

5. Ancient Rome (753 BCE- 476CE)

- Geography
 - Rome in the middle of the boot> not by the ocean> inland
 - Village in region called Latium (they spoke latin)
 - Started off as a tiny village
 - Came to control biggest and most integrated empire in the world

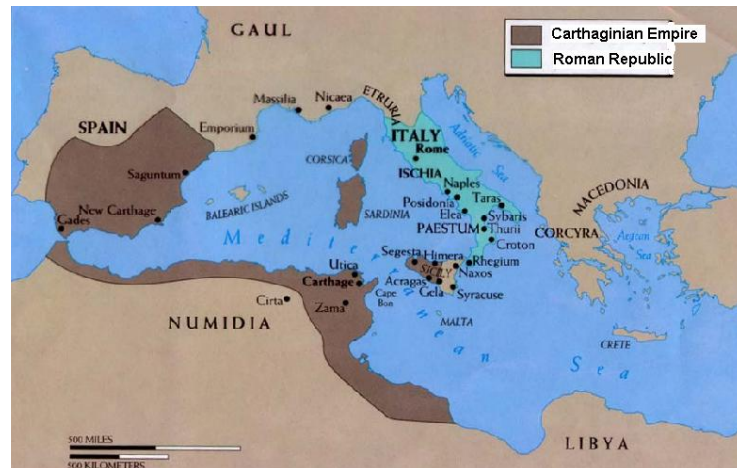


- Origins of Rome
 - The foundation of Rome (753BCE)
 - Remus and Romulus
 - City of Rome named after of Romulus
 - Orphan brothers raised by a wolf
 - Romulus first king of the city of Rome
 - Romans were badass, ancestors are Gods so they feel superior
 - Aeneas
 - Developed by poet Ovid
 - Fled from the burning city of Troy
 - Liked feeling connected to the Greeks
 - Links Roman history with the history of the Greeks
 - Links Rome with the fascinating Greek heritage of Homer's Troy
 - Used these stories to portray themselves
- The Etruscans

- They created the first permanent settlements in Italian peninsula
- In many ways, similar to Greek city-states
- Very advanced, culturally > similar political style
- For a very long time, completely forgotten due to Roman conquest, but recently rediscovered
- Their legacy > enormous legacy in Roman culture
 - Etruscans alphabet
 - The art of building roads
 - Built in an arch
 - Toga
 - Legacy of legal system comes from Romans
 - Official dress code
 - Gladiators > gladiator combats
 - Origin of entertainment by watching people fight
- The conquest of Italy
 - Very early on, Romans possess military genius!
 - Advanced military tactics and strategy
 - Military even today learn the tactics of the Romans
 - Play making of American football comes from Roman war tactics
 - How to deploy army in function of the enemy
 - Army divided in legions
 - Citizen-soldiers organized in legions
 - Only citizen land owner could fight
 - Roman citizens were motivated by fighting for your land and your honour
 - Slaves couldn't fight > didn't want to pay people to fight
 - Conclusion of strategic "alliance" with surrounding town of the "Latium"
 - Most of Italy under Roman rule by 265 BCE
 - Imposed alliances
 - Not gonna raise your cities if you pay us taxes and give us soldiers
 - They were somewhat independent but payed taxes to Rome
- Political and military history
 - Ancient Roman history is traditionally divided into three distinct periods
 - Monarchy Period (753-509 BCE)
 - Not much written record survived from this period
 - We only have the accounts of ancient historians > which we take to a certain degree
 - In early days, Rome has a king > default political system
 - Little is known about "monarchy-period": difficult to differentiate history from myth!
 - Barely any written record
 - Remembered as darker days in Roman history: sanguinarian kings who ruled with terror and might
 - In later periods, "Monarchy" and "King" would become dirty words in Roman politics
 - Despised kings because of their history
 - Some of these kings are Etruscans (foreigners)
 - In this period, Rome slowly starts expanding, conquering nearby villages in the Latium
 - Had a total of 7 kings
 - Roman Republic (509-27 BCE)
 - Creation of the Republic
 - Circumstances of political change is unclear

