Augusta Harvardiana Outline

The planning aspect → roman colonies, if we see a roman map through the lens of history we can see that Rome changed with the years as it was constantly adding features taken from places they conquered – i.e. ancient Greece.

Roman colonies were very standardized, they had strict guidelines on how to build a settlement in the places they conquered —prefabricated colonies.

Harvard buildings as archetypes of roman buildings: which one is the market, horse track, houses, and coliseum?

The design of roman colonies was organized in a square pattern in the center of the city and then it expanded in disjointed ways to the outskirts of the city.

Which general principles does the Harvard campus follow:

* the main yard and the streets surrounding it are all in a square pattern, which is lost once you walk farther away from here.
* The dining hall is where people go to meet people–similar to the purposes of the market in ancient Rome.
* In the roman empire, it was normal for poor and rich people to live in the same zones, the houses were interwoven disregarding socio-economic status. In Harvard, we can see that 1) stores and more modern/commercial buildings are in between the old campus and houses –Smith, CVS, coffee shops, river houses, and the yard. 2) professors, staff, and students live all together in the houses and dorms. “Upper-level citizens” –professors and staff– have houses near or inside Harvard and some of them are proctors or tutors in the houses/dorms.
* The quad as the castle created by (this random Rome guy who wanted to live far away from everyone).

Horse track?

Coliseum?

Potential topic to cover: HUA as representing a fake democracy: in Rome, there was an emperor with unlimited power, and in Harvard, the student government is a pseudo-democracy that makes decisions in a self-serving kinda way.

## Points to Consider

* Planning aspect – what type of arrangement(s) or general principles does the campus demonstrate?
  + The center of the yard is square, like Roman colonies were, since they were created way after Rome, and where usually planned. The rest of the city has grown organically, it was built during a tumultuous period where people were fighting to be emperor?
    - Emphasize mix of both, they started building but it quickly fell down.
  + From the slide: plan for growth of city beyond original limits
  + Sander’s theatre. We got it before Rome, which made me very proud since there is usually not much going on in this distant town.
  + The center of the city is walled off, to protect ourselves. But as our population has grown, it has expanded beyond the wall of the cities.
  + They tried to make the houses/blocks remain of equal size, like in other colonies, and they achieved that, but failed, like they did in other cities, of maintaining a standard. You have poor houses next to rich houses (final clubs / residential houses).
  + Store-front shops integrated with residential space in Harvard square. In between the houses you can buy cookies, ice cream, and sit-down restaurants.
  + Civil war monument in the Cambridge Common is the Capitolium, dedicated to the founding fathers.
    - A Capitolium (Latin) was an ancient Roman temple dedicated to the Capitoline Triad of gods Jupiter, Juno and Minerva. A capitolium was built on a prominent area in many cities in Italy and the Roman provinces, particularly during the Augustan and Julio-Claudian periods. Most had a triple cella, one for each god.
  + The Quad is a villa far away from the city. Similar to Hadrian’s Villa, it sports it’s own dining centers, gymnasiums, community spaces, etc.
* Armatures – Identify and discuss several, i.e. how they are connecting paths
  + The fortifications around the central yard, they have have doors on the primary street axes, and intermittent regular towers, Securitas (sound latin already)
* Campus as a forum? Consider the central yard as a Roman forum and discuss the correspondences that you see
  + The forum was flexibly designed after the needs of the settlers. To them the most important things at the time were religion and academics. That is why instead of building a single building with columns around it, they kept the central square open, with the two biggest and most important buildings facing each other: The church, with its portico, and the library, with its portico.
    - The story of the library is interesting, it was rebuilt after some years of the original settlement by a rich family of the town. Their kid had traveled to Gallia around during Caesar's conquests to learn more about their culture and had written hoards of manuscripts about his travels and what he had learned. Reading was extremely important to him. One time, coming back from one of his travels, he was ambushed by bandits, and in an attempt to defend himself, he was killed.
    - In his honor, his mom donated the materials required for the local government to construct the library. Marmols brought from various places in the empire, like the Villa Magna (we could say that this is where they drew inspiration from). The library was named after him, Widenarius.
* Activity spaces – discuss the location of several activity spaces (i.e. ritual, spectacle, administrative) around Harvard’s campus and compare them to those often seen in Roman cities
  + Temple: Church
  + Market: Annenberg Dining Hall
  + Amphitheater: Sander’s theater
    - Like every other Roman city, we wanted to stand out of from the lazy Greek, so we built it above ground using state of the art techniques like concrete and round arches. It is not as big as the Theater of Pompey, but it served us well.
  + The Murr is the Colosseum / Hadrian’s Villa
* Commemorative or ideological elements – are any of these woven into the campus? Discuss whether any such elements (using modern ideological notions) are woven into the fabric of the campus and how they relate to Roman urban ideologies.
  + Harvard statue
    - Founder of the city / Emperor at the time?

# 