

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION

COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2020

Course: GRST 601.70 Graduate Seminar Byzantine History and Archaeology

Time: TR 11-12:15; additional meeting time TBD

Instructor: Dr. Marica Cassis

Office Hours: TR 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. Graduate students will be expected to engage with current theoretical and methodological debates in the field.

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.
- e) To engage with current theoretical and methodological debates in Byzantine studies.

Course Requirements:

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)	Required pass/fail
February 6	Proposal and Bibliography	10%	No
Throughout Term	Participation	10%	No
March 19	Book Review	20%	No
April 15	Research paper	50%	No
Beginning of April	Presentation (To be scheduled)	10%	No

Grading:

A letter grade will be assigned to each component of the course according to the University's Graduate Studies Calendar 2019-2020:

A+	4.0	Outstanding
A	4.0	Excellent – superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.7	Very good performance
B+	3.3	Good performance
B	3.0	Satisfactory performance Note: The grade point value (3.0) associated with this grade is the minimum acceptable average that a graduate student must maintain throughout the program as computed at the end of each registration anniversary year of the program.
B-	2.7	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies Note: A student who receives a B- or lower in two or more courses will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average unless the program recommends otherwise. Individual programs may require a higher minimum passing grade.
C+	2.3	All grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements. A student who receives a grade of F will normally be required to withdraw unless the program recommends otherwise.
C	2.0	
C-	1.7	
D+	1.3	
D	1.0	
F	0.0	

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.

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 as-says/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/.

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.

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.

Freedom of Information and Privacy:

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP): <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/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.

Graduate Student Association Ombudsperson:

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 www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds for more information.

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. 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 hrs/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>.