



The Complete Idiot's Guide to the Roman Empire

By *Eric D. Nelson*

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You're no idiot, of course. The battle scenes in *Gladiator* had you on the edge of your seat and wondering where you could find more information on the rise and fall of ancient Rome. But so far, your search has left you feeling like a blundering barbarian.

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--Fascinating details of some of history's most nefarious emperors, including Nero, Caligula, and Commodus.

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover
CIG to the Roman Empire

It's easy to romanticize or demonize ancient cultures, but the more you know, the more complicated things become. While the Romans were insightful, ambitious, pragmatic, and influential people, they could also be cruel, rigid, bloodthirsty, stifling, overly garish and yet a bit drab. But no other civilization has left such an imprint on the laws, lives, borders, religion, literature, politics, art, architecture, and popular imagination of the West. The Complete Idiot's Guide(r) to the Roman Empire discusses the framework of ideals, infrastructure, politics, military tactics, economics, communications, and education that girded together the West.

About the Author

Eric Nelson is an Assistant Professor of Classics at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington, where he has been writing, speaking, and teaching about the impact and relevance of the ancient world to a variety of audiences for the past 11 years.

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Philip Brown:

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