill trans.). Blackwell, 2005: DG209 .L3613 2005.
 - Boardman, Griffin, and Murray, eds. *The Oxford Illustrated History of the Roman World*. Oxford University Press, 2001: DG231 .O94 2001.
 - b. Next, read the appropriate chapter(s) in:
 - the *Cambridge Ancient History*: D57 .C252 1982 (esp. vols. 7, 8, & 9) [also on reserve]. *CAH* will provide a more detailed discussion than you will find in the general histories, as it is designed to represent the *communis opinio* (i.e. the consensus) of Classics scholars.
 - c. Then, survey appropriate ancient sources. These will often include additional bibliography. When using ancient sources, be sure to note whether they would have been known to Vergil and his original audience.
 - d. Finally, if you discover any contentious issues, you may want to look at focussed modern criticism in scholarly articles and chapters in thematic scholarly works.
 - e. **MEMENTO:** the internet is a very useful bibliographic tool, but must be used with extreme caution. If you find an on-line bibliography for your topic, you may want to email it to me, so that I can verify its value.
6. At least one week before your presentation, email me a copy of your bibliography and set up a time to meet with me to discuss what your research has led you to believe are the major issues of your topic, etc..
7. Before your presentation, consider carefully how you will present your information. Presentations should last no more than 20 minutes. Time will be short and you will not be able to both present all points in the article, and assess its effectiveness, and draw connections to the issues we have discussed as a class. Chose carefully what is the most important information and what will give your audience the best overview of your topic. Be sure to reference specific passages in the *Aeneid* to show how these events inform the development of Vergil's narrative and our appreciation of it.

At your request, I'm happy to make a recording of your presentation for you to listen to. This may seem a bit daunting, but it is an excellent learning experience and I highly recommend it.

A rubric explaining the parameters for how your presentation will be evaluated is available on the course website: <http://www.haverford.edu/classics/omni/PresentationRubric.pdf>