

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION

COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2020

**Course:** GRST 425.4 Greeks, Romans & Other Cultures – Byzantine History and Archaeology

**Time:** TR 11-12:15

**Instructor:** Marica Cassis

**Office Hours:** Tuesday/Thursday 10-11

**Office:** SS 554

**Telephone:** 403-210-7995

**Email:** marica.cassis@ucalgary.ca

**Required text(s):** Paul Stephenson, *The Byzantine World*, Routledge, 2012.  
Robin Cormack, *Byzantine Art*, Oxford, 2000.

**Optional text(s):** There will be articles to read that will be available through the library system.

**Course description:**

This course will take students through the social history and archaeology of Byzantium. We will approach the history of the period thematically and through the art and architecture. In doing so, we will consider whether Byzantine history should be a separate field from Late Roman or medieval studies, and how to consider it in relation to these fields.

**Online elements for this course:**

I will use D2L for discussions and for course material.

**Core Competencies:**

Beyond learning the basic outline of Byzantine history, students will learn

- a) To engage with the methodologies and tools historians and archaeologists use to construct Byzantine history.
- b) To engage with the current debates among scholars concerning Byzantine archaeology.
- c) To read and interpret primary sources from this period.
- d) To learn how to use the research tools in Byzantine studies and, through this, to do advanced research in this field.

**Course Requirements:**

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)	Required pass/fail
Throughout Term	Participation	10%	No
February 6	Midterm	20%	No
February 27	Primary Source Response 1	15%	No
March 19	Primary Source Response 2	15%	No
April 15	Research Paper	40%	No

**Grading:**

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme, usually used within the Department of Classics and Religion:

A+	100 – 96%	A	95 – 90%	A-	89 – 85%
B+	84 – 80%	B	79 – 75%	B-	74 – 70%
C+	69 – 65%	C	64 – 60%	C-	59 – 55%
D+	54 – 53%	D	52 – 50%	F	Under 50%

N.B. All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form and content.

**Policy with regard to missed assignments/assessments:**

Late papers are penalized at 5% per day, including weekends.

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided and the student should provide the documentation they feel best supports their case. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>

**Expectations for student conduct in this course:**

An academic environment thrives on open discussion and respect. I expect you to be respectful of the classroom, your fellow students, and the instructor, since only with such an atmosphere can we create a strong learning environment. To this end, please refrain from any disruptive behaviour such as arriving late or leaving suddenly and loudly, or talking in class while others are talking. Please ensure that your phone has been turned off before you come to class, that you have removed your earphones, and, if you are using a laptop, that it is being used for academic reasons relevant to the class. Refusal to abide by these rules will result in my asking you to leave the class. For the sake of all of us, please remember that if you can see and hear me, I can see and hear you.

Strong smelling lotions, perfumes, etc, often have a strong negative effect on many people. Please refrain from wearing strong-smelling perfume, cologne, or lotion to class or if you are coming to see me in my office, as I have a severe allergy to these things.

**Electronic Device Policy:**

No texting in class. If you are using a laptop (which is *not* the most useful way to take notes), make sure it is being used for the class.

**Syllabus:**

A complete syllabus will be made available the first week of class.

**Academic Honesty:**

Plagiarism is not tolerated at the University of Calgary and has serious consequences. Your essays/presentations must be your own work and inadequate referencing may be seen as plagiarism. Please see the relevant sections on Academic Misconduct in the current University Calendar (section K, which can be found here: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>). If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor, or librarian staff.

**Student Accommodations:**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/)

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf).

**Desire 2 Learn (D2L) Help:**

Go to <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/home/students> for Student Help and FAQ's about D2L. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are also available on this website.

**Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:**

- For program planning and advice, students in the Faculty of Arts will contact The Arts Students' Centre (ASC). Drop in at SS102, call at 403-220-3580 or email at [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

**Freedom of Information and Privacy:**

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP): [https://www.ucalgary.ca/hr/freedom\\_of\\_information\\_and\\_protection\\_of\\_privacy](https://www.ucalgary.ca/hr/freedom_of_information_and_protection_of_privacy)

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act indicates that assignments given by you to your course instructor will remain confidential unless otherwise stated before submission. The

assignment cannot be returned to anyone else without your express permission. Similarly, any information about yourself that you share with your course instructor will not be given to anyone else without your permission. As one consequence, students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number on each subsequent page

**Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representative:**

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/> for more information. The Students' Union Faculty of Arts representative can be reached at [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca).

**Emergency Evacuation Assembly Point:**

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at [www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints](http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints). Please check this website and not the nearest assembly point for this course.

**Safewalk:**

The Safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors 24 hours per day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help phones located throughout campus to request a walk.

**Health and Wellness:**

There are services available to students to help with physical and mental health, including the SU Wellness Centre: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>

Learn more about the Campus Mental Health Strategy here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>

**Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration:**

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided and the student should provide the documentation they feel best supports their case. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>.