

**HIST 497 – Research Seminar in History:
Pagan City to Christian Empire
(Fall 2021)**

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 497 – Research Seminar in History (3 credits) This course focuses on the elements of historical research, including the use of available databases and other resources; basic notions of historiography relevant to the course topic, and the practice of proper citation methods. Students are expected to identify and evaluate different types and genres of primary and secondary sources for the purpose of critical analysis. 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 understand the theory and practice of historical research as practiced by professionals in the field, including traditional and current research methodologies. They should also understand how to develop a thesis, evaluate its historical validity, and support it with a variety of primary and secondary sources appropriate to the research topic.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will be able to:

1. Collect research materials from appropriate databases and other resources
2. Employ proper citation methods
3. Identify and analyze a variety of primary sources
4. Identify and analyze secondary sources appropriate for the course topic

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)

Class discussions (10 discussions worth 20 points each)	= 200 pts
Assignments (4 written assignments and bibliography)	= 100 pts
<u>Papers (first draft and final paper worth 100 points each)</u>	<u>= 200 pts</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.

WEEK ONE:

Introduction to the course

WEEK TWO: Religion in the Roman Republic

Discussion 1

WEEK THREE: Religion in the Early Empire

Discussion 2

WEEK FOUR: Women and Ritual Practices

Writing Exercise 1 – secondary source analysis

WEEK FIVE: Cult Sacrifices

Writing Exercise 2 – primary source analysis

Discussion 3

WEEK SIX: Death and Disposal

Discussion 4

WEEK SEVEN: Christian Martyrdom

Discussion 5

WEEK EIGHT: Tertullian and the Games

Writing Exercise 3 – Preliminary Bibliography

Discussion 6

WEEK NINE:

Spring break Week = No Classes! Enjoy! ☺

WEEK TEN:

Midterm Draft

WEEK ELEVEN: Rome's First Christians

Discussion 7

WEEK TWELVE: Rome's Christian Spaces
Writing Exercise – Annotated Bibliography

WEEK THIRTEEN: Rome's Christian Spaces cont.
Discussion 8

WEEK FOURTEEN: Women in Early Christianity
Discussion 9

WEEK FIFTEEN: The Rise of the Bishops
Discussion 10

WEEK SIXTEEN: Finals Week
Final Draft of Paper Due