INTRODUCTION TO BYZANTINE HISTORY AND CIVILIZATION

Tentative Schedule of Topics, Fall 1993

History 313: Mr. Barker
1131 Humanities: 8:50-9:40 a.m., MTWF

Sept. 3 - 1. Introduction; The Mediterranean World and the Roman World-State
Sept. 6 - 2. Third-Century Circuses, and the Reforms of Diocletian and Constantine
Sept. 8 - Third-Century Circuses, and the Reforms of Diocletian and Constantine
Sept. 10 - Discussion & Slides: Two Imperial Palaces—Piazza Armerina and Split
Sept. 13 - Discussion & Slides: Late Imperial Art and Expression, Pagan to Christian
Sept. 16 - The Rise of Christianity
Sept. 17 - Early Christianity and the Imperial State
Sept. 20 - Early Christian Art and the Division of the Empire
Sept. 21 - The Survival of the Empire in the East
Sept. 22 - Discussion & Slides: Ravenna, the "Sacred Fortress"
Sept. 24 - Justinian and his Age (1)
Sept. 27 - 10. Justinian and his Age (2)
Sept. 28 - 11. From Justinian to Herakleios
Sept. 29 - Discussion & Slides: Early Constantinople, and Haghia Sophía
Oct. 4 - 13. From the Later Herakleians to the Isaurians
Oct. 5 - Discussion
Oct. 6 - FIRST EXAMINATION (On the material of Lectures 1-13)
Oct. 8 - 14. Byzantium in the Eighth Century
Oct. 11 - 15. Iconoclasm
Oct. 12 - 16. The Church and Byzantine Spirituality
Oct. 13 - Discussion & Slides: Byzantine Churches in Constantinople and Thessaloniki
Oct. 15 - 17. Byzantium in the Ninth Century
Oct. 18 - 18. The Photian Schism and the Conversion of the Slavs
Oct. 20 - 20. Byzantium in the Tenth Century
Oct. 25 - 22. Byzantine Economic Life and Organization
Oct. 26 - 23. Byzantine Military and Naval Science and Technology
Oct. 27 - Discussion & Slides: Byzantine City Walls
Nov. 1 - 25. Eleventh-Century Crises (1) Italy: Normans, Papacy, and Schism
Nov. 2 - 26. Eleventh-Century Crises (2) The East: Russia, Armenia, and the Turks
Nov. 3 - 27. Eleventh-Century Crises (2) The East: Russia, Armenia, and the Turks
Nov. 4 - Discussion & Slides: Byzantine Churches in Greece (Athens & Greek Countryside)
Nov. 5 - NO CLASS MEETING (To be replaced by a later session at the instructor's home)
Nov. 8 - 27. The Komnenian Dynasty and Imperial Recovery
Nov. 9 - 28. Byzantium and the Crusaders
Nov. 10 - 29. Byzantine Literature and Historiography
Nov. 12 - 30. The Angelan Collapse and the Fourth Crusade
Nov. 15 - Discussion
Nov. 16 - SECOND EXAMINATION (On the material of Lectures 14-30)
Nov. 17 - 31. The Latin Empire and the Crusader Principalities
Nov. 19 - 32. The Rival Byzantine Successor States
Nov. 22 - 33. Laskarid Nicaea and the Palaiologan Restoration
Nov. 23 - 34. Fourteenth-Century Internal Strife and Decay
Nov. 24 - 35. Balkan Threats: Serbia and the Osmanli Turks
Nov. 26 - THANKSGIVING RECESS (Nov. 25-28)
Nov. 29 - 36. Byzantine Society and Social Organization
Nov. 30 - 37. Palaiologan Learning and Culture
Dec. 1 - Discussion & Slides: The Chora Monastery Church (Kariye Djami)
Dec. 3 - To be Announced
Dec. 6 - 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. 10 - 40. The Fall of Byzantium
Dec. 13 - 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. 18 - FINAL EXAMINATION (On the material of the entire course, but stressing Lectures 31-42): Saturday afternoon, Dec. 18, at 12:25 p.m., in a room to be announced

COURSE TEXTS:
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 G. 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 3 for 3 are NOT required to write a term paper, but those taking it for 4 must do so, selectin a topic in consultation with the instructor. Course work is otherwise the same for all unde graduates: all are expected to attend all four hours of class each week, and to take all thr 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 clear with the instructor; and ALL papers are to be due by classtime Dec. 13. (Any papers received late, unless with the express and justified permission of the instructor, obtained in advanc will be subject to a reduction in grade.) Students wishing Honors credit may earn this thro 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 at tend all class meetings and taking all exams, as per the 4-credit format for undergraduat All students should be absolutely certain they are registered for the correct number of cre dits, 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 (appropriat to the topic), and written in good English, in accordance with standardized practices, in cluding 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.