

## Byzantine History (A004071)

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

**Credits 5.0**                      **Study time 150 h**

**Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2024-2025**

A (semester 1)	English	Gent	seminar
			independent work
			lecture

**Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025**

Biuzzi, Carlo Emilio	LW03	staff member
Gomiero, Giovanni	LW03	staff member
Van Nuffelen, Peter	LW03	lecturer-in-charge

**Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025**

	<b>crdts</b>	<b>offering</b>
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - English)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - French)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - German)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Greek)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Latin)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Swedish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - German)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Greek)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Latin)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Swedish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - English)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - German)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Greek)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Latin)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Swedish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Greek)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Swedish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Greek)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Swedish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in History	5	A
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages(main subject Linguistics and Literature)	5	A
Exchange Programme Classics	5	A
Exchange Programme Global Studies and World Societies	5	A

**Teaching languages**

English

**Keywords**

Byzantium, Late Antiquity, Middle Ages, Middle-East, Eastern Christianity, Crusades, Eastern Europe

**Position of the course**

This course gives the students a survey of the history of the Eastern Roman Empire from Diocletian to the fall of Constantinople in 1453, and it complements the courses 'History of Classical Antiquity' and 'History of the Middle Ages'.

**Contents**

The students will learn the main outlines of the history of Byzantium and acquire the necessary framework of structures, names, and concepts needed to understand the most important evolutions in Byzantine history.

**Initial competences**

General knowledge of the history of Classical Antiquity and the Middle Ages  
Good command of the English language

**Final competences**

- 1 To have a firm knowledge of the most important historical facts and interpretations
- 2 To be able to explain the main concepts, structures, changes, and historiographical problems, and to situate them on a long term perspective.
- 3 To show familiarity with the sources of Byzantine history and to be able to recognise, discuss, and critically evaluate them.

**Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

**Conditions for exam contract**

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

**Teaching methods**

Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

**Extra information on the teaching methods**

Every class (except the introductory class) consists of two parts lecture, with integrated sources seminar.

**Study material**

Type: Handbook

Name: Timothy E. Gregory, A History of Byzantium, Blackwell, Oxford 2005

Indicative price: € 30

Optional: no

Type: Slides

Name: Slides

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Type: Reader

Name: Extracts from sources

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

**References**

Handbook: Timothy E. Gregory, A History of Byzantium, Blackwell, Oxford 2005.

Sources will be handed out in due time

**Course content-related study coaching**

Interactive support via Ufora; personal meetings with the instructors

**Assessment moments**

end-of-term and continuous assessment

**Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period**

Oral assessment

**Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period**

Oral assessment

**Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

Participation

**Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

examination during the second examination period is possible

**Extra information on the examination methods**

1) Weekly preparation of questions and remarking regarding the source material, with active discussion during class.

2) Oral exam consisting of three main questions aiming at testing the acquisition of the following skills and knowledge: broad knowledge of historical events, insight into concepts/evolutions/historiographical problems, discussion of sources.  
Do note that both lectures and examination will take place in English.

**Calculation of the examination mark**

Final exam: 16/20

Ongoing evaluation: 4/20

**Facilities for Working Students**

To be discussed with the instructors