- Rome becomes some kind of oligarchy (ruled by a few > wealthy families) > wealthy few decide everything
 - No more kings
 - The Senate
 - Elite would meet up and discuss
 - All patresfamilias of the wealthiest families
- The patricians in charge (the patresfamilias > oldest male was in charge of the whole household > decided everything)
 - Members of non-aristocracy families: plebeian
 - Some were very wealthy and knowledgeable, but they didn't have the right family name
 - The Struggle of the Orders (494-287 BCE)
 - Plebeians succeeded in creating their own Plebeian Senate
 - They did multiple strikes to put pressure to be recognized
 - Fight to gain political power
- The client-patron system
 - A very wealthy patricians (the patron) would take care of other patricians and they would pledge their political allegiance to their patron > influential > large network of connection
 - Mafia connections
- Structure of the Roman Republic:
 - Senate (300+ members)
 - Senate: Actual meeting place where people would argue for hours
 - Seats attributed to every senator
 - Most important political establishment
 - Only the senators get to vote
 - Executive magistrates
 - Chosen by the senate
 - Consuls (2)
 - Kinda like the American president
 - Elected for 1 year
 - No one individual would be too powerful
 - War generals
 - Praetors (2)
 - Second in command
 - Takes the Consuls' position when they are in war
 - Quaestors
 - People who collect the taxation
 - In charge of taxation and the treasury
 - If you were chosen in one of these magistrates position afterwards you become a senator
 - Plebeian Assembly
 - Refuse to fight during the Struggle of the Orders so they got an Assembly
 - Kinda like Senate but less powerful > handle basic stuff (trash collecting, aqueduct)
 - Tribunes
 - Consul for the plebeians
 - Dictators
 - If there is a catastrophe, the senate will name a dictator
 - For 6 months or until the problem was solved the dictator had absolute power

- The Punic Wars (264-146 BCE)
 - As stated before, most of Italy under Roman ruled by 265 BCE
 - There is only one other regional empire standing in their way: The Carthaginian Empire
 - Punic is latin for Phoenician
 - Carthage vs Rome
 - Carthage is in Tunisia



- Descendants of Phoenician
 - Carthaginian were more powerful then Rome in the beginning
- Romans had to create a navy to be able to defeat them
 - Crashed a Carthaginian ship by wrecking one and dragging it out of the sea and studying the structure
- 1st Punic War (264-241 BCE)
 - Rome takes Sicily, Sardinia, Corsica
- 2nd Punic War
 - General Hannibal
 - Carthaginian had elephants in their army (around 70)
 - March through southern Spain and Alpes> Arrived in Northern Italy
 - Carthage invades Italy, but eventually loses (battle of Cannae)
 - Bloodiest war until WW1
 - Romans were unprepared
 - They capture the Italian Peninsula but never Rome
 - Rome takes Hispania> Takes back the land
 - The Carthaginians were forced to pay taxes to the Romans
 - 3rd Punic War (149-146)
 - War of vengeance, Carthage obliterated
 - Romans decide to completely massacre Carthaginians because even if they lost they felt like they were a threat
 - Conquest of the Hellenistic kingdoms (146-30BCE)
 - Philip V, beloved Antigonid king of Macedonia
 - Big mistake: allied with Carthage
 - Saw Macedonian as enemies since the Macedonians were supporting the Carthaginians
 - Romans conquered Macedonia and pushed forward

- Also defeat Seleucid (near east) and Ptolemaic (Egypt) kingdoms
- Rome kept making new enemies so kept fighting
 - Preemptive wars
- Hellenization of Roman society starts in this period
 - Educated Romans learn Greek
 - Romans emulated Greek religion, drama, sculpture, cuisine, philosophy
 - Romans considered an empire of borrowers
 - Yet Romans remain different
 - Much more militaristic, and overall very conservative
 - Value order much more
- Civil War: the end of the Republic (133-27BCE)
 - Almost 100 years of civil war> war among the Roman people
 - The Roman empire is now enormous! This causes several problems
 - Sending orders was very hard
 - The Roman Constitution was designed to govern a single city, but now unfit to rule this enormous land!
 - Senators were disconnected from the decisions they were making> they never travelled to the places they ruled
 - Great generals of the army have become extremely influential: political career based on military exploit> Army controlled the politician
 - Growing social inequality: large landowner (latifundia) and landless soldiers
 - The treasure won in Rome went to the rich
 - Landless soldiers> their farms will get destroyed during their years of fighting
 - Rich people end up buying their land
 - Tons of soldiers came back from the war and had nothing
 - 133-27 BCE is a period of almost constant instability and civil war
- The Gracchi brothers (169-121)
 - Two brothers
 - Tiberius Gracchus (169-133BCE)
 - Men of the people
 - Were part in the Tribune (representative of the plebeians)
 - Had a program of redistribution
 - Took land away from the rich to give to the poor
 - Land reforms to favour the landless soldiers
 - Senate was angry because they were the rich landowners
 - However, Tiberius had so much power and influence
 - Food distributed to Roman civilians
 - Said that Rome was wealthy enough to never let the population go hungry
 - Popular with the masses, but unpopular with the Rich
 - Brutally murdered by conservative senators
 - Many of his followers also got murdered
 - Gaius Gracchus (154-121 BCE)
 - Continues the work of his deceased brother
 - Also murdered by senators
- Marius (157-86 BCE)
 - General of the Roman empire
 - Introduced the Marian reforms
 - Completely transformed the Roman empire
 - He would give land to his soldiers if they won

