

**Dr. Erika Hermanowicz**  
**Late Antiquity (CLAS 4160/6160)**  
**Spring 2002**

Office: 237 Park Hall

**Texts:**           **Peter Brown: *The World of Late Antiquity* (W.W. Norton)**  
                          **Ammianus Marcellinus: Histories Books 20-26 (Loeb)**  
                          **Eusebius of Caesarea: Life of Constantine (Oxford)**  
                          **Libanius: Autobiography (Loeb)**

**Packet of Materials available at Bel-Jean Copy Center**

**Attendance is absolutely mandatory**

**One can only do well in this class if one is prepared to be thoroughly engaged in the readings and class discussions. It is not enough to attend class and listen passively.**

#### **SCHEDULE:**

##### **Week One:**

M: Jan. 7: Introduction to class and syllabus.

W: Jan. 9: Lecture: General directions and themes: How to approach the world of Late Antiquity.

F: Jan 11: Lecture: Introduction to the late third century and the tetrarchs. **Read** Peter Brown *The World of Late Antiquity*, pp. 11 – 45.

##### **Week Two:**

M Jan. 14: Lecture: Diocletian and the tetrarchs, continued.

W Jan. 16: The world of the Emperor: *Adventus* Ceremonies and the Rhetoric of Empire. **Read**, in packet, the **introduction** to Nixon and Rodgers, Eds. *In Praise of Later Roman Emperors* AND the Panegyric of Maximian.

F Jan 18: Reading the Panegyrics. **Read, in packet**, Panegyric of Maximian and Constantine AND Panegyric of Constantine. Discussion.

##### **Week Three:**

M Jan 21: **No class. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.**

W Jan. 23: **Continue discussion** of Panegyrics. **REVIEW ALL THREE** panegyrics if necessary. You should have these three as sharply in your mind today as they were on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup>.

F Jan. 25: Lecture. The religious world of Late Antiquity. **READ** Peter Brown, *The World of Late Antiquity*, pp. 49 – 94.

#### **Week Four:**

M Jan. 28: Lecture: Religious policies under the tetrarchs; the Persecution of Christians.

W Jan 30: Reading and discussing Martyrdom accounts. **Read, in packet**, The Martyrdom of Perpetua and Felicitas (dating to 202 AD, but the queen of martyr accounts and a good departure for discussion).

F Feb. 1: Continue discussion of Martyrdom accounts. **Read, in packet**, *Acts of Marcellus AND The Martyrdom of Julius the Veteran AND the Martyrdom of Saints Agapê, Irenê, and Chionê at Saloniki*.

#### **Week Five:**

M Feb. 4: Lecture: The end of persecution and the end of the tetrarchy: religious and dynastic repercussions.

W Feb. 6: **Reading**, in packet, Lactantius: *On the Death of the Persecutors (De Mortibus Persecutorum)* 1 – 26.

F Feb. 8: **Reading** Lactantius: *On the Death of the Persecutors (De Mortibus Persecutorum)* 27 – end.

#### **Week Six:**

M Feb. 11: Lecture. The enigma of Constantine: rule and religion. **Read** the Introductory Essay in Cameron and Hall, Eds., Eusebius' *Life of Constantine*.

W Feb. 13: Reading Eusebius' *Life of Constantine*. **Book I**. BE SURE THAT YOU READ AND UNDERSTAND THE COMMENTARY.

F. Feb. 15: Reading Eusebius' *Life of Constantine*, **Book II**.

#### **Week Seven:**

M Feb. 18: Reading Eusebius' *Life of Constantine*, **Book III**.

W Feb. 20: Reading Eusebius' *Life of Constantine*, **Book IV**.

F Feb. 22: Discussion and Lecture: The Surprise of Constantine's Life: Heresy, schism and the power of the bishops.

**Week Eight:**

M Feb. 25: From the mouth of the emperor himself. **Read**, in packet, Constantine's *Orations to the Saints* 1 – 14.

W Feb 27: **Read**, in packet, Constantine's *Orations to the Saints* 15 – end.

F March 1: Lecture on Constantine's successor, Constantius II: history, civil war, religious policy, the succession problem and Arianism.

**Week Nine:**

M March 4: A slight detour. The Christian communities of Egypt: the Alexandrian bishop Athenasius and the monks of the desert. **Read** Peter Brown, *The World of Late Antiquity*, 96 – 112. And **Read**, in packet, Athenasius' *Life of Antony*, 1 – 50.

W March 6: Reading *The Life of Antony* 51 – end.

F March 8: **MID-TERM EXAM.**

**Week Ten:**

M March 11: Lecture: Constantius and Julian.

W March 13: **Reading**, in packet, *Julian's Letter to the Senate and People of Athens*.

F March 15: Reading Ammianus Marcellinus, Book 20.

**Week Eleven:**

M: March 18:

**NO CLASS**

W: March 20:

**SPRING**

F. March 22:

**BREAK**

**Week Twelve:**

M March 25: **Reading** Ammianus Marcellinus, Book 21.

W March 27: **Reading** Ammianus Marcellinus, Book 22.1 – 22.14.

F March 29: **Reading** Ammianus Marcellinus, Book 22.15 – end of 22 (description of Egypt).

**Week Thirteen:**

M April 1: **Reading** Ammianus Marcellinus, Book 23. 1 – end of Book 23.

W April 3: **Reading** Ammianus Marcellinus, Book 24. 1 – 25. 4. The Death of Julian

F April 5: Julian with the Last Word. **Read**, in the packet, Julian, *The Caesars*, all of it.

**Week Fourteen:**

M April 8: Dr. Hermanowicz with the last, last word. The Legacy of Julian.

W April 10: Lecture: The Intellectual world of the late 4<sup>th</sup> century. **Read** Peter Brown, *The World of late Antiquity*, 115 – 125.

F April 12: **Read**, in packet, *Porphyry's Life of Plotinus*. Plotinus lived in the mid-3<sup>rd</sup> century and Porphyry “published” the biography ca. 301 – 305 AD, but Plotinus is one of the most influential philosophers of late antiquity (one of St. Augustine’s greatest inspirations), and his life is paradigmatic for the genre of Lives of so-called pagan holy men. Read 3 – 19.

**Week Fifteen:**

M April 15: **Reading** Porphyry’s *Life of Plotinus*, 20 – end.

W April 17: Lecture: The Late Antique World’s relationship with Texts and Documentation: Roman law and the Theodosian Code. **Read** Hermanowicz, “The Theodosian Code: Roman History and Law for the Classroom”.

F April 19: Read CAREFULLY selection of laws (separate handout) from the *Theodosian Code*, most of them religious. BE PREPARED to discuss these laws. They are difficult texts and require careful and scrupulous attention.

**Week Sixteen:**

M April 22: Reading the *Autobiography of Libanius*. Read sections 1-138.

W April 24: Reading the *Autobiography of Libanius*. Read sections 139 – end.

F April 26: Lecture: Concluding remarks on the cultural and social tenacity of the Late Antique World.

**Week Seventeen:**

M April 29: Last day of classes: Paper consultations.

**Grading:**            **Mid-term Exam: 25%**  
                         **Participation 15%**  
                         **Paper: 35%**  
                         **Final Exam: 25%**

**You have a final paper, due on the day of the final. The paper will be 15-20 pages for the undergraduates and 25 pages for the graduate students. Details forthcoming.**

**You have a mid-term and final exam.**