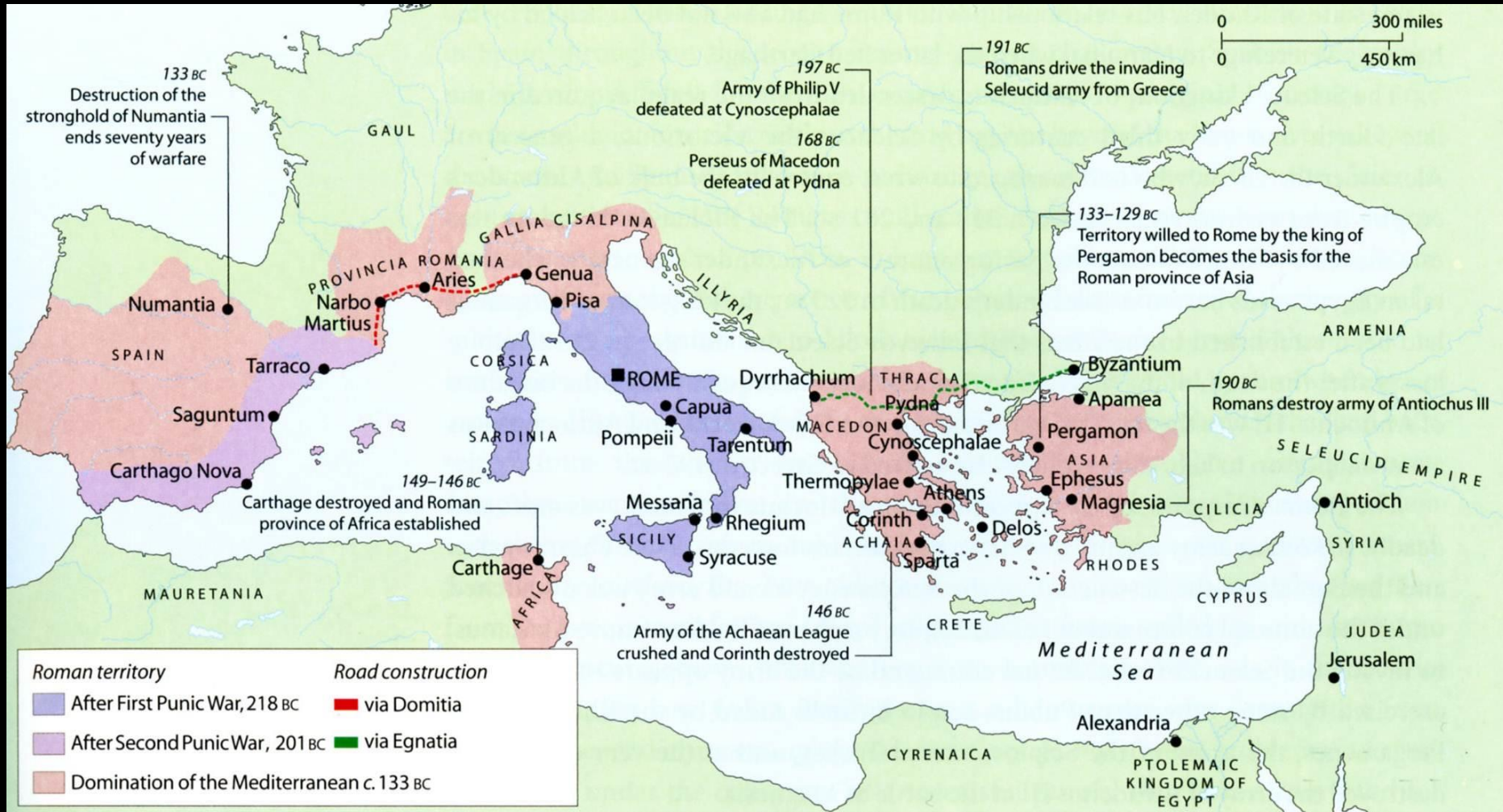


# Consequences of Empire I: The Élites



Image courtesy of [urban\\_lenny](#) on flickr. License CC BY NC.

