This list begins with the founding of the village of Rome around 753 BCE and continues to the fall of Constantinople in 1453 CE. It is particularly detailed for the period from 58 BCE to 31 BCE (Julius Caesar to Caesar Augustus) and for 376 CE to 480 CE (the "fall" of the Western Roman Empire).

**ROMAN MONARCHY**

1200 BCE Etruscans reached northern Italy
800-500 BCE Greeks established colonies throughout southern Italy
800 BCE Phoenicians established Carthage on the north coast of Africa
about 753 BCE village of Rome founded
600 BCE Rome was a province of Etruria
509 BCE Romans revolted against the Etruscan kings and created the system of government by the Senate and the Assembly

**THE CONQUEST OF ITALY**

494 BCE first disputes between patricians (wealthy landowners who controlled the Senate) and plebeians (ordinary citizens)
450 BCE "Law of the 12 Tables" provides written Roman law
390 BCE Gaulic invasion sacked Rome
282-272 BCE War with Pyrrhus
265 BCE Rome completed the occupation of the Italian peninsula

**THE CONQUEST OF THE MEDITERRANEAN**

264-241 BCE First war with Carthage (First Punic War)
238 BCE Conquest of Sardinia
229-228 BCE First Illyrian War (Balkans)
219 BCE Second Illyrian War
218-201 BCE Second Punic War (Hannibal crossed the Alps)
215-205 BCE First Macedonian War
200-197 BCE Second Macedonian War
200-191 BCE Gaul invasion of northern Italy
192-189 BCE Syrian War
171-168 Third Macedonian War
149-148 BCE Fourth (and final) Macedonian War
149-146 BCE Third Punic War and final defeat of Carthage

**THE END OF THE ROMAN REPUBLIC**
135-132 BCE  First Servile War (slave revolt)
133 BCE    Tiberius, the first senator to advocate land reform, was assassinated in 133 BCE by land-owners.
91-88 BCE   The "Social War" (revolt by Roman allies in Italy)
88-84 BCE   First Mithridatic War (Black Sea region)
88 BCE      Sulla became the first Roman general to seize power
88-82 BCE   Civil war in Rome
83-81 BCE   Second Mithridatic War
79 BCE      Sulla returned power to the Senate
74-64 BCE   Third Mithridatic War
64 BCE      Pompey captured Jerusalem
58 BCE      Julius Caesar appointed governor of Gaul
58-51 BCE   Julius Caesar's army conquered Gaul
58-49 BCE   To forestall another military revolt, the Senate yielded power to the First Triumvirate composed of Pompey, Crassus, and Julius Caesar
54 BCE      Invasion of Britain
49-48 BCE   Julius Caesar and Cleopatra (descendant of Ptolemy in Egypt) conceived a child
46-44 BCE   Cleopatra lived at Julius Caesar's estate in Rome
45 BCE      Julius Caesar defeated Pompey and became the first dictator of Rome
44 BCE      Julius Caesar assassinated on orders of the Senate
44-31 BCE   The Second Triumvirate of Marc Antony, Lepidus, and Octavian (later known as Caesar Augustus) ruled Rome. Note that Octavian was the nephew of Julius Caesar, and brother-in-law of Marc Antony
42-30 BCE   Cleopatra and Marc Antony had a relationship that lasted until their deaths
31 BCE      Caesar Octavian defeated the combined forces of Cleopatra and Marc Antony in the naval battle of Actium (near Greece)
30 BCE      First Roman governor of Egypt
31 BCE-14 CE Octavian became Caesar Augustus, the first emperor

