



### **Instructor**

Alexander Meyer is an ancient historian with particular interests in epigraphy, travel, migration, communication in the ancient world, timekeeping, perceptions of time and space, and field archaeology. Before coming to Western in 2012, he studied at the University of Pennsylvania, Tufts University and Duke University. He's also taught at Duke and at the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome. He is co-director of an archaeological field school at the Roman fort of Vindolanda on Hadrian's Wall in northern England and director of the Classics Department's Study Tour to Rome.

### **Contact Information**

Alexander Meyer

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Office Hours: By appointment

### **Teaching Assistant**

TBA

Email: TBA

Office Hours: TBA

### **Recommended Texts (for purchase)**

Cameron, Averil. *The Later Roman Empire, AD 284-430*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1993. (Cameron)

Maas, Michael. *Readings in Late Antiquity: A Sourcebook* 2nd ed. London; New York: Routledge, 2010. (Maas<sup>2</sup>)

### **Additional Texts**

All readings will be supplied electronically by the instructor through OWL. Be sure to allow yourself sufficient time to access them. Other readings are available on the internet. Links to those resources will be provided on the list of assignments or through OWL. Details will also be provided if you prefer to check these sources out of the library.

### **Course Objectives and Skills attained**

Upon successful completion of this course students are expected to have:

- x Extended their detailed knowledge of the Roman world to include the period from the accession of Diocletian to fall of the Western Roman Empire.

- x Become familiar with the most important literary and documentary sources for the late Empire and early medieval period.
- x Improved their ability to analyze and discuss ancient literary, documentary and archaeological sources critically.
- x Conducted detailed research in one aspect of late antiquity.

At the end of this course students should have acquired:

- x An understanding of the continuity and change that connect and separate the Late Empire from earlier phases of Roman history and from the early medieval period.
- x An appreciation for the complex role of the early church in Roman history.
- x An increased awareness of the potential and limitations of ancient sources (literary, archaeological and documentary).

### **Evaluation**

Evaluation for this course will be based on one quiz, two short essays (1000 words), a final examination, in-class participation, and a short research paper (1500-2000 words). The quiz will test students' knowledge of the chronology of the late Empire and will include a finite set of information provided by the professor. The essays will be focused on specific readings and questions provided by the professor. The final exam will take place in the time and place determined by the registrar's office during the final exam period. This exam will be two hours long and include short answer questions and essays. Class participation grades will be determined by the quantity and quality of individual students' involvement in class discussion and group exercises. Each student will also be required to write a short research paper of 1500-2000 words on a subject approved by the professor. These papers should demonstrate familiarity with the relevant ancient sources and include a clear argument. Papers must be delivered digitally using Turnitin and in hardcopy to the professor. **Late submissions will be penalized 5 percent per day.**

Quiz: 5%

Essays: 30%

Final exam: 25%

Paper: 30%

Participation: 10%

## Important Policies

Student Absences





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Mental Health Support

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Genderbased and sexual violence

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Accessible Education

