

# Module 5: Ancient Rome

## Topic 3 Content: Roman Officials and Assemblies

### Introduction

#### Roman Officials and Assemblies

Introduction

Click on each of the tabs to learn more about the government of early Rome.



- Consuls
- Praetors
- Roman Senate
- Centuriate Assembly

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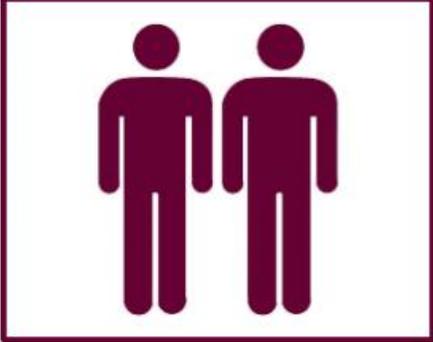
### Consuls

#### Roman Officials and Assemblies

Introduction

Consuls

A consul was an elected official who managed the Roman Republic. Every year, two consuls were elected to serve one-year terms together, with the intent of ensuring a system of checks-and-balances. In a time of crisis, however, all power was given to one consul who was allowed to serve as dictator until the crisis ended.



Praetors

Roman Senate

Centuriate Assembly

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### Praetors

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Two praetors were in charge of civil law. One of the praetors oversaw civil conflicts between Roman citizens, while the other supervised conflicts that involved at least one non-Roman.



The image shows a pair of scales of justice, a symbol of law and equity. It consists of a horizontal beam supported by a central vertical pillar. Two pans are suspended from the ends of the beam by thin wires. The scales are shown in a balanced state, with the pans hanging at equal heights. The entire illustration is enclosed in a dark red rectangular border.

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### Roman Senate

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The Roman Senate included around 300 patricians who advised the Roman officials and had legislative power (the power to make laws). Roman senators served for life and were extremely powerful. Every year, two senators were elected to serve as consuls.



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#### Centuriate Assembly

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The Centuriate Assembly was responsible for the election of other officials, like consuls and praetors. The Centuriate Assembly was structured by socio-economic classes, and the patricians were in the majority and had most of the control.



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#### Plebeian Assembly

**Roman Officials and Assemblies**

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After conflict between the patricians and the plebeians, the Plebeian Assembly was created. The duty of this assembly was to protect plebeian interests.

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