**The Punic Wars**

**Course # 25297**

**Course Syllabus**

**Course Description:** This class will focus on the three Punic Wars fought between Ancient Rome and Carthage. Rome’s victory in these wars established Rome as the preeminent Mediterranean Power. The class will focus particularly on the Second Punic War, the most famous of the three, in which Hannibal Barca brought his Carthaginian Army to the very gates of Rome.

**Course Objectives**:

* Discuss the different political and military structures of Ancient Rome and Carthage.
* Analyze the reasons for Roman victory in all three wars.
* Evaluate the performance of Hannibal Barca and Scipio Africanus as military commanders.
* Review the legacy of the Punic Wars on ancient history.

**Course Outline**:

1. The political and military systems of Carthage.
2. The political and military systems of Rome
3. The First Punic War and the reasons for Roman victory.
4. The Second Punic War and the reasons for Roman victory.
5. The Third Punic War and why Rome chose to destroy Punic Carthage.
6. The legacy of the wars on the ancient Mediterranean.

**Recommended Reading:**

Boren, Henry C. *Roman Society.* 2nd. Lexington,MA: DC Heath and Co., 1992.

Carey, Brian Todd. *Warfare in the Ancient World.* Barnesley, UK: Pen & Sword Military, 2005.

Goldsworthy, Adrian. *Roman Warfare.* London: Cassell & Co., 2000.

—. *The Complete Roman Army.* London: Thames and Hudson Ltd., 2003.

—. *The Punic Wars.* London: Casell, 2001.

Head, Duncan. *Armies of the Macedonian and Punic Wars.* London: Wargames Ressearch Group Ltd., 1983.

Keppie, Lawrence. *The Making of the Roman Army: From Republic to Empire.* Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1984.

Miles, Richard. *Carthage Must Be Destroyed: The Rise and Fall of an Ancient Civilization.* London: Penguin Books, 2012.

Polybius. *The Histories.* Translated by Robin Waterfield. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010.