- Soldiers were motivated by this and extremely dedicated
 - Profound and decisive transformation of Roman army
 - Soldiers now serve their general rather than the Senate
 - Marius found a way to give them a land
 - Was a huge threat since he now had an army devoted to him
 - Army controlled by one and not by the republic
 - Other Roman generals followed in his steps
- Sulla (138-78 BCE)
 - Another great general, and political rival of Marius
 - Marches on Rome with army to dispose Marius' supporters
 - When he was off to fight an army
 - He hears news that Marius took control of the Rome so he turned around and attacked Rome and Marius' army
 - Wins the battle against Marius
 - Dictator for 2 years, completely transforms for Republic
 - Also admired by his soldiers
 - Also guaranteed the welfare of his soldiers
 - Controlled a big army
 - Intense rivalry with Marius
- Julius Caesar (100-44 BCE)
 - Political heir of Sulla, admires his strength and power
 - Fantastic military leader, revered by his army
 - Greatest military commander in western history
 - Invented tons of strategy
 - Conquers Gaul
 - His army strongly admires him> absolute devotion of his soldiers
 - Godlike appearance
 - Managed to be named dictator for life
 - Consul for life
 - Absolute ruler of Rome
 - Completely strips Senate of its power, but murdered as a result
 - The Senate murders Julius Caesar
 - Death of Julius Caesar causes yet another civil war
 - Political heirs of Caesar (Octavian, Lepidus, Mark Anthony) chase out and defeat Caesar's murderers in a series of battle then turns on each other, in a bloody war
 - Octavian (63 BCE-14BCE) emerges as ultimate victor, putting an end to era of civil war in Rome
 - He won the battle against the two others
 - In 27 BCE, The Senate (or what's left of it) proclaims Octavian as "Augustus" a name he will carry until his death
 - Augustus> the admired one
 - When Augustus becomes absolute leader of Rome, end of Roman Republic
 - This date (27BCE) chosen by historians to mark end of the Republican period, and the beginning of the Roman Empire
- Roman Empire
 - Augustus and the "principate"
 - After years of constant civil war, Augustus promises to "restore" the Republic. In practice, he abolishes it:

- Principate is the list of role he assumes > It is the name given to this specific collection of powers, which are normally in separate hands
- Said that he will give back the power to the Senate when he died
 - Roles assumed by Augustus himself (principate> all the powers)
 - Consul for life > represent Patricians
 - Tribune for life > represents Plebeians
 - Imperator
 - Used to have next to no meaning
 - However he made it have meaning
 - Called himself the imperator to take control of the army without scarring people
 - Pontifex Maximus
 - Leader of the Roman religion
 - Spiritual leader as well as military and political
 - Princeps civitatis
 - First Roman citizen
- Augustus is extremely cunning! He knows that using inflammatory language will get him killed!
- He is much more than a politician or a leader
 - His political genius lies in the fact that, by using non-inflammatory language and positions that previously had no real meaning, he became the absolute ruler of Rome, without anybody truly noticing!
 - In effect the most powerful man that ever lived!
 - The word Emperor comes from here
 - All future European emperors named "August"
 - At his death, Augustus transmits the power of the "principate" to his son-in-law and political heir, Tiberus
 - Emperorship has officially become the norm
- The "Pax Romana" (27 BCE- 180CE)
 - Roman peace
 - 200 years of relative peace and prosperity for the Roman Empire
 - Civil war has ended
 - Process of Romanization, Latin=lingua franca
 - Rome reaches its greatest grandeur
 - Over 1 million inhabitants, biggest city in history
 - Boundaries of Rome reach their greatest extent
 - Most Emperors provide Rome with strong leadership, unity and unmatched military power
 - Three dynasties
 - Julio-Claudians
 - Descendants of Julius Caesar
 - Flavians
 - The "Five Good Emperors"
 - The enormous power of the **Praetorian Guard**
 - Private army of the emperor
 - Best soldiers who's only role was to protect to emperor
 - Murdered the horrible emperors (Caligula, Nero)
 - Had power over life and dead of emperor
- The "turmoil" of the third century (180-284)
 - Beginning of the collapse

