



**FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION  
COURSE OUTLINE  
Fall 2020**

**COURSE NUMBER: GRST 347**

**COURSE NAME:**  
Late Roman Antiquity

**PRE/CO-REQUISITES:**  
none

**CLASSROOM LOCATION:**  
none

**CLASS DAYS & TIMES:**  
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30–1:45pm (all via Zoom)

**INSTRUCTOR NAME AND CONTACT INCLUDING UCALGARY EMAIL & PHONE:**  
George Ferzoco, [george.ferzoco@ucalgary.ca](mailto:george.ferzoco@ucalgary.ca), (403) 988-5879  
**OFFICE HOUR:** Thursdays, 1:45–2:30pm (via Zoom) or by appointment (arranged via e-mail)

**INSTRUCTOR EMAIL POLICY:**  
All course communications must occur through a @ucalgary.ca email address. I will respond to emails within 48 hours.

**NAME & EMAIL CONTACT OF TEACHING ASSISTANT(S):**  
Scott Coleman, [scott.coleman1@ucalgary.ca](mailto:scott.coleman1@ucalgary.ca)

**COURSE CALENDAR STATEMENT:**  
History of the Roman and Byzantine world from 180 to 565 CE

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The course provides a study of the Later Roman Empire, from Septimius Severus to Justinian and beyond. Following a brief look at pre-imperial Roman history, the course will give an overview of social, religious, cultural, political and military aspects of this rich, varied, and vast area and time period. Attention will be given to aspects of the growth of Christianity and forms of religious life. Except for an introductory class and scheduled tests which will be held synchronously, the unit will be delivered asynchronously, due to requests on account of work and of geographical location.

Most learning will be asynchronous, with students watching or listening to recorded lectures. The first class (8 September) and three tests in class time (13 October, 17 November, and 8 December) will take

place synchronously, via Zoom. Materials for independent study (in addition to the required texts) will be available via D2L.

### **\*COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Students will learn and broaden their knowledge of basic methodologies of historical study and attempt to show their understanding in written work.

### **\*LEARNING RESOURCES**

#### **Required Readings, Textbooks, and Learning Materials (available at the UCalgary Bookstore)**

Hugh Elton, *The Roman Empire in Late Antiquity: A Political and Military History*. Cambridge: CUP, 2018.

Ammianus Marcellinus, *The Later Roman Empire (AD 354–378)*. London: Penguin, 1986.

Additional readings, including public-domain primary sources along with peer-reviewed journal articles, will be posted on D2L.

### **\*LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND REQUIREMENTS**

There will be a D2L site for this course containing required readings and other relevant class resources and materials. In order to successfully engage in your learning experiences in this course, you are required to have reliable access, at least for some of our meetings, to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

### **CLASS SCHEDULE**

Unless noted otherwise, all classes are delivered asynchronously. Recordings for each asynchronous class will be available at least by the time they are scheduled, and they will remain online for you for the duration of the course.

08.09 Informal introduction to the course (synchronous)

10.09 Rome until Julius Caesar – if this is a strike day, this will be combined with the next class (15.09)

15.09 Rome from Augustus to Septimius Severus

17.09 Diocletian and Constantine

22.09 Constantine

24.09 Christian martyrdom

29.09 Issues of gender and literature in later Roman Empire

01.10 Constantine and Julian  
06.10 Ammianus  
08.10 Julian  
13.10 TEST 1 (synchronous)  
15.10 Desert Fathers/Mothers and hermits  
20.10 Gender and Archaeology  
22.10 Theodosius I  
27.10 Military history and practice  
29.10 Relics and miracles  
03.11 Fall of the West  
05.11 TEST 2 (synchronous)  
10.11 Term break – no class  
12.11 Term break – no class  
17.11 Benedictine monasticism  
19.11 Justinian  
24.11 Coins  
26.11 Gregory  
01.12 Heraclius  
03.12 Ravenna and art – last lesson  
08.12 TEST 3 (synchronous; this will be a take-home test – more details later) – end of course

#### **\*EXAMINATIONS / ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS**

There are three compulsory midterm tests. The first two are scheduled for 13 October and 5 November, and the third one will be held around 8 December; each is worth 33.3% of the final mark. The final test will in fact be a take-home test, due over a longer period; the relevant days and times of the start and end of this period will be announced soon.

Each of first two tests is designed to be completed within a maximum of 50 minutes, but you will be permitted an additional 50% of the allotted time, such that you will have up to 75 minutes in which to sit your test. You will have the option to start a test at a time that best suits your situation within a 24-hour time period; the precise details of this time period will be announced soon.

It is not necessary to pass each assignment separately in order to pass the course.

You are not to use any aids of any sort in writing these tests.

#### **MISSED OR LATE ASSIGNMENTS\***

If you miss a test, you must contact the instructor in writing within 24 hours of the end of the test in order to discuss options to resit it.

## \*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 form and content

Please note the University's undergraduate grading system as well:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1.html>

As noted above: There are three compulsory midterm tests. The first two are scheduled for 13 October and 5 November, and the third one will be held around 8 December); each is worth 33.3% of the final mark. The final test will in fact be a take-home test, due over a longer period; the relevant days and times of the start and end of this period will be announced soon.

Each of first two tests is designed to be completed within a maximum of 50 minutes, but you will be permitted an additional 50% of the allotted time, such that you will have up to 75 minutes in which to sit your test. You will have the option to start a test at a time that best suits your situation within a 24-hour time period; the precise details of this time period will be announced soon.

You are not to use any aids of any sort in writing these tests.

It is not necessary to pass each assignment separately in order to pass the course.

## EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING

Your written test responses will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization.

## **ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION**

### **ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS**

You are expected to attend all synchronous meetings (as noted on the calendar included in this document), and to watch/read/participate in all asynchronously delivered materials.

### **GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS**

You must submit your tests electronically in the D2L dropbox BEFORE the end of the allotted time. Your tests should have file names as follows: 'Surname, First Name – Test'.

### **CONDUCT**

Students, employees, and academic staff are also expected to demonstrate behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. As members of the University community, students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar, the Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures, which can be found at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

### **USE OF INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES IN CLASS**

As noted above, NO use of any aids, including use of the internet and electronic communication devices, is permitted while writing the tests.

You are responsible for being aware of the University's internet and e-mail use policy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/electronic-communications-policy.pdf>

### **GUIDELINES FOR ZOOM SESSIONS**

As you are likely aware, Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a "live" video conference and tests.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission. The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the [Code of Conduct](#)).

### **COURSE EVALUATIONS AND STUDENT FEEDBACK**

Your feedback will be sought at the end of the course through the standard University Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) and Faculty course evaluation forms. It is possible that a midterm evaluation may also be included to provide you an opportunity to provide feedback, for the instructor to adjust their approaches to teaching and learning, and to continuously improve the course. Students are welcome to discuss the process and content of the course at any time with the instructor.

## **UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY POLICIES AND SUPPORTS**

### **\*ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>.

### **\*ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at

<https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>). 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.

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/).

### **\*INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **\*FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

### **\*COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.

### **\*MEDIA RECORDING (if applicable)**

Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students: [https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP\\_FINAL.pdf](https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf)

### **SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY**

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

### **\*OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk