

HIST 325: LATE ANTIQUITY, 200-600
SYLLABUS FOR FALL 2007
TTH 9:35-10:50 BUS 108

INSTRUCTOR:

Prof. Megan Williams
Office: Science 267B
Office hours: Tuesday 2-4 pm and by appointment
Contact: mhw@sfsu.edu

DESCRIPTION: Political, social, economic, and cultural history of the Mediterranean world from the 3rd to the 6th centuries C.E. [NOTE: this varies from the Catalogue]

COURSE WEBSITE: <http://bss.sfsu.edu/mwilliams/hist325>

BOOKS ORDERED:

Cameron, Averil. *The Later Roman Empire*. Cambridge, MA: HUP, 2005. (Cameron 1)
Cameron, Averil. *The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity: AD 395-600*. London: Routledge, 1993. (Cameron 2)
Eusebius. *Life of Constantine*. Tr. Averil Cameron and S. Hall. Oxford: OUP, 1999.
Ammianus Marcellinus. *The Later Roman Empire*. Tr. W. Hamilton, with introduction and notes by A. Wallace-Hadrill. London and New York: Penguin, 1986.
Procopius. *Secret History*. Tr. G.A. Williamson. London and New York: Penguin, 1982.

COURSE POLICIES:

WEIGHTING OF ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE FINAL GRADE:

Participation (participation in discussions and attendance)	15%
Quizzes (5 at 5% each)	25%
Abstract	5%
Research proposal	15%
Research paper	40%

MISSED EXAMS, LATE PAPERS, ATTENDANCE AND EXCUSES:

All written assignments are to be submitted **in class, at the beginning of class on the due date**. Late papers will be penalized one full grade for every 24 hours late or fraction thereof, beginning at 10:00 am on the due date. Papers submitted more than four days after the deadline will receive a grade of F.

One missed quiz may be made up with a 5-page paper summarizing the material covered by that quiz, due the class meeting immediately after the quiz.

Other make-up tests will be given, late papers and absences excused, only in the case of **emergencies (written documentation required) and at the instructor's discretion**.

BEHAVIOR IN THE CLASSROOM:

Students who engage in **disruptive behavior** (e.g., talking or making noise during lecture, leaving cell phones on during class, interrupting the instructor or other students, speaking at great length during discussions, etc.) will be asked to **leave the room** for the remainder of the class meeting.

Do not make a habit of coming to class late or leaving early as it is distracting to the instructor and to other students. Please arrange your schedule so that this will not be necessary except under exceptional circumstances.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Dishonesty in the form of cheating or plagiarism is unfair to your fellow students and is **prohibited** by the San Francisco State University Student Code of Conduct.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to, copying other students' work and helping other students to cheat. **All exams in this course will be closed-book; you may have only blank blue books and pens or pencils during the exam.**

Plagiarism means using someone else's work without proper acknowledgment (see http://www.plagiarism.org/learning_center/what_is_plagiarism.html for further discussion of the concept, and more resources).

Penalties for cheating and plagiarism range from a failing grade on the specific assignment involved to expulsion from the University. **All cases of academic dishonesty will be reported** to the Department Chair and College Dean.

Students are responsible for knowing the SFSU regulations on cheating and plagiarism: see <http://www.sfsu.edu/~helpdesk/docs/rules/conduct.htm>.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) ACCOMMODATION:

The Disability Programs and Resources Center (DPRC) provides academic support services and specialized assistance to students with disabilities. In order to receive accommodation through the ADA, you must make a formal request through the DPRC in SSB 110 (415-338-2472). If you are registered with the DPRC, **please let me know immediately** so that I can be prepared to accommodate you.

GRADUATE STUDENTS:

Please speak with me after the first class regarding alternative assignments if you are taking HIST 325 for graduate credit.