- Problems arise under Marcus Aurelius (161-180)
 - The “Antonine Plague”
 - Floods of the Tiber > bad harvests> inflation and famine
 - Less food leads to instability
 - Growing instability in the frontier regions (Germanic tribes)
 - Local population more and more dissatisfied
- M-A’s son, Commodus (180-192), one of Rome’s worst emperors
 - Absolute megalomaniac
 - Changed everything to glorify himself
 - Not interested in famine
 - Saw himself as a descendant of Hercules
 - Spent all his time fighting in gladiator combats
 - Short civil war in wake of his murder (by strangulation)
 - Severus and Caracalla reform the army> firm hold during a couple of years
 - Grant citizenship to all male adults in the Empire
- The “Barrack Empire” (235-285)
 - Many emperors
 - Got their power from raising in the army
- Not only political turmoil
 - Transformation of the Roman army
 - Rome had to pay their army more and more
 - Reforms of Severus and Caracalla> grants citizenship to all male adults in the Empire
 - Terrible inflation problems
 - Soldiers only wanted money since more Barbaric
 - Salaries were getting bigger and bigger so some emperors started blending their money with the cheap metal which brings down the value of money
 - Declining agricultural production in all regions of the empire
 - Ever-increasing taxation > Empire needed money to solve their problems
 - Continuing problem of plague
- The Emperor Diocletian (285-305)
 - Augustus in the east
 - Believed that Venus was his ancestor
 - First of the Barrack Emperors to get a firm grasp on the emperorship
 - Realizes that Rome needs to be deeply reformed if property and stability is to be returned
 - Diocletian’s reforms
 - Division of the empire in two halves
 - Further administrative division into “dioceses”
 - Division of emperorship > Tetrarchy (4 Emperor)
- The Emperor Constantine (306-337)
 - “Augustus” in the East, Constantine is by far the strongest “tetrarch” of the time >most powerful one
 - Prosperity and Peace
 - Leading figures in Christianity
 - The foundation of “New Rome” (Constantinople) *KNOW THE LOCATION*
 - On the ancient Greek city of Byzantine (Istanbul today)
 - Control sea route from Black Sea to Mediterranean sea
 - Controls major trade route with the rest of the world



- A temporary return to Roman glory and power
 - Creation of new currency (solidus) > Standard currency in Europe
 - Resettlement of regions abandoned during 3rd century
 - Significant military victories against Germanic tribes
- Still some deep problems are worsening
 - Agriculture continues to decline
 - Still high taxes
 - Slow transition to Medieval story
 - Creation of serfdom
 - People have to work the land > were not free, but not slaves
- The “Barbarian Invasion”
 - Germanic tribes have been migrating into Roman territory on and off since at least 100 BCE
 - A phenomenon affecting almost only West Europe
 - Significant increase during 3rd and 4th century
 - More and more “Barbarians” within army
 - Had to attack their own people
 - Some Barbarians settled in the Roman empire
 - During the 5th century, establishment of small Germanic kingdoms within Roman borders
 - Rome sacked by Vandals in 455
 - **476 (know this date)**, Odoacer deposes Romulus Augustus, becomes king of Italy (official end of Western Roman Empire)
 - N.B What we call the “Collapse of the Roman Empire” (476 CE) is actually the fall of the Western Roman Empire
 - What happens to the Eastern Roman Empire
 - Lasts until 1453, known by historians as the Byzantine Empire
- Religion
 - Traditional Roman religious
 - Piety (pietas), or the respect of religious traditions and the maintenance of good relations with the gods, was always understood as the source of Roman power and success
 - Maintain a good relationship with the gods