# Rome's Mediterranean Empire



Potter, David. *Ancient Rome: A New History*. Thames & Hudson, 2009. © Thames & Hudson. All rights reserved. This content is excluded from our Creative Commons license. For more information, see <https://ocw.mit.edu/help/faq-fair-use/>.

# The Roman Census Classes

Senators and Equites	400,000 sest.
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1st Class	100,000
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2nd Class	75,000
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3rd Class	50,000
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4th Class	25,000
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5th Class	11,000
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Capite censi	0
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# CURSUS HONORUM

Office:

Responsibilities:

**Consul**

Chief military and political executives of the state

**Praetor**

Like consuls, could command armies and preside over Senate and assemblies, but inferior to the consuls.

**Tribune**

Right to veto actions of magistrates; right to convene *concilium plebis* and propose laws.

**Aedile**

Maintenance in city of Rome; grain supply; provided games.

**Quaestor**

Mainly financial responsibilities.

# CURSUS HONORUM

<u>Office</u>	<u>Number</u>
Consul	2
Praetor	4
Aedile	4
Tribune	10
Quaestor	10

# Prorogation / Promagistrates

- *prorogatio imperii*
- Proconsul (*pro consule*)
- Propraetor (*pro praetore*)
- *provincia*

# Laws on holding of magistracies (*leges annales*)

- 197 BC

Praetorship becomes prerequisite to consulship

- 180 BC - *lex Villia annalis*

Minimum ages; two-year interval

- 152 BC

Iteration of the consulship forbidden

# CURSUS HONORUM

<u>Office</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Min. Age</u>
Consul	2	42
Praetor	2 to 4 to 8	39
Aedile	4	36
Tribune	10	Unfixed
Quaestor	4 to 10 to 20	30



# 2nd c. Laws Against Electoral Bribery

- 181 BC

*lex Cornelia Baebia de ambitu*

- 159 BC

*lex Cornelia Fulvia ??*

# 2nd c. Sumptuary Laws

- 182 BC - *lex Orchia sumptuaria*

Limits number of guests at dinners

- 161 BC - *lex Fannia sumptuaria*

Limits amount spent, kinds of food provided and number of guests at dinners

- 143 BC - *lex Didia sumptuaria*

Extends *lex Fannia* to all Italy; sanctions imposed on guests as well as providers

# The Roman Census Classes

Senators and Equites                      400,000 sest.

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1st Class                                      100,000

