Select one of the topics listed below and write an essay on it of no more than two thousand words (eight typed pages). The essay will be due on or before Friday October 21, and it will be worth 50% of the final grade. I suggest that you base it on no less than three books or articles on the subject.

In marking the essay I shall be looking for a well-written and well-organized discussion, which sets out clearly your views on the subject. A briefer, coherent piece will be preferred to a longer, rambling one. I am not interested in merely an assemblage of facts with no discussion. You may use whatever reference conventions you prefer, so long as they are consistent.

Topics:

Elements of democracy in the Roman Republic
The role of the family in the Roman Republic
The development of the concept of citizenship and its role in the Roman Republic
The role of the army in the growth and spread of Roman power
How and for what purposes did the Romans administer their conquered territories?
The role of the city in the development of the Roman Republic
Communication in the Roman Republic