- They thought religious was the reason of their success> they had the best relationship with God so they won many wars
- Early Roman religion consists of a combination of the veneration of ancestors, who have god-like qualities, and the adoption of foreign gods
 - Anna's was believed to be the son of Venus
 - Lineage is very important
 - Romans were descendants of gods
- Enormous Greek influence
 - In centuries following invasion of Greece, Romans essentially adopt all of Greek religious tradition, while giving Roman names to gods
 - Roman Religion becomes very individualistic
 - Everyone celebrates religious rites in their own home, religion is rarely celebrated publicly
 - In hard time however, people turn to religion to find a meaning > christianity encourages community creates support
 - When Rome experiences harder times (civil war, political turmoil, economic hardships, etc), many Romans feel a spiritual void
 - Roman religion does not provide common cause, charity, support, mutual help...
- Rise of Christianity
 - Minor events in the Roman province of Judaea
 - Normal that people would get killed for having reforming ideas, being insurgent
 - It was not popular with Jews in Judaea
 - Can't rely on the Bible for historical information
 - Climate of intense instability in Judaea [modern day Israel] (zealots> Jews who fought against the Roman)
 - Born around the year 0, Augustus was the emperor at the time
 - End of the civil war, but frontier regions were unstable
 - Hebrews believe in approach of a final struggle
 - They were always controlled by foreign leaders
 - Believed that one day they would have their own nation
 - The imminent arrival of a saviour (messiah)
 - Believed that God will send them a saviour
 - Because of all the instability they thought the messiah was going to come soon
 - Grew up in a very religious household
 - Someone deeply religious who wanted to spread the message of religious
 - Born in Galilé
 - Very multicultural part of the world
 - Next to no information about the first 30 years of his life
 - Was a common carpenter before
 - Around 30 years old, he gained a cult following
 - After his death did they turn his teachings into a religion
 - What was his message
 - You must believe in God and ask for forgiveness
 - Message about love
 - Love God and your neighbours
 - Very anchored in Judaism
 - He claimed to be the Messiah
 - Only few people believed him
 - Portrayed caucasian> europeans portrayed him to look like themselves

- Pontius Pilate, the Roman prefect of Judaea
 - Portrayed as ultimate bad guy by religion
 - His job was to create stability in Judaea>maintain peace
 - Trouble at Passover in Jerusalem
 - Issues when Jesus and his followers went to this celebration
 - Jews felt like he was insulting their religion and people thought that trouble and riots were brewing
 - Pontius Pilate killed him to avoid conflict
 - Rumour that he raised from his dead after three days of his death
 - The crucifixion of Jesus
 - The resurrection
- The Spread of Christianity
 - In the 2nd, 3rd and 4th century, Christianity becomes phenomenally successful
 - Mysterious new religion promising love and immortality to all!
 - Internal happiness if you beg for forgiveness
 - Forgiveness
 - Provides a common cause, a sense of community, in an age of individualism, poverty and chaos
 - Christianity left Judaea and became a Roman religion
 - Religion of the Roman empire
 - Only caught on with non Jewish people
 - Paul of Tarsis
 - Wrote down letters preaching people to be Christian
 - At first prosecuted Christians in Judaea and then had a revelation
- The legal evolution of Christianity
 - All the way until Diocletian (284-305), Christianity is illegal in the Empire and Christians are actively persecuted
 - Killed in Colosseums
 - Constantine (306-337) introduces Edict of Milan (313), officially legalizing all religions (including Christianity)
 - Constantine involved in church matters (First Council of Nicaea)
 - He was not Christian but realized that Christianity was important
 - Ordered the First Council of Nicaea
 - Religious people debated for a uniform belief of Christianity
 - Was baptized as Christian shortly before his death
 - Remembered as a great Saint by Orthodox Christian Church
 - Emperor Theodosius (379-395)
 - Makes Christianity official religion of Roman Empire, and makes practicing traditional Roman religion a treasonable offence
 - There was immense power in Christianity> emperors made themselves the head of that church
 - Allows Church to handle its own tribunals (foundation of later Church power)
- Philosophy, art, science and culture
 - Philosophy
 - Again, largely inspired by the Greeks
 - Educated Romans learned latin and greek
 - A few noteworthy Roman thinkers, but not their forte
 - Erudite Romans study Plato, Aristotle, Socrates, Sophists
 - Stoicism and epicureanism were also very influential among Roman thinkers