THE ROMAN EMPIRE
14-37 CE    Tiberius, stepson of Caesar Augustus, became emperor
about 33 CE  Crucifixion of Jesus; origin of Christianity
61 CE       Druid revolts in Britain
64 CE       Fire destroyed much of Rome during Nero's rule
66-70 CE    Jewish revolts in Judea (Palestine)
69 CE       General Vespasian expelled Nero, the last of Caesar Augustus' descendants, and started a new imperial family
70 CE       Expulsion of Jews from Palestine
77-84 CE    Conquest of Britain
79 CE       Eruption of Mt. Vesuvius preserved the city of Pompeii
83 CE       Roman army crossed the Rhine River to attack the Germans
96-180 CE   The period of the "Five Good Emperors" (Pax Romana)
90 CE  First Christian bishop of Rome
113-117 CE  Parthian War (Persia)
120 CE  Some Roman businessmen were Christian
132-135 CE  Jewish rebellion sparked when Romans placed a colony and temple in Jerusalem
180 CE  Commodius succeeded his father Marcus Aurelius and imperial power began to decline
193 CE  Following civil war, another general, Septimius Severus, became emperor
211-285 CE  Numerous emperors killed by revolts and assassinations
259-270 CE  German invasions force Romans to yield territory
285 CE  Emperor Diocletian divided the empire and moved his capital to Byzantium (in Anatolia, later Constantinople)

THE CHRISTIAN ROMAN EMPIRE
305 CE  Constantine became the first Christian emperor
315 CE  Constantine legalized Christianity in the Roman world
324-337 CE  Constantine reunited the empire
325 CE  Council of Niceae solidifies Christian doctrine
330 CE  Constantine inaugurated the new capital of Constantinople

THE FALL OF THE WESTERN ROMAN EMPIRE
337-351 CE  Constantine's three sons fought to control the empire until Constantius won.
361-363 CE  The Romans failed to defeat the Persians, and in the process, the Eastern Emperor Julianus was killed
363-367 CE  Roman generals selected the Eastern Emperors
367 CE  At the battle of Adrianople in the Balkans, the Visigoths defeated the Romans
376 CE  During the reign of Emperor Theodosius, barbarians were permitted to settle on Roman territory in the Balkans
382 CE  Roman emperors gave up the title of "Pontus Maximus" (leader of the Church) to the Bishops of Rome
383-387 CE  British legionnaires supported Magnus Maximus, a rival to Emperor Theodosius's choice for the Western Emperor (Valentinian II), but Theodosius' forces captured and killed him.
394 CE  Frankish leaders killed the Western Emperor Valentinian II, and were in turn defeated by Theodosius' forces at the Battle of Frigid River, reuniting the Roman Empire again
395 CE  After his death, heirs to Theodosius divided the Roman Empire for the last time
395-423 CE  Honorius became the Western Emperor, but was strongly influenced by the Vandal general Stilicho, his son-in-law and commander-of-the-troops
396-402 CE  Stilicho defeated several attacks by the Visigoths led by Alaric
406 CE  Several barbarian groups included the Vandals, Alans, Suevi and Burgundians overran Gaul
407 CE  Roman forces withdrew from Britain, led by Constantine, the troops' choice for emperor
408-450 CE  A new Eastern Emperor, Theodosius II, took office at age 7.
408 CE  Honorius ordered the assassination of Stilicho

http://courses.wcupa.edu/jones/his101/web/t-roman.htm
409 CE  Alaric's Visigoths invaded northern Italy and set up their own government for the region in defiance of Honorius and the Eastern Emperor

410 CE  The Visigoths, led by Alaric, sacked Rome

423 CE  After Honorius' death, Johannes usurped the position of Western Emperor

425 CE  Forces sent by Theodosius II from the east killed Johannes the usurper and installed Valentinian III as the Western Emperor

429-431 CE  The Vandals established an independent kingdom in Roman Africa

435 CE  The Eastern Roman Emperor recognized the independence of the Vandal kingdom in Africa

439 CE  The Vandals conquered the city of Carthage

450 CE  Marcian, a general and brother-in-law of Theodosius II, became the new Eastern Emperor

450 CE  Attila led the Huns, another barbarian group, into Gaul

455 CE  The Vandals, led by Gaiseric, sacked Rome

476 CE  For the first time, a barbarian, Romulus Augustus, was named Western Emperor by barbarian generals

493 CE  Italy incorporated into the barbarian Kingdom of the Ostrogoths

THE AFTERMATH

527-565 CE  Justinian (Eastern Roman Emperor) reconquered Italy

632 CE  Foundation of Islam by Mohammed in Mecca

1453 CE  Constantinople conquered by Ottoman Muslims

NOTE: Events in the Byzantine Empire are covered later in the course

Return to the Syllabus