Overview

This course is interested in examining the transformation of the Roman Empire in the west, during the period conventionally known as Late Antiquity. Spanning the period between 400 (around the conventional ‘fall’ of Roman power) and the emergence of new kingdoms under leaders such as Charlemagne, the course will analyse the social, political, and cultural phenomena which helped to create the medieval world. We will keep one eye on events in the east, as well, since the emergence of the Islamic Umayyad Caliphate and the spread of Muslim power throughout north Africa, and then into Spain, is of great interest.

Course objectives:

1. To develop the tools of historical analysis, particularly balanced, critical thinking, as they concern the study of ancient history.
2. To apply these skills in class discussion, written analyses, and presentations.
3. To encourage the student to use his or her reading of the ancient evidence to develop and argue a particular point of view.

Readings

Required (at the bookstore):
REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED
Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

PLAGIARISM
The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in “substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.”

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course.

GRADING SYSTEM
Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

- A+ = 90-100 (12)  B+ = 80-84 (10)  C+ = 67-69 (6)  D+ = 57-59 (3)
- A  = 85-89 (11)  B  = 70-72 (7)  C  = 60-62 (4)
- A- = 80-84 (10)  B- = 70-72 (7)  C- = 60-62 (4)
- B+= 77-79 (9)  C+ = 67-69 (6)  D+ = 57-59 (3)
- B  = 73-76 (8)  C  = 63-66 (5)
- B- = 67-69 (6)  C- = 60-62 (4)
- D  = 50-52 (1)
- F  = Failure. Assigned 0.0 grade points

ABS  = Absent from final examination, equivalent to F
DEF  = Official deferral (see “Petitions to Defer”)  FND  = Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY
The last date to withdraw from FALL TERM courses is DEC. 8, 2014. The last day to withdraw from FALL/WINTER (Full Term) and WINTER term courses is APRIL 8, 2015.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION
You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but not limited to
- mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD),
- psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by Nov. 7, 2014 for the Fall term and March 6, 2015 for the Winter term. For more details visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

PETITIONS TO DEFER
If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a FINAL assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply a deferral of examination/assignment.
If you are applying for a deferral due to illness you will be required to see a physician in order to confirm illness and obtain a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or assignment deadline. This supporting documentation must specify the date of onset of the illness, the degree of incapacity, and the expected date of recovery.
If you are applying for a deferral for reasons other than personal illness, please contact the Registrar’s Office directly for information on other forms of documentation that we accept.
Deferrals of assignments must be supported by confirmation of the assignment due date, for example a copy of the course outline specifying the due date and any documented extensions from the course instructor.
Deferral applications for examination or assignments must be submitted within 5 working days of the original final exam.

ADDRESSES:  (Area Code 613)
College of the Humanities 520-2809  300 Paterson
Greek and Roman Studies Office 520-2809  300 Paterson
Religion Office 520-2100  2A39 Paterson
Registrar's Office 520-3500  300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850  302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608/TTY 520-3937  501 Uni-Centre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125  4th Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125  4th Floor Library


**Course Evaluation/Important Dates**

**Note on plagiarism.** I draw your attention to the University’s regulations and guidelines on plagiarism, which can be found on the last page of this course outline. Note that I have a policy of submitting all work suspected of plagiarism to the Associate Dean of FASS, **without exception.** I also have a **zero tolerance policy for late assignments** without a medical note. **All late assignments without adequate explanation will receive an automatic zero.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment Due</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 15</td>
<td>take-home assignment due</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 8</td>
<td>research essay due</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 21</td>
<td>Final take-home due</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: submission dates etc. for final takehomes are determined by the university. The questions will be provided on the final day of class.

**Schedule of topics:**

Sept 5   From Valens to Theodosius  
Sept 12  Stilicho and Alaric  
Sept 19  Rome and the Huns, Rome and the Goths  
Sept 26  Fall of the west?  
Oct 3    Odoacer, Zeno, and Theodoric – and the Visigoths  
Oct 10   The Visigoths  
Oct 17   The Franks  
Oct 24   The Ostrogoths  
Oct 31   Fall Break, no class  
Nov 7    The Vandals  
Nov 14   The Vandals… and the Berbers  
Nov 21   Justinian and the West  
Nov 28   The Muslim conquests in the West  
Dec 5    The Final Act  

**All evaluation in this course is via written work.** Marks will be given for clearly-written, concise answers which address the question in a balanced, analytical and thoughtful way, and, particularly in the case of term papers and take-homes, support your arguments in a convincing fashion. I expect correct spelling and use of grammar! Poorly-written answers will lose marks.

**All exams will be submitted electronically through CU Learn by 11.59 EST on the set day.**

1. The take-home assignment will involve short essays questions on material covered in readings and in class. No further research is expected of you for this assignment. Questions will be provided **one week** before the due date.
2. The short essay will be about 10pp. More details to follow in class.

3. The final exam will be a take-home essay-based assignment. More details will follow in class.

4. Please note: all written work provided as part of the take-home exam must be the work of the individual writing the exam. Group work is not acceptable. Citations should be used where appropriate, following the formats you have used for your term papers; if you are referencing from class notes, it is acceptable to cite as “class notes, date.”

Please make sure you keep up with the readings and attend class regularly. Both are vital for success in this course.

Office hours. My office hours are at the top of this page. Please e-mail me or talk to me after class to arrange a suitable time if they are not convenient.

Class time. I would ask all of you to give your full attention in class. If you have to make a phone call, send a text, etc., please leave the class and return when you are finished. This is to avoid distracting your teacher and the students around you.

Note: standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Other Notes

1. Please see the final page, “Regulations common to all Humanities courses”, for information on plagiarism, requests for academic accommodation, etc.
2. If you cannot complete an assignment due to illness or other unforeseen circumstances, it is your responsibility to inform me so that alternative arrangements can be made. Documentary evidence of your reason for missing an assignment must be provided.
3. It is your responsibility to come to class prepared. This includes doing the readings.
4. Late papers will not be accepted. There are NO exceptions, unless you have a compelling reason why you cannot submit your paper on time (illness, emergency etc.), in which case it is YOUR responsibility to inform me so alternative arrangements can be made.