

**HIST 490 – Readings Seminar in History:
Constantine’s Rome
(Spring 2022)**

Professor: Dr. Aneilya Barnes

Office: BRTH 380

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays - 8:00-10:00 and by appointment

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Course Description:

HIST 490 – Readings Seminar in History (3 credits) In this course, students are expected to identify, evaluate, compare, and differentiate between biased assertions and informed interpretations of the past, recognizing that the discipline of history is a continuous discourse between sources and scholarship. They are also expected to articulate arguments that may center on a diverse range of supporting evidence and analytical commentary. This course may be repeated for up to 6 hours of credit under different topics. F, S, Su.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to understand, synthesize, and analyze the major themes and debates in the historiography of a given topic. Also, they should be able to identify appropriate research methodologies in the field, including theory, interdisciplinary approaches, and the analysis of available primary sources.

Core Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will be able to:

1. Identify and differentiate between biased assertions and informed interpretations of the past
2. Recognize and demonstrate that the discipline of history is continuous discourse between primary sources and scholarly analyses
3. Articulate arguments that integrate supporting evidence and analytical commentary

Required Readings and Technology Requirements:

All readings will be provided via Moodle

***Breakdown of all points used for figuring final grades:**

(Any bonus points earned for bonus quizzes will be added to the student’s overall grade at the time the quiz is taken)

Discussions (15 assignments worth 10 points each)	= 150pts
50-Word Assignments (15 assignments worth 10 points each)	= 150pts
<u>Exams (a Midterm and Final worth 100 points each)</u>	<u>= 200pts</u>
Total points possible	= 500pts

Grading Scale:

(448-500) 90 – 100% = A

(438-447)	88 – 89% = B+
(398-437)	87 – 80% = B
(388-397)	78 – 79% = C+
(348-387)	77 – 70% = C
(338-347)	68 – 69% = D+
(298-337)	67 – 60% = D
(below 297)	below 60% = F

Attendance:

Attendance for this class is imperative for success. Therefore, in keeping with university policy, missing more than 6 (25%) of the schedule classes will result in a failing grade for the course, regardless of other grades earned. Likewise, excused absences will be determined based on documentation the professor deems appropriate and only for reasons included in University Policy STUD-332: <https://www.coastal.edu/policies/pdf/stud-332-may2020.pdf>.

Assignments, Exams, and Final Reflection:

There will be four analytical writing assignments throughout the semester, and ten discussions. There will also be a midterm draft and final paper. Guidelines for the assignments, papers, and final bibliography will be posted to Moodle. Students must read and follow the guidelines very carefully; otherwise, grade penalties will be levied.

Writing Support:

If you help with writing, you should visit the Writing Center. The Writing Center hours of operation and other information can be found here: <https://www.coastal.edu/writingcenter/>

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students with disabilities are responsible for contacting Accessibility and Disability Services to learn about their rights *and* their obligations. Students **MUST** provide me with official documentation from Accessibility and Disability Services; otherwise, I cannot make any exceptions to any regular policies in order to accommodate accessibility and disability issues. If a student provides proper documentation, accommodations will be made only for the remaining assignments, meaning assignments that have already passed their submission deadline may not be re-taken after documentation has been provided. Therefore, students should get any necessary documentation to me immediately. Once documentation has been provided, reasonable accommodations will be given accordingly.

Coastal Carolina University is committed to equitable access and inclusion of individuals with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Individuals seeking reasonable accommodations should contact Accessibility & Disability Services (843-349-2503 or <https://www.coastal.edu/disabilityservices/>).

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Cheating in any form and on any quiz, assignment, or test is a serious offense. If a student is caught committing academic dishonesty in any form, including plagiarism as defined in the Student Code of Conduct, which can be accessed at: <http://www.coastal.edu/students.html> under Code of Conduct, s/he **WILL** receive a failing grade (specifically the grade of FX) for the entire

course and will be reported to the appropriate university officials. If you need further explanation of what might be considered academic dishonesty, please feel free to ask me, as I am more than happy to clarify any questions you may have. Therefore, cheating and/or plagiarism in any form will not be excused because of claims that one lacked an understanding of what constitutes either. Be aware that in this class, sharing information from quizzes, assignments, or exams constitutes cheating and WILL result in a failing grade for the quiz, assignment, or exam. Also, any information that comes from anywhere other than the assigned text, such as –but not limited to – the internet, other books, other students, etc. will be considered cheating and WILL result in a zero for the entire course.

