

COLLEGE OF THE HUMANITIES
GREEK & ROMAN STUDIES PROGRAM

CLCV48010A

ENEMIES AND ALLIES OF ROME AND IRAN IN
LATE ANTIQUITY

Professor: Greg Fisher
Office: PA 2A54
Office Hours: TTh 1000-1200
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E-mail: greg_fisher@carleton.ca
Seminar: MW 1005-1125 --- 0.5 credits

Overview

This seminar will examine the role played by people peripheral to the Roman and Iranian (Sasanian) empires during Late Antiquity, the period between AD 300 and 800. Examining the so-called 'barbarians' in the west – Goths, Ostrogoths, Visigoths, and Huns, as well as others in the east such as Arabs and Slavs, the course highlights the experience of these peoples at the edges of Roman and Iranian rule and the contribution they made to history in terms of state formation and cultural, religious, and political change. As a key aspect of its curriculum the course examines modern thinking on the topic and how it has changed over the last century. The primary objective of the course is to further develop critical thinking, analysis, and research skills, and to allow students to apply these skills in a series of essays. In particular, it seeks to develop skills crucial for success at graduate or professional school: effective essay writing; analysis; and oral presentation of material. As such, the seminar follows a conference-style approach with oral responses to reading and discussions in class of key issues.

Readings

Required (at the bookstore, or purchase yourself via Amazon or other retailer)

Dignas, B., and Winter, E., *Rome and Persia in Late Antiquity. Neighbours and Rivals*
(Cambridge, 2007).

Heather, P.J., *Empires and Barbarians. Migrations, Development, and the Birth of Europe*
(London, 2009).

Moorhead, J., *The Roman Empire Divided* (London, 2001)

Further readings (via JSTOR) or the library will be required and assigned as needed.

Course Evaluation/Important Dates

This course depends on your consistent attendance. You must do all the readings and arrive for class prepared and ready to discuss the course material and the essays provided by your peers. If you do not do this, the course will suffer as a result. **Please note the weighting assigned to the participation grade.**

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|----------------------|------------|---|
| Oral essay | 15% | Date to be determined in class for each student |
| Oral response | 10% | Date to be determined in class for each student |
| Research proposal | 5% | Feb 27, 2011 |
| Research Essay | 45% | April 4, 2011 |
| Participation | 25% | Throughout |

Oral Essay and Response

Each student will write one essay (c. 5 pp.) on an assigned reading; the class will also complete the reading. In addition, for each oral essay there will a respondent who will receive the draft essay response from his or her colleague in order to write a short (no more than 3pp) critique. These two components – essay and response – will be delivered orally and will form the basis for class discussion. There will be one essay and one respondent per class. In the first class, students will be assigned their dates and readings.

Research Essay

Later in the term each student will complete a substantial research essay of 20-25pp. A proposal will be required by February 27, consisting of an annotated bibliography and an outline of the proposed research. More details about the proposal will be provided in class in due course.

Drafts of long essays will be circulated amongst the group in March for feedback and discussion in class. This is to encourage a collegial approach to your work (a major part of academic life!) so as to facilitate dialogue between your different projects. Useful feedback will result in better papers! An exact schedule for each student will be determined in February.

There will be no formal class on February 14 and 16 as I will be at a conference in Saudi Arabia. You should use this time to fine-tune your research proposals, conduct extra research, and prepare for your final papers.

Provisional timeline: essay response and discussion dates may change depending on class enrollment, etc.

- January 3rd, 5th: overview of course, basic overview of Late Antiquity, and its essential characteristics; discussion of barbarians, ethnicity; if necessary, to be continued into the following week
 10th, 12th: essay responses and discussion; text, Heather, Moorhead
 17th, 19th: essay responses and discussion; Heather, Moorhead
 24th, 26th: essay responses and discussion; Heather, Moorhead
 31st: essay responses and discussion Heather, Moorhead/Dignas and Winter
- During January details of the long essay project will be assigned and discussed.
- February: 2nd: essay responses and discussion: text, Dignas and Winter, Moorhead
 7th, 9th: essay responses and discussion: text, Dignas and Winter, Moorhead
 14th, 16th: prep time; no formal class
 21st – 23rd: Spring Break; no class. Work on your papers!
 28th: informal discussion about your essay topics
- March: Focus is on your research. We will finish any readings which have not been completed, and allow any of those who have not presented to do so. Preliminary sharing of drafts begins for discussion in class; exact schedule to be determined, but we will aim for one paper per class, depending on final class enrollment.
- April: April 4th: research essays due in the final scheduled class.

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.
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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:

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|------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| A+ = 90-100 (12) | B = 73-76 (8) | C - = 60-62 (4) |
| A = 85-89 (11) | B- = 70-72 (7) | D+ = 57-59 (3) |
| A- = 80-84 (10) | C+ = 67-69 (6) | D = 53-56 (2) |
| B+ = 77-79 (9) | C = 63-66 (5) | D - = 50-52 (1) |

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| 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. 6, 2010**. The last day to withdraw from **FALL/WINTER (Full Term)** and **WINTER** term courses is **APRIL 5, 2011**.

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 the last official day to withdraw from classes in each term. For more details visit the PMC website: carleton.ca/pmc/accommodations/

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 incapacitation, 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)

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| 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 | 4 th Floor Library |
| Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125 | 4 th Floor Library |