



AHIS323

Byzantium in the Age of the Emperors, 306-1453AD

S2 Day 2018

Dept of Ancient History

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	2
<u>General Assessment Information</u>	3
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	4
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	8
<u>Unit Schedule</u>	9
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	9
<u>Graduate Capabilities</u>	10
<u>Changes since First Published</u>	17

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit convenor, Lecturer, tutor

Dr Meaghan McEvoy

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Contact via 9850 1006

Australian Hearing Hub, Department of Ancient History, Macquarie University

By appointment

Credit points

3

Prerequisites

39cp at 100 level or above or (6cp in AHIS or AHST units at 200 level)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit comprises the study of Byzantine history from the foundation of Constantinople in the fourth century AD onwards. It focuses on the role of the emperors as continuators of the Roman imperial tradition, and on the continuity/discontinuity of the classical tradition, as well as on contacts between the Byzantines and the Arabs (East), Medieval Europe (West), and the South Slavs (Balkans). Major themes include: interactions between emperors and their subjects; the Eastern Orthodox religious tradition; historiography; legislative developments; art and architecture; philosophy; humanism; monasticism; iconoclasm; and the role of women in society.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Acquire knowledge of the historical period and its modern study: students should gain a broad understanding of major historical developments in the Byzantine empire, Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean from the fourth to the fifteenth centuries; acquire a fundamental body of knowledge of key concepts, themes, events and figures of the

period; gain a broad understanding of modern scholarly debates on Byzantine history; and gain a detailed understanding of a particular historical issue or event examined in the student's Research Essay.

2. Understanding of historical materials: students should develop skills in analysing and discussing different types of historical source material, in order to identify their technical or genre-based aspects, the challenges involved in their interpretation, and their contributions to our understandings of key periods, figures or events.

3. Oral and written communication skills: students should develop their oral and written communication skills, with particular emphasis on the ability to discuss complex material in public, to reflect on research, to work with and respond to the views of staff and other students in the unit in both oral and written form; and develop the ability to construct sustained arguments in writing, supported by planning and detailed research.

4. Disciplinary research skills: students should develop skills in identification of sources of information (such as research tools, handbooks, databases and online scholarly resources) and problem solving skills in dealing with these resources.

5. Students should develop and consolidate skills in planning, writing and submitting written work according to schedule.

General Assessment Information

All written assessments are required to be submitted through Turnitin.

Tutorial papers must be referenced in accordance with the full version of the Referencing Guide available on the unit's iLearn site.

Research essays and tutorial papers must also include a bibliography.

Footnotes/endnotes should only include references to texts, books articles, etc. They should not include discussion. Footnotes/endnotes and bibliographies do not count towards the word limit.

Extensions can only be granted if an application is made through the Special Consideration system.

Late Submission Penalty

"Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests."

Length policy: Essays exceeding or falling short of the specified word lengths will attract a penalty: divergences of more than 10% will attract a penalty of 10%.

Assignment tasks handed in early will be marked and returned with other papers (i.e. not before

the due date).

For Special Consideration Policy see under Policies and Procedures.

IMPORTANT NOTE ON FINAL MARKS: Please note with respect to the marks you receive for work during the session: that the marks given are indicative only; final marks will be determined after moderation. See further the note on Results in the Policies and Procedures section below.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Source analysis</u>	10%	No	Monday August 20th, 5pm
<u>Tutorial Presentation</u>	10%	No	Weeks 2-12
<u>Tutorial Paper</u>	30%	No	Weeks 3-13
<u>Major research Essay</u>	40%	No	Monday November 12th, 5pm
<u>Participation</u>	10%	No	Weekly

Source analysis

Due: **Monday August 20th, 5pm**

Weighting: **10%**

500-word analysis of selection from the key source Eusebius' *Life of Constantine* (pre-census date assessment)

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- 2. Understanding of historical materials: students should develop skills in analysing and discussing different types of historical source material, in order to identify their technical or genre-based aspects, the challenges involved in their interpretation, and their contributions to our understandings of key periods, figures or events.
- 3. Oral and written communication skills: students should develop their oral and written

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- 4. Disciplinary research skills: students should develop skills in identification of sources of information (such as research tools, handbooks, databases and online scholarly resources) and problem solving skills in dealing with these resources.
- 5. Students should develop and consolidate skills in planning, writing and submitting written work according to schedule.

Tutorial Presentation

Due: **Weeks 2-12**

Weighting: **10%**

10-minute tutorial presentation, due at the tutorial of allocated topic week, and based on the ancient source reading for that tutorial. Topics will be allocated to students at the first tutorial of the session.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- 1. Acquire knowledge of the historical period and its modern study: students should gain a broad understanding of major historical developments in the Byzantine empire, Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean from the fourth to the fifteenth centuries; acquire a fundamental body of knowledge of key concepts, themes, events and figures of the period; gain a broad understanding of modern scholarly debates on Byzantine history; and gain a detailed understanding of a particular historical issue or event examined in the student's Research Essay.
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- 4. Disciplinary research skills: students should develop skills in identification of sources of information (such as research tools, handbooks, databases and online scholarly

resources) and problem solving skills in dealing with these resources.

- 5. Students should develop and consolidate skills in planning, writing and submitting written work according to schedule.

