

History 313: Mr. Barker  
INTRODUCTION TO BYZANTINE HISTORY AND CIVILIZATION

Tentative Schedule of Topics, Fall 1992  
1221 Humanities: 8:50-9:40 a.m., MTWF

- Sept. 2 - 1. Introduction; The Mediterranean World and the Roman World-State  
Sept. 4 - 2. Third-Century Crises, and the Reforms of Diocletian and Constantine  
Sept. 7 - LABOR DAY (holiday)  
Sept. 8 - Discussion & Slides: Two Imperial Palaces--Piazza Armerina and Split  
Sept. 9 - Discussion & Slides: Late Imperial Art and Expression, Pagan to Christian  
Sept. 11 - 3. The Rise of Christianity  
Sept. 14 - 4. Early Christianity and the Imperial State  
Sept. 15 - 5. Early Doctrinal Controversy  
Sept. 16 - 6. Christian Culture in the Patristic Age  
Sept. 18 - 7. The Barbarians and the Division of the Empire  
Sept. 21 - 8. The Survival of the Empire in the East  
Sept. 22 - Discussion & Slides: Ravenna, the "Sacred Fortress"  
Sept. 23 - 9. Justinian and his Age (1)  
Sept. 25 - 10. Justinian and his Age (2)  
Sept. 28 - 11. From Justinian to Herakleios  
Sept. 29 - Discussion & Slides: Early Constantinople, and Haghía Sophía  
Sept. 30 - 12. Seventh-Century Re-organization and Survival  
Oct. 2 - 13. From the Later Herakleians to the Isaurians  
Oct. 5 - Discussion  
Oct. 6 - FIRST EXAMINATION (On the material of Lectures 1-13)  
Oct. 7 - 14. Byzantium in the Eighth Century  
Oct. 9 - NO CLASS MEETING (To be replaced by a later session at the instructor's home)  
Oct. 12 - 15. Iconoclasm  
Oct. 13 - 16. The Church and Byzantine Spirituality.  
Oct. 14 - Discussion & Slides: Byzantine Churches in Constantinople and Thessaloniki  
Oct. 16 - 17. Byzantium in the Ninth Century  
Oct. 19 - 18. The Photian Schism and the Conversion of the Slavs  
Oct. 20 - 19. Byzantine Education, Learning, and Scholarship  
Oct. 21 - 20. Byzantium in the Tenth Century  
Oct. 23 - 21. Byzantine Law and Social Legislation during the Macedonian Period  
Oct. 26 - 22. Byzantine Economic Life and Organization  
Oct. 27 - Discussion & Slides: Byzantine Coins and their Iconography  
Oct. 28 - 23. Byzantine Military and Naval Science and Technology  
Oct. 30 - Discussion & Slides: Byzantine City Walls  
Nov. 2 - 24. Byzantium in the Eleventh Century  
Nov. 3 - 25. Eleventh-Century Crises (1) Italy: Normans, Papacy, and Schism  
Nov. 4 - 26. Eleventh-Century Crises (2) The East: Russia, Armenia, and the Turks  
Nov. 6 - Discussion & Slides: Byzantine Churches in Greece (Athens & Greek countryside)  
Nov. 9 - 27. The Komnenian Dynasty and Imperial Recovery  
Nov. 10 - 28. Byzantium and the Crusaders  
Nov. 11 - 29. Byzantine Literature and Historiography  
Nov. 13 - 30. The Angelan Collapse and the Fourth Crusade  
Nov. 16 - Discussion  
Nov. 17 - SECOND EXAMINATION (On the material of Lectures 14-30)  
Nov. 18 - 31. The Latin Empire and the Crusader Principalities  
Nov. 20 - 32. The Rival Byzantine Successor States  
Nov. 23 - 33. Laskarid Nicaea and the Palaiologan Restoration  
Nov. 24 - 34. Fourteenth-Century Internal Strife and Decay  
Nov. 25 - 35. Balkan Threats: Serbia and the Osmanli Turks  
THANKSGIVING RECESS (Nov. 26-29)



- Nov. 30 - 36. Byzantine Society and Social Organization  
 Dec. 1 - 37. Palaiologan Learning and Culture  
 Dec. 2 - Discussion & Slides: The Chora Monastery Church (Kariye Djami)  
 Dec. 4 - 38. The Byzantine Morea  
 Dec. 7 - Discussion & Slides: Mistra and its Monuments  
 Dec. 8 - 39. The Final Decline and the Problem of Church Union  
 Dec. 9 - 40. The Fall of Byzantium  
 Dec. 11 - 41. The Heirs of Byzantium (1) The Greeks, the Turks, and the Russians  
 Dec. 14 - 42. The Heirs of Byzantium (2) The West and the Hellenic Renaissance  
 Dec. 15 - Retrospect and Discussion  
 Dec. 16 - FINAL EXAMINATION (On the material of the entire course, but stressing Lectures 31-42): Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 16, at 12:25 p.m., NOT in the regular classroom, but in a room to be announced.

### COURSE TEXTS:

1. Students are required to buy, and to read in full: G. Ostrogorsky, History of the Byzantine State (Second English Edition, Rutgers University Press, 1969, paperback).
2. Students are also expected to read (at least partially), but NOT necessarily to purchase: A. A. Vasiliev, History of the Byzantine Empire, 324-1453 (University of Wisconsin Press paperback edition, 2 vols.). The required portions are: the Introduction, the sections entitled "[Education,] Literature, Learning, and Art" at the end of each chapter, the section "Byzantine Feudalism" (pp. 563-579), and the section "Byzantium and the Italian Renaissance" (pp. 713-722); but the remainder of the book (its treatment of political and general history) may be read as an optional supplement to (though not as a replacement of) Ostrogorsky's book. The Vasiliev volumes are available on Reserve at the Helen C. White College Library (while the Ostrogorsky is not), and are also in stock at the Bookstores as an optional item. (Or, students might want to pair up and split the costs of purchasing both Ostrogorsky and Vasiliev together as a more bearable way of spreading the financial obligations between them)

REQUIREMENTS: Undergraduates may take the course for either 3 or 4 credits. Those taking it for 3 are NOT required to write a term paper, but those taking it for 4 must do so, selecting a topic in consultation with the instructor. Course work is otherwise the same for all undergraduates: all are expected to attend all four hours of class each week, and to take all three of the exams. Students on the 3-credit plan may, however, substitute a term paper in place of the second exam if they desire; and students taking the 4-credit plan may also write a second paper in place of the second exam, if they wish. All topics for papers must be cleared with the instructor; and ALL papers are to be due by classtime Dec. 9. (Any papers received late, unless with the express and justified permission of the instructor, obtained in advance, will be subject to a reduction in grade.) Students wishing Honors credit may earn this through some additional reading and discussion work, to be arranged with the instructor. Graduate students receive 3 credits for the course, but are required to write a term paper, plus attending all class meetings and taking all exams, as per the 4-credit format for undergraduates. All students should be absolutely certain they are registered for the correct number of credits, corresponding to the work they will do in the course as per the above alternatives. All term papers are to be substantial efforts, between 10 and 35 pages in length (appropriate to the topic), and written in good English, in accordance with standardized practices, including footnotes (or endnotes) and bibliography. The instructor welcomes all students for consultation or discussion as desired. His office is 4119 Humanities, and office hours will be 10:00-10:45 MWF, with appointments possible at other times.