**Structure**

Intro:

* Briefly describe the Roman empire’s expansion
* Talk about how the colonies didn’t look similar to Rome, but actually quite different.
* State that Harvard presents an in between because it shares characteristics of Roman colonies but it also shares some elements of Rome’s architecture.

Body paragraph 1: Planning + Armatures

* D

Body paragraph 2: Campus as a forum + Activity spaces

* D

Body paragraph 3: Commemorative or ideological elements (Harvard statue, capitolium, and church) + Government

* D

Conclusion:

* While modern countries in America were founded a long time after the collapse of the Roman empire, our culture, our language, and our way of designing cities draws heavily from Roman civilization. This is something we should appreciate and this class helps with that.
* That is why from now on, I will consider myself Roman (jk).

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During the Roman Empire's territorial expansion, many similarly modeled cities were built across Europe and Africa. Despite being far from these lands, Augusta Harvardiana shares many similarities with traditional Roman cities, from its planning and active spaces to its commemorative and ideological elements. The central yard of Augusta Harvardiana is a square, like most Roman colonies, which were planned before they were built, and followed a grid pattern of similarly sized blocks around a central area.

When Augusta was founded, only a few buildings were initially constructed within the walls of the yard, including a library, a church, and a couple of class buildings. The size and grandeur of these buildings reflect their relative importance at the time. Like the Romans, the founders of Boston, Cambridge, and Harvard believed religion was essential and invested heavily in building temples. While there is only one church at Harvard, in honor of one god, the Romans honored many gods.

Despite their differences, Christianity and the ancient Roman gods share some architectural similarities. For instance, the inside columns of the Memorial Church are of Corinthian style, like the "Round Temple" on the Tiber, and the outside columns are Dorian style, like many of the temples on the Largo Argentina.

The commemorative culture of the Romans and Americans also shares similarities. Just like the Romans, the Americans celebrate the strong people who led them. Within the walls of Augusta Harvardiana, there is a statue in honor of John Harvard, the founder of the school. Right outside, in the Cambridge Common, there is a bigger monument honoring the bravery of the Founding Fathers. This can be thought of as the Capitolium of Augusta Harvardiana. One of the gods of the Capitoline Triad was Jupiter, who was associated with the founding of Rome, since he had supposedly sent Romulus his blessing of protection before the city was founded.

Like Roman colonies, Harvard was originally established with only a few buildings. A wall was built around the first edifications to protect them, similar to how the Roman colonies built walls around the forum and other important buildings in the city center. The transitable paths within these confines form a hierarchical grid, with some main, wider paths, and some thinner ones. Unlike imperial settlements, the rest of Augusta Harvardiana experienced organic growth, similar to that of Rome's. The blocks outside the walls differ in size, and the main roads project outwards radially from the center, instead of having a consistent grid.

Despite the differences in growth, there are still many comparisons that can be made with Roman settlements. One striking similarity is the interspersed commercial storefronts between residential and academic buildings, which is common in both Harvard and Rome. Residential and commercial buildings are scattered throughout, and new and expensive buildings sit next to older ones.

Two buildings that are central to everyday life at Harvard but are not inside the city center of Augusta Harvardiana are the Annenberg Dining Hall and Sanders Theater. As students, they do not go to a market to purchase food, but they do attend dining halls. Dining halls not only serve as places to eat, but also as places to socialize, just like they did in Ancient Rome. Particular to Harvard's dining halls is the fact that they host only certain classes, which draws a clear distinction between freshmen and upperclassmen. On the other hand, classes like CS50 are famous for being one of the biggest classes, given at Sanders theater. The theater, like Roman theaters, blur the social lines and allow everyone to spend time together.

Harvard, Cambridge, and many cities and countries across America draw heavily from Roman culture, language, and planning, despite being far from Rome. Understanding how our culture builds on previous ones and how our knowledge builds on many generations of thinkers is essential. This essay should leave the reader with a