The Rise and Fall of Emperors: Julius Caesar, Charles V, and Napoleon / HIST 137
Dr. Sherman  Mon. & Wed. 11:10AM - 12:25PM

This course considers the reigns of Julius Caesar, Charles V, and Napoleon, all of whom rose to unprecedented levels of power during transformative epochs in European history: the transition from a republic to an empire in ancient Rome, the Protestant Reformation, and the French Revolution. All three subsequently lost control, and this course will consider their styles of leadership, their military strategies, and their political, social, and cultural contexts as they influenced their trajectories. This class is an introduction to historical analysis exclusively for freshmen and sophomores.

History of Ancient Rome / HIST 206
Dr. Klingshirn
Tues. & Thurs. 11:10-12:25

Surveys Rome and its empire from the foundation of the city in the eighth century BC to its breakup into successor states in the fifth, sixth, and seventh centuries AD. Focuses on economic, social, and political themes, with special attention to geography, archaeology, and cultural exchange.

Beyond the “Fall” of Rome, 400-800 / HIST 216
Drs. Davis & Rousseau  Mon., Wed., & Fri. 2:10-3:00

During the course of the 5th century, the Roman empire fell. Or did it? First, the class will consider the Roman empire at its height; what did the Pax Romana mean? We will look at how the empire actually functioned. Second, we will examine the traditional narrative of ‘decline and fall’ that supposedly followed ‘barbarian’ intrusion in the late 4th century and the Sack of Rome. Third, we will present an alternative and rather less simplistic account of ‘post-Roman' developments, focusing on patterns of government within the new settler kingdoms, changes in economy and culture, the impact of Christianization, and the endurance of Roman values. We will identify the causes, speed, and nature of this period’s radical changes.