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978-1-107-00057-5 - Republicanism, Rhetoric, and Roman Political Thought: Sallust, Livy, and Tacitus

Daniel J. Kapust

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REPUBLICANISM, RHETORIC, AND ROMAN  
POLITICAL THOUGHT

*Republicanism, Rhetoric, and Roman Political Thought* develops readings of Rome's three most important Latin historians – Sallust, Livy, and Tacitus – in light of contemporary discussions of republicanism and rhetoric. Drawing on recent scholarship as well as other classical writers and later political thinkers, this book develops interpretations of the three historians' writings centering on their treatments of liberty, rhetoric, and social and political conflict. Sallust is interpreted as an antagonistic republican, for whom elite conflict serves as an outlet and channel for the antagonisms of political life. Livy is interpreted as a consensualist republican, for whom character and its observation help to maintain the body politic. Tacitus is interpreted as being centrally concerned with the development of prudence and as a subtle critic of imperial rule.

Daniel J. Kapust is Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at The University of Georgia. He is the author of several published or forthcoming articles and book chapters on Sallust, Livy, Tacitus, Cicero, Machiavelli, Hobbes, political fear, republicanism, and Friedrich Hayek. Professor Kapust received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, in political science.

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# REPUBLICANISM, RHETORIC, AND ROMAN POLITICAL THOUGHT

*Sallust, Livy, and Tacitus*

DANIEL J. KAPUST

*University of Georgia*



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*Nam simul te aspexi, nihil est super mi.*

— Catulus 51