2nd Class                                      75,000

3rd Class                                      50,000

4th Class                                      25,000

5th Class                                      11,000

Capite censi                                      0

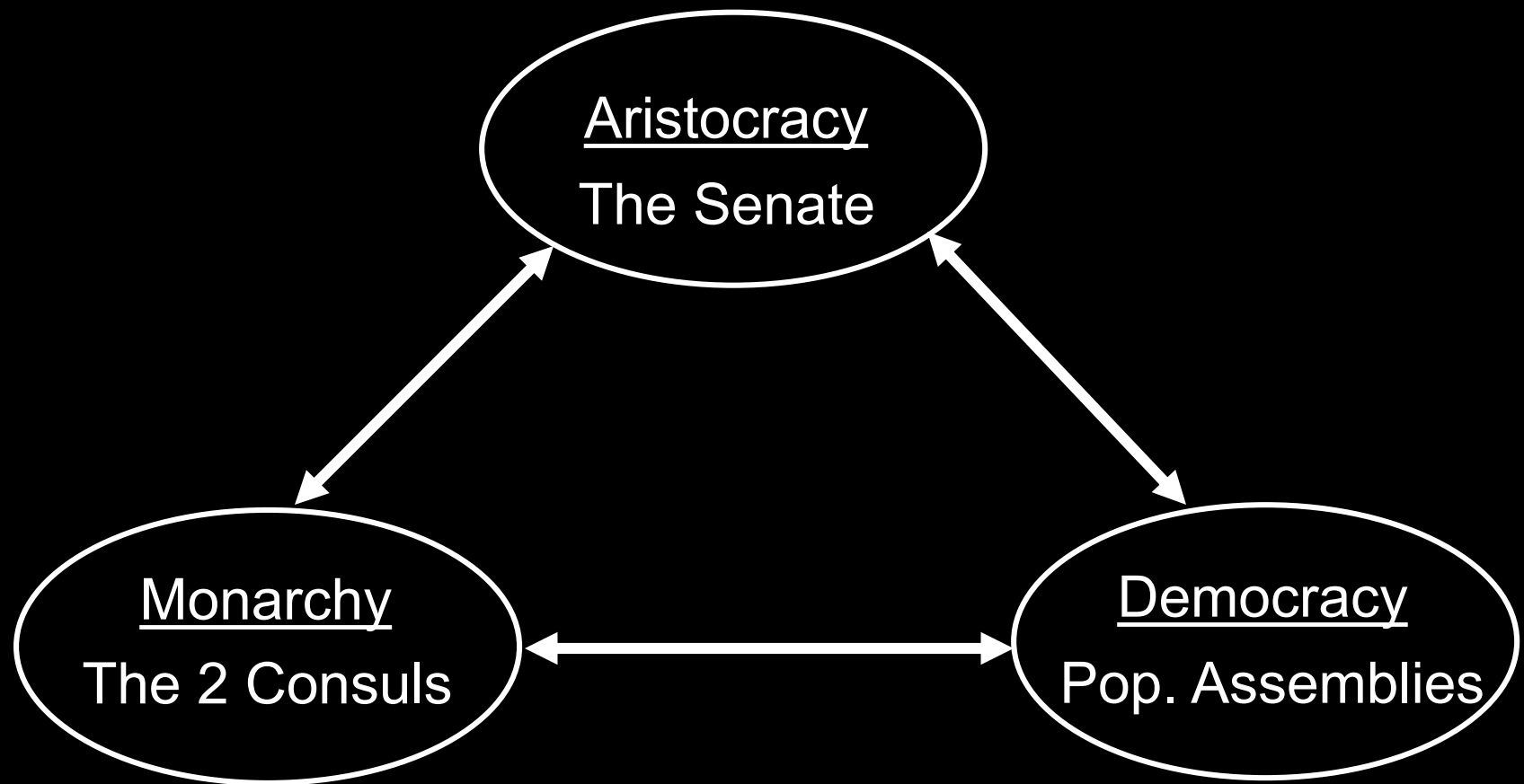
# THE EQUITES

- *Eques* (sg.) - *Equites* (pl.)
- Original link with cavalry
- Evolution into a class
- Development of the *ordo equester*
- Important spheres of activity in late RP:
  - 1) *Publicani*
  - 2) Jurors in standing courts

# Standing Courts (*quaestiones perpetuae*)

- *de repetundis* - illegal acquisitions abroad
- *de maiestate* - treason, revolt, dereliction
- *de ambitu* - bribery
- *de sicariis* - assassins and bandits
- *de veneficis* - poisoners

# ROME'S MIXED CONSTITUTION (Polyb. 6)



# COMITIA CENTURIATA

	<i>iuniores</i>	<i>seniores</i>		<b>Total</b>
Equites	12	6		18
1 <sup>st</sup> Class	40	40		80
Fabri	1	1		2
2 <sup>nd</sup>	10	10		20
3 <sup>rd</sup>	10	10		20
4 <sup>th</sup>	10	10		20
5 <sup>th</sup>	15	15		30
Musicians	1	1		2
Capite censi				1
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>193</b>

# The Roman Census Classes

Equestrians	400,000 sesterces
1 <sup>st</sup> Class	100,000
2 <sup>nd</sup>	75,000
3 <sup>rd</sup>	50,000
4 <sup>th</sup>	25,000
5 <sup>th</sup>	11,000
Capite censi	0



# Comitia Tributa and Concilium Plebis

35 Voting Groups (*tribus*):

4 Urban tribes

31 Rural tribes

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