

Ancient Rome

- I. Roman Republic (509 BCE to ≈ 27 BCE)
 - a. Self-rule using representatives

- II. ROMAN EMPIRE (≈ 44 BCE to ≈ 476 CE)

Republic: A gov't in which people elect their leaders

Farmers who owned land served in the military, assuming that by owning land, they would be extra motivated to defend the city. Landowners were also the only ones wealthy enough to buy military equipment like weapons.

Over time, some farmers grew richer than others. They bought more and more land and created estates. A gap grew between smaller farmers and the owners of estates that would lead to divisions.

Farming was not easy and produced qualities that also made good warriors: discipline, loyalty, hard work, and the accepting of responsibility.

Two social classes developed in ancient Rome. Inequalities between these classes would lead to conflict.

Patricians: upper-class, wealthy, landowners, held positions of decision-making in gov't

Plebeians: middle/lower class, common farmers, not allowed to hold important gov't positions