

# AUGUSTUS & THE “RESTORATION” OF THE ROMAN REPUBLIC

The Romans Case Study



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# Slide 1: Octavian's Actian Arch

Depicted on a *denarius* (RIC 1 267)

OBV: Portrait of Octavian

REV: Arch and Octavian w/ Triumphal Quadriga

The dedication reads: IMP(erator) CAESAR



# Slide 2: Augustus' Parthian Arch (19 BC)

*Denarius* of L. Vinicius (16 BC) (RIC 1 359)

Records a dedication: SPQR IMP(erator) CAE(SAR)





# Slide 3: Return of the Roman Standards by Parthia



# Slide 4: Clupeus (Clipeus) from Arles 26 BC

- Which aspects of Augustus' identity are emphasised here?
- What does the organisation and order of the text imply about social hierarchies?
- Actual shield from 27 BC was gold and hung in the Curia Julia.





## Slide 5: Augustus' shield of virtues on a Coin (RIC 36)



Spanish *denarius* ca. 19–18 BC. OBV: Augustus wearing the *corona civica*  
REV: Laurel trees and *clipeus virtutis* (CV L), SPQR, CAESAR AVGVSTVS

*‘I was named Augustus by resolution of the Senate. The doorposts of my house were officially decked with young laurel trees, the **corona civica** was placed over the door, and in the Curia Iulia was **displayed the golden shield**, which the Senate and the people granted me on account of my bravery, clemency, justice, and piety, as is inscribed on the shield itself.’*

**Slide 6: Aureus of Octavian (ca. 28 BC;  
at the British Museum)**



**OBV: Oct portrait: IMP CAESAR DIVI F COS VI 'Imperator Caesar, son of the god, consul six times'; REV: Oct depicted reading a scroll  
REV: LEGES ET IURA P[OPULO] R[OMANO] RESTITUIT. 'He has restored to the people of Rome their laws and their rights'**





# SLIDE 8: ARA PACIS: THE ALTAR OF PEACE (CA. 9 BC) PEACEFUL BOUNTY



Author's own photo from the Ara Pacis museum (Rome)

