

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 2023-2024

A (semester 1)	English	Gent	lecture
			seminar
			independent work

Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024

Us MacLennan, Piril	LW07	staff member
Latham-Sprinkle, John	LW03	lecturer-in-charge
Van Nuffelen, Peter	LW03	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024

	crdts	offering
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 East European Languages and Cultures	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

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. The course is divided in three modules: early Byzantine period (c. 250 - 600, Dr. Jeroen Wijnendaele), middle Byzantine period (c. 600 - 1070, Dr. Jeroen Wijnendaele and Dr. John Latham Sprinkle), late Byzantine period (c. 1070-1453, Dr. John Latham Sprinkle).

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.

Due to COVID19 the format of classes and work-practices can be modified should this be necessary

Learning materials and price

Handbook. Compilation of sources. Powerpointslides (UFORA)

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.

Due to COVID19 the format of evaluation can be modified should this be necessary

Calculation of the examination mark

Final exam: 16/20

Ongoing evaluation: 4/20

Facilities for Working Students

To be discussed with the instructors