WEEK 1 Background

Tuesday (8/27)

Introduction; geography and climate; the Roman empire

Thursday (8/30)

Video: "Roman City"

Reading: Brown, 6-21

WEEK 2 The high empire to 180

Tuesday (9/4)

The "princinate": administration, culture and society

Reading: Wells, 223-254 (e-reserve)

Thursday (9/6)

Roman military

Reading: Wells, 202-223 (e-reserve)

WEEK 3 180-235

Tuesday (9/11)

The Severan dynasty

Reading: Wells, 255-271 (e-reserve)

Thursday (9/13)

Quiz 1

Sources for Late Antiquity

Reading: Cameron 1, 13-29; Brown, 22-47

WEEK 4 235-306

Tuesday (9/18)

Crisis of the third century

Reading: Cameron 1, 1-12

Thursday (9/20)

Diocletian's reforms and the "dominate"

Reading: Cameron 1, 30-46

WEEK 5 283-325

Tuesday (9/25)

Constantine

Reading: Cameron 1, 47-65; start Eusebius, *Life of Constantine*

Thursday (9/27)

Library research session (MANDATORY)

Meet at the library

Reading: Cameron 1, 66-84, continue Eusebius, *Life of Constantine*

WEEK 6 325-337

Tuesday (10/2)

Quiz 2

Christian empire

Reading: Cameron 2, 57-69, Brown, 47-69; continue Eusebius, *Life of Constantine*

Thursday (10/4)

Discussion 1: *Life of Constantine* and Constantine's conversion

Reading: finish Eusebius, *Life of Constantine*; excerpts from Lactantius, *Panegyric 11*

WEEK 7 337-363

Tuesday (10/9)

Constantius II

Reading: Cameron 1, 85-98; start Ammianus Marcellinus

Thursday (10/11)

Abstracts due on iLearn

Julian and the question of "pagan reaction"

Reading: Brown, 70-82; continue Ammianus

WEEK 8 363-379

Tuesday (10/16)

Valentinian and Valens; Goths and Huns

Reading: Cameron 1, 99-150; continue Ammianus

Thursday (10/18)

Discussion 2: Ammianus

Reading: finish Ammianus

WEEK 9 380-395

Tuesday (10/23)

Quiz 3

Christianizing the elite

Reading: Cameron 1, 133-169, Cameron 2, 69-80, Brown, 83-113

Thursday (10/25)

Visit to the De Bellis collection

Meet at the De Bellis collection on the sixth floor of the library

WEEK 10 395-476

Tuesday (10/30)

Theodosius II; disasters of the early 5th century

Reading: Brown, 114-125

Thursday (11/1)

Fall of Rome in the West, 455-476

Reading: Cameron 2, 33-56, Brown, 126-135

WEEK 11 450-518

Tuesday (11/6)

Quiz 4

Survival of East Rome, 450-518

Reading: Cameron 2, 81-103, Brown, 136-149

Thursday (11/8)

No class

Research paper conferences

WEEK 12

Tuesday (11/13)

No class

Research paper conferences

Thursday (11/15)

No class

Research proposals due on iLearn

Thanksgiving Break

WEEK 13 518-565

Tuesday (11/27)

Justinian in the West

Reading: Cameron 2, 152-175, Brown, 150-159; start Procopius, *Secret History*

Thursday (11/29)

Justinian in the East

Reading: Cameron 2, 104-128; continue Procopius, *Secret History*

WEEK 14 565-600

Tuesday (12/4)

Late 6th Century West

Reading: Cameron 2, ??; continue Procopius, *Secret History*

Thursday (12/6)

Discussion 3: Procopius, *Secret History*

Reading: finish Procopius, *Secret History*

WEEK 15 End of antiquity (600-641)

Tuesday (12/11)

Quiz 5 (20 minutes)

The Persian empire

Reading: Brown, 160-173

Thursday (12/13)

The East to Heraclius

Research papers due in class

Reading: Cameron 2, 176-196, Brown, 174-187; optional: Brown, 188-203