Tutorial Paper

Due: **Weeks 3-13**

Weighting: **30%**

1200-word tutorial paper based on presentation (expected minimum of 5 scholarly works referred to in addition to primary sources) – due the following Friday after the oral tutorial presentation, at 9am

On successful completion you will be able to:

- 1. Acquire knowledge of the historical period and its modern study: students should gain a broad understanding of major historical developments in the Byzantine empire, Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean from the fourth to the fifteenth centuries; acquire a fundamental body of knowledge of key concepts, themes, events and figures of the period; gain a broad understanding of modern scholarly debates on Byzantine history; and gain a detailed understanding of a particular historical issue or event examined in the student's Research Essay.
- 2. Understanding of historical materials: students should develop skills in analysing and discussing different types of historical source material, in order to identify their technical or genre-based aspects, the challenges involved in their interpretation, and their contributions to our understandings of key periods, figures or events.
- 3. Oral and written communication skills: students should develop their oral and written communication skills, with particular emphasis on the ability to discuss complex material in public, to reflect on research, to work with and respond to the views of staff and other students in the unit in both oral and written form; and develop the ability to construct sustained arguments in writing, supported by planning and detailed research.
- 4. Disciplinary research skills: students should develop skills in identification of sources of information (such as research tools, handbooks, databases and online scholarly resources) and problem solving skills in dealing with these resources.
- 5. Students should develop and consolidate skills in planning, writing and submitting written work according to schedule.

Major research Essay

Due: **Monday November 12th, 5pm**

Weighting: **40%**

2500 word research essay on one topic selected from list of choices (expected minimum of 10 scholarly works referred to in addition to primary sources) – due Monday November 12th at 5pm

On successful completion you will be able to:

- 1. Acquire knowledge of the historical period and its modern study: students should gain a broad understanding of major historical developments in the Byzantine empire, Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean from the fourth to the fifteenth centuries; acquire a fundamental body of knowledge of key concepts, themes, events and figures of the period; gain a broad understanding of modern scholarly debates on Byzantine history; and gain a detailed understanding of a particular historical issue or event examined in the student's Research Essay.
- 2. Understanding of historical materials: students should develop skills in analysing and discussing different types of historical source material, in order to identify their technical or genre-based aspects, the challenges involved in their interpretation, and their contributions to our understandings of key periods, figures or events.
- 3. Oral and written communication skills: students should develop their oral and written communication skills, with particular emphasis on the ability to discuss complex material in public, to reflect on research, to work with and respond to the views of staff and other students in the unit in both oral and written form; and develop the ability to construct sustained arguments in writing, supported by planning and detailed research.
- 4. Disciplinary research skills: students should develop skills in identification of sources of information (such as research tools, handbooks, databases and online scholarly resources) and problem solving skills in dealing with these resources.
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Participation

Due: **Weekly**

Weighting: **10%**

Attendance at lectures and tutorials, and contribution to and engagement with tutorial presentations and discussions

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Delivery and Resources

In order to successfully complete the unit, candidates must attempt all items of assessment and achieve an overall mark of 50% or above.

Early feedback will be provided to students through the Source Analysis exercise due in Week 4.

Lectures will be recorded and available via Echo 360, together with powerpoints from the lectures.

Attendance at lectures is strongly recommended, and tutorial attendance is compulsory for internal students.

Key readings for the unit (and particularly for weekly tutorials) will be provided through the iLearn site for this unit and through the MQ library website.

Recommended Books:

The following *recommended* books are available from the Coop Bookstore. **You do not have to buy them**, because they are also available in the MQ Library as e-books. You may wish to purchase them, however, since chapters of these books will be recommended reading for tutorials through the unit.

T. Gregory, *A History of Byzantium* (Oxford, 2010).

A. Cameron, *The Byzantines* (Oxford, 2006)

Students are required to have regular access to a computer and the internet. Mobile devices alone are not sufficient.

Basic computer skills (e.g., internet browsing) and skills in word processing are also a requirement. Any problem, contact onehelp@mq.edu.au (9850 4357) *and not* the unit convener.

Unit Schedule

Please see iLearn site for details

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- 1. Acquire knowledge of the historical period and its modern study: students should gain a broad understanding of major historical developments in the Byzantine empire, Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean from the fourth to the fifteenth centuries; acquire a fundamental body of knowledge of key concepts, themes, events and figures of the period; gain a broad understanding of modern scholarly debates on Byzantine history; and gain a detailed understanding of a particular historical issue or event examined in the student's Research Essay.
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Assessment tasks

- Source analysis
- Tutorial Presentation
- Tutorial Paper
- Major research Essay
- Participation

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- 1. Acquire knowledge of the historical period and its modern study: students should gain a broad understanding of major historical developments in the Byzantine empire, Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean from the fourth to the fifteenth centuries; acquire a fundamental body of knowledge of key concepts, themes, events and figures of the period; gain a broad understanding of modern scholarly debates on Byzantine history; and gain a detailed understanding of a particular historical issue or event examined in the student's Research Essay.

Assessment tasks

- Tutorial Presentation
- Tutorial Paper
- Participation

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- 1. Acquire knowledge of the historical period and its modern study: students should gain a broad understanding of major historical developments in the Byzantine empire, Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean from the fourth to the fifteenth centuries; acquire a fundamental body of knowledge of key concepts, themes, events and figures of the period; gain a broad understanding of modern scholarly debates on Byzantine history; and gain a detailed understanding of a particular historical issue or event examined in the student's Research Essay.
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- Participation

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

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Learning outcomes

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- Participation

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

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Learning outcomes

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Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

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- Tutorial Paper
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- Participation

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- 1. Acquire knowledge of the historical period and its modern study: students should gain a broad understanding of major historical developments in the Byzantine empire, Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean from the fourth to the fifteenth centuries; acquire a fundamental body of knowledge of key concepts, themes, events and figures of the period; gain a broad understanding of modern scholarly debates on Byzantine history; and gain a detailed understanding of a particular historical issue or event examined in the student's Research Essay.
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Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Assessment task

- Participation

Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Assessment task

- Participation

Changes since First Published

Date	Description
28/07/2018	Due date of major essay