

Projects Detail Report

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School Year: 2019-2020

Project Type: Research/Essay

Project Name: Ancient Rome

Project Description: Julius Caesar

Test Subject Name: Science

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Report

Gaius Julius Caesar^[c] (/ˈsiːzər/ *SEE-zər*; Latin: [ˈɡaʲʲ.ʲs ˈjuʲʲ.ʲs ˈkaeʲ.ʲsar]; 12 July 100 BC – 15 March 44 BC) was a [Roman](#) general and statesman who played a critical role in [the events that led to the demise of the Roman Republic](#) and the rise of the [Roman Empire](#).

In 60 BC, Caesar, [Crassus](#) and [Pompey](#) formed the [First Triumvirate](#), a political alliance that dominated [Roman politics](#) for several years. Their attempts to amass power as [Populares](#) were opposed by the [Optimates](#) within the [Roman Senate](#), among them [Cato the Younger](#) with the frequent support of [Cicero](#). Caesar rose to become one of the most powerful politicians in the Roman Republic through a string of military victories in the [Gallic Wars](#), completed by 51 BC. During this time he both [invaded Britain](#) and [built a bridge across the Rhine river](#), greatly extending Roman territory. These achievements and the support of his veteran army threatened to eclipse the standing of Pompey, who had realigned himself with the Senate after the [death of Crassus](#) in 53 BC. With the Gallic Wars concluded, the Senate ordered Caesar to step down from his military command and return to Rome. Leaving his command in Gaul would mean losing his immunity to criminal prosecution by his enemies; knowing this Caesar [openly defied the Senate's authority](#) by crossing the [Rubicon](#) and marching towards Rome at the head of an army.^[3] This began [Caesar's civil war](#), which he won, leaving him in a position of near unchallenged power and influence.

After assuming control of government, Caesar began a program of social and governmental reforms, including the creation of the [Julian calendar](#). He gave citizenship to many residents of far regions of the Roman Republic. He initiated land reform and support for veterans. He centralized the bureaucracy of the Republic and was eventually proclaimed "[dictator for life](#)" (Latin: "*dictator perpetuo*"). His populist and authoritarian reforms angered the elites, who began to conspire against him. On the [Ides of March](#) (15 March), 44 BC, [Caesar was assassinated](#) by a group of rebellious senators led by [Brutus](#) and [Cassius](#), who stabbed him to death.^{[4][5]} A new [series of civil wars](#) broke out and the [constitutional government of the Republic](#) was never fully restored. Caesar's adopted heir Octavian, later known as [Augustus](#), rose to sole power after defeating his opponents in the [civil war](#). Octavian set about solidifying his power, and the era of the [Roman Empire](#) began.

Caesar was an accomplished author and historian as well as a statesman; much of his life is known from his own accounts of his military campaigns. Other contemporary sources include the letters and speeches of Cicero and the historical writings of [Sallust](#). Later biographies of Caesar by [Suetonius](#) and [Plutarch](#) are also important sources. Caesar is considered by many historians to be one of the greatest military commanders in history.^[6] His cognomen was subsequently adopted as a [synonym](#) for "Emperor"; the [title "Caesar"](#) was used throughout the Roman Empire, giving rise to modern [cognates](#) such as [Kaiser](#) and [Tsar](#). He has [frequently appeared in literary and artistic works](#), and his political philosophy, known as [Caesarism](#), inspired politicians into the modern era.

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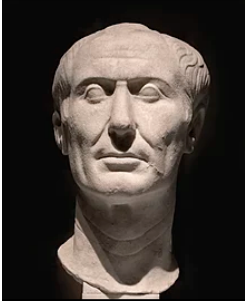
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