



# Crisis Management during the Roman Republic: The Role of Political Institutions in Emergencies

By Gregory K. Golden

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"Crisis" is the defining word for our times and it likewise played a key role in defining the scope of government during the Roman Republic. Crisis Management during the Roman Republic is a comprehensive analysis of several key incidents in the history of the Republic that can be characterized as crises, and the institutional response mechanisms that were employed by the governing apparatus to resolve them. Concentrating on military and other violent threats to the stability of the governing system, this book highlights both the strengths and weaknesses of the institutional framework that the Romans created. Looking at key historical moments such as the Second Punic War (218-201 BC), the upheavals caused by the Gracchi (133 and 121 BC), the conflict between Marius and Sulla (88 BC), the conspiracy of Catiline (63 BC), and the instability following Caesar's assassination in 44 BC that marked the end of the Republic, Gregory K. Golden considers how the Romans defined a crisis and what measures were taken to combat them, including declaring a state of emergency, suspending all non-war-related business, and instituting an emergency military draft, as well as resorting to rule by dictator in the early Republic.

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*By Gregory K. Golden*

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Review

"An excellent work for those interested in the Roman Republic or governmental responses to crises."

A. A. Nofi, The NYMAS Review

About the Author

Gregory K. Golden is an assistant professor in the Department of History at Rhode Island College in Providence, Rhode Island. His research interests center on the political institutions of the Roman Republic and Empire and the roles they played in maintaining Roman power over a diverse and multicultural Mediterranean world.

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