Weekly Schedule for Assignments and Exams:

1. Bonus Quiz over the Syllabus (closes August 25 at Midnight)
2. 50-word assignment 1 on Reading 1 – P. Brown – Late Antiquity
3. Discussion 1 on Reading 2 – Ch. 1 The Roman Revolution of Constantine by Van Dam
4. 50-word assignment 2 on Reading 3 – Ch. 3 - Diocletian and the First Tetrarchy, A.D. 284–305 by Alan Bowman (Cambridge Ancient History Vol. 12)
5. Discussion 2 on Reading 4 – Ch. 4 - The Reign of Constantine, A.D. 306–337 by Averil Cameron (Cambridge Ancient History Vol. 12)
6. 50-word assignment 3 on Reading 5 – Ch. 2 The Roman Revolution of Constantine by Van Dam
7. Discussion 3 on Reading 6– Ch. 3 The Roman Revolution of Constantine by Van Dam
8. 50-word assignment 4 on Reading 7 – Ch. 9 and 10 The Roman Revolution of Constantine by Van Dam
9. Discussion 4 on Reading 8 – Ch. 1 and Ch. 2 Constantine and the Cities: Imperial Authority and Civic Politics by Noel Lenski
10. 50-word assignment 5 on Reading 9 – Ch. 3 Constantine and the Cities: Imperial Authority and Civic Politics by Noel Lenski
11. Discussion 5 on Reading 10 – Ch. 6 and Ch. 8 Constantine and the Cities: Imperial Authority and Civic Politics by Noel Lenski
12. 50-word assignment 6 on Reading 11 – Ch. 8 Constantine and the Cities: Imperial Authority and Civic Politics by Noel Lenski
13. Discussion 6 on Reading 12 – Ch. 9 and Ch. 10 Constantine and the Cities: Imperial Authority and Civic Politics by Noel Lenski
14. MIDTERM EXAM (closes October 13 at Midnight)
13. 50-word assignment 7 on Reading 13 – Ch. 11 The Roman Revolution of Constantine by Van Dam

14. Discussion 7 on Reading 14 – Ch. 12 The Roman Revolution of Constantine by Van Dam
15. 50-word assignment 8 on Reading 15 – Part 7 Constantine the Emperor by David Potter
16. Discussion 8 on Reading 16 – Part 8 Constantine the Emperor by David Potter
17. 50-word assignment 9 on Reading 17 – Ch. 1 Constantine and Rome by Ross Holloway
18. Discussion 9 on Reading 18 – Ch. 2 Constantine and Rome by Ross Holloway
19. 50-word assignment 10 on Reading 19 – Ch. 1 Emperors and Bishops in Late Roman Invective by Richard Flower
20. Discussion 10 on Reading 20 – Ch. 2 Emperors and Bishops in Late Roman Invective by Richard Flower
21. 50-word assignment 11 on Reading 21 – Ch. 3 Emperors and Bishops in Late Roman Invective by Richard Flower
22. Discussion 11 on Reading 22 – Ch. 4 Emperors and Bishops in Late Roman Invective by Richard Flower
23. 50-word assignment 12 on Reading 23 – Ch. 5 Emperors and Bishops in Late Roman Invective by Richard Flower
24. Discussion 12 on Reading 24 – Ch. 6 Holy Bishops in Late Antiquity: The Nature of Christian Leadership in an Age of Transition by Claudia Rapp
25. 50-word assignment 13 on Reading 25 – Ch. 6 Holy Bishops in Late Antiquity: The Nature of Christian Leadership in an Age of Transition by Claudia Rapp
26. Discussion 13 on Reading 26 – Ch. 6 Holy Bishops in Late Antiquity: The Nature of Christian Leadership in an Age of Transition by Claudia Rapp
27. FINAL EXAM (closes December 15 at Midnight)