- Probably the most highly regarded philosopher of entire Roman history is the emperor Marcus Aurelius (161-180)
 - Meditations (written during his emperorship) is a collection of personal reflections and notes on Stoic philosophy, and the nature of ruling
 - Reflection on power and the relation between good and evil
 - Never meant to be published, but today, widely regarded as a masterpiece of philosophical literature
- Science
 - Again Roman science largely founded on Greek science
 - Romans much more practical; long discussions on theoretical research about the universe or the nature of things is seen as pointless and vain
 - Not well seen to waste time on theoretical constructs
 - Physics improves war machine
 - Biology to improve crop yield
 - Mathematics and geometry to build impressive structures and buildings!
 - Historians have traditionally described Romans as scientifically moribund; did not improve much on Greek advances
 - This is slightly changing now, with several practical advances recognized, especially in the field of engineering
 - Solid aqueducts that are still there today
 - Colosseum
 - Invented concrete
 - Invented advanced plumbing technique > running water faucets
- Art and Architecture
 - Again enormous Greek influence
 - Idealism, realism, and humanism, in art
 - Greek forms in architecture
 - Male muscular body was the epitome of beauty > patriarchal
 - Busts were painted > represent perfectly a human being
 - Emperors didn't want to have wrinkles of their bust > wanted to look like gods
- Legacy in western world
 - While Greece left a more romantic and culturally rich legacy, Rome's legacy is perhaps more strongly felt today
 - European geography
 - Cities, countries
 - European languages
 - Patronyms (names)
 - Political forms and vocabulary
 - Codified law
 - An enormous, ancient, and ever-expanding field of academic enquiry
 - E. Gibbons' Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire (1788)
 - Modern Roman historical enquiry

Middle Ages

- Geography
 - Very difficult to discuss Medieval geography
 - Borders constantly moving, changing, evolving...
 - In Western medieval history, we tend to focus on the Franks



- Religion
 - During the Middle Ages, the clergy is as, if not more powerful than political institutions
 - With political structures so changing, fleeting and ephemeral, “Christendom” is held together by the clergy
 - Christendom (Roman Catholic > led by the Vatican and the Pope, Orthodox Christian Church > In Constantinople)
 - An astoundingly powerful spiritual authority
 - As shown by Crusades, fear of excommunication (banned from the church), etc...
 - The Church just had to release a command
 - A government in itself? Tithes (taxes collected by a religious authority), courts, inquisition
 - All powers usually held by governments were controlled by the Church
 - The hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church is far more centralized and consistent than any political institution
 - Pope (Head of the church)
 - Cardinal (Leaders of the catholic church)
 - Archbishops (Serve over several dioceses)
 - Bishop (Senior member > in charge of a dioceses)
 - Priest (Serves one parish)

- Friars, Monks, Nuns
- A mutually beneficial arrangement
 - Government supply lands, legal power, and defence
 - Church provides legitimacy, educated individual for public office
 - Government has the legitimacy of God
 - A king becomes legitimate in the eyes of the people and God
 - Church supplied educated bureaucrats
- Philosophy, Science, Art and Architecture
 - Philosophy
 - The intellectual world of medieval Europe is completely dominated by Christian “theology”
 - Study of the nature of God and religious truth; rational inquire into religion questions, especially those truth posed by an organized religious community
 - The Bible is the source of all truth! Anything that contradicts Bible must be discarded
 - For this reason, the works of medieval philosophers is often to “translate” or “re-interpret” the work of Antique philosophers to align them with Christianity
 - Aristotle: most important source of knowledge and thought throughout M-A thanks to Christian translated by Thomas Aquinas
 - Works of Aristotle complimented the Bible
 - Scientific side of the Bible
 - Thomas Aquinas first medieval monk to find the value in Aristotle’s books> first to adapt Aristotle’s stories (to make them Christian friendly)
 - Science
 - A very common point of view is that the Middle Ages are a period of stagnation, if not decline
 - The culprit is understood to be the Christian Church
 - Science was seen as evil
 - Would we now live in outer space if it weren’t for the M-A?
 - This is most likely a blatant oversimplification
 - Remember that monks are in charge of preserving knowledge and painstakingly recopying and translating ancient texts!
 - Preserve knowledge not discover new ones
 - Arrival of universities
 - To further the study of religion
 - In terms of technology, many significant advances (don’t learn all by heart)
 - Agriculture
 - The heavy ploughshare
 - Way to till the soil
 - Three crop rotation
 - Rotation by growing different crops
 - Hops
 - Thing in beer
 - Horse shoes and harness (horse collar)
 - Pull heavy plough shares without strangling themselves
 - Easier to walk long distances
 - Winepress
 - Make wine and olive oil
 - Basis of printing press
 - Vertical windmill
 - Crush cereal

