Course Synopsis
Development of the Roman state and society from the late third through early seventh centuries. The transformation of the late classical world, and the origins of Byzantium and the medieval West.

Books

Learning Goals
After the successful completion of this course, you will have:
- an understanding of the Roman empire’s political transformation from a pagan to a Christian empire;
- an understanding of the function as well as failure of cultural assimilation;
- an understanding of how the economy functions as an agent of change;
- an understanding how politics, society, and culture relate and are interconnected to each other;
- an awareness of how institutions, individuals, and ideas are interconnected;
- an awareness of socio-political and cultural transformations and their impact on the development of Western society.

Grading
The components of the Course Grade are as follows:

4 Exams (10% each) = 40%
2 Reports (10% each) = 20%
Research Paper = 40%

Your grade will be calculated along the following scale:

100% - 90% = A  
74% - 70% = C
89% - 85% = B+  
69% - 65% = D
84% - 80% = B  
64% and below = F
79% - 75% = C+

I will not negotiate grades.

This course syllabus may change.

Wednesday, May 30 – June 4 ONLINE ONLY

**Week 1**

Online Unit 1: Rome’s First Citizen: Augustus and his Achievements (*Res Gestae*)
Readings: Selection from Vergil’s Aeneid (Books 1 and 6) and Augustus’ *Res Gestae*; start reading Mitchell, History, 15-45

Online Unit 2: The Amphitheater
Readings: Selections from Martial and Juvenal

Online Unit 3: The “Good” Emperors
Readings: Pliny, *Panegyric* and Selections from Marcus Aurelius, *Meditations*

Online Unit 4: Hollywood’s Versions of Rome’s Glory Days
Readings: *Historia Augusta, Life of Commodus*
Week 2: June 5 – 11
Online Unit 5: Septimius Severus and His Successors
Readings: Mitchell, History, 1-11

Online Unit 6: A “New” Religion: Christianity
Readings: Historical Trends and Christological Issues (Sakai) and The Martyrdom of Perpetua (Sakai)

Online Unit 7: A New Era: Diocletian (Dominate)
Readings: Mitchell, History, 51-66

In Class: Workshop
How to Work with Primary Sources (Literature)?

In Class: How to Work with Primary Sources (Material evidence)?
Exam 1 (Essay)

Week 3: June 12 -18
Online Unit 8: Constantine I and His Vision(s)
Readings: Mitchell, History, 66-78

Online Unit 9: Online: The Age of Migrations

Online Unit 10: Online: Julian the Apostate
Readings: Mitchell, History, 78-84

In Class: Paideia (Education) and the Church
Readings: Mitchell, History, 193-201

In Class: Christianity, Politics, and the “Barbarian” Threat
Readings: Sakai
Report 1

Week 4: June 19 - 25
Online Unit 11: Theodosius I and the Christian Roman Empire
Readings: Mitchell, History, 84-102, 242-271, 277-319

Online Unit 12: Justinian I and Theodora
Readings: Mitchell, History, 130-158, 165-193; Selections from Procopius’ Secret History

Online Unit 13: Roman Law and its Codification
Readings: Sakai

In Class: Society and Economy of the Late Roman Empire
Readings: Mitchell, History, 325-351, 355-401
Report 2

In Class: Women in Late Antiquity
Readings: Sakai
Exam 2 (Essay)
Week 5: June 26 – July 2
Online Unit 14: Heraclius
Readings: Mitchell, History, 425-438, 441-463

Online Unit 15: Arabs and Slavs
Readings: Sakai

Online Unit 16: Islam
Readings: Sakai

In Class: A World Transformed
Readings: Sakai

In Class: Houses of Knowledge
Exam 3 (Essay)

Week 6: July 3 - 7
Online Unit 17: The Carolingians
Readings: Mitchell, History, 223-240

Online Unit 18: Charlemagne and Rome’s Afterlife
Readings: Mitchell, History, 466-492; Life of Charlemagne

In Class: Formation of Modern Europe
Readings: Sakai

In Class: Wrap-Up
Exam 4 (Essay)
Research Paper Due, July 7, 2017 (in class)