- Pump water
- Improved water mill
- Architecture and Construction
 - Medieval Castles > fortification, heavy walls, towers, dungeons, draw bridge
 - Artesian wells > Narrow well that taps into a water source
 - Central heating > hot water the warms houses
 - Rib vaults > efficient building techniques
 - Fireplace and Chimney
 - Arch bridges
 - Different types of Cranes
 - Wheelbarrows
- Military Techniques
 - Plate mail armour > body armour
 - Chain mail > can block arrows
 - Stirrups > where you put your feet on horseback
 - Cannons (gunpowder)
 - Counterweight trebuchets > sling shot (better catapult)
 - Crossbows
 - Siege tactics
- Foreign technologies that seeped into Europe:
 - Arabic numerals (and the concept of "0") > from muslims
 - Algebra (from Muslims)
 - Gunpowder (China)
 - Paper making (China)
 - Compass (China)
 - Stern-post rudder (China) > part of a boat
 - Distillation (Muslim) > to make liquor
- Miscellaneous
 - Oil Paint
 - Hourglass, mechanic clock
 - Blast furnace > furnace reach very very high temperature
 - Watermark > To authenticate pictures
 - Spectacles > glasses
 - Mirrors
 - Forest glass
 - Spinning wheel, horizontal loom, button
 - Chess
 - Rat traps
 - Soap
- Art
 - Middle Ages are a very complex field within Art history difficult to categorize
 - In essence, the history of medieval art is the blending of Classical art (Greek and Roman), early Christian art, and "barbarian art"
 - In this art has been disparaged for centuries (since the Renaissance) as being barbaric, narrow-minded, reminiscent of a backward period
 - Art historians are currently rehabilitating medieval art, and interest for this period is developing
 - Most medieval art is closely related to Christianity and is not related to a specific artist!
 - Never know the artist, art related to the church not the artist

- Books that were important were made as works of art > crystals embedded in the cover
- Frescos on walls and dealings
- Sculptures
- Architecture
 - Like medieval art in general, architecture is a blend between Germanic and Classical form
 - Pre-Romanesque (Merovingian/Carolingian times)
 - Romanesque (approx. High Middle Ages)
 - Gothic (approx. Late Middle Ages)
 - A lot destroyed during WW2
- Legacy in Western Societies
 - The invention of the “Middle Ages”
 - The “Mediocre Period”, the “Dark Ages”, the “Barbarian Period”, etc
 - Negative connotation, always implying “Middle”
 - Between glorious era of Greek and Roman Antiquity and the rebirth of this gloriousness, in the Renaissance
 - Why
 - 1200s to early 1400s, an age of crisis
 - War, famine, death, plague
 - When people thought of the Middle Ages they just thought of the late Middle Age
 - Humanists of the 1400s to 1700s
 - They decided to forget the Middle Ages
 - French Revolution and the revolutionary period
 - Rejected Monarchy and turned to modern forms of politics
 - Felt like they were abolishing the systems of the Middle Ages
 - Medieval came to be an insult
 - This bleak view has stayed with us ever since, but is increasingly challenged by revisionist historian
 - Cultural elements that shaped the culture of today
- The Name of the Rose
 - Monk William > Renaissance man > ahead of his time, uses rationality
 - The concept of “episteme”
 - “The fundamental body of ideas and collective presuppositions that defines the nature and sets the bounds of what is accepted as true knowledge in a given epistemic epoch”
 - Michel Foucault
 - For each era and each place there are boundaries of what people will accept of being true and what some will accept of being false
 - Define the world through religion and not science
 - So, what is so different about the monk William, compared to Bernardo Gui, or the other monks
 - Rational, looking at the finger with ink and not the devil
 - How are truths established through rationality?
 - Look for proofs, things that cannot be argued
 - How do other monks established truth?
 - Turned to scripture
 - What does that tell us about the medieval episteme?
 - Holy scripture is the only source of truth, if they look somewhere else for truth they are deemed heretics and are tortured and killed
 - What are the consequences of medieval episteme on women?

- Source of sin and evil
- Inherited the patriarchy
- Marie was a vehicle of grace
- What is an epistemic shift?
 - The shift from religion to rationality
 - Capacity of what people see as true changes