

WEA Course information sheet 2020-21



Course title: Byzantium - The Power and The Glory		Course ID: C2343732
Start date: 16/09/2020	End date: 02/12/2020	Day(s)/time(s): Wed 19:15
Number of sessions: 11	Hours per session: 2	Tutor: Gary Slator
Additional hours:	Online Learning Hours: 0	
Specific funder/partner requirements:		
Awarding body (if any): Title of qualification to be gained:		Level: Entry 1
Fee: £70.40 or Free if you are in receipt of an income related benefit (only SFA funded) Accreditation Fee (if applicable):		
Venue: Online Learning, Online, ZZ99 9ZZ		
<p>Theme(s): The WEA has four themes it uses for planning its provision. Employability – helping students to get a job or to make progress in their employment Health and Wellbeing – making a positive contribution to their own or others health and wellbeing Community Engagement – encouraging students to be positively involved in their communities Culture – learning about diverse cultures, identities and environments</p> <p>The Theme(s) used in planning your course is/ are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Culture Education2.		

Course Aim

This course aims to provide an awareness of what is sometimes known as the "golden Age" of Byzantine history, and provide a general awareness of the key issues of Byzantine studies for those with either some or little appreciation of the period.

Course Description

This course will chart the rise of the Macedonian dynasty under Basil and his immediate successors, beginning with a brief survey of the medieval Roman state by the middle of the 9th century AD, looking at its key social, political and religious institutions and how these contrasted with western Europe at the time. We will go on to look at the various conflicts between the medieval Roman state and its neighbours, paying particular attention to relations between the Byzantine world and its Islamic rivals, as well as the Christianisation of the major Slavonic states. Careful consideration will be made of the reign of Leo VI and his political and spiritual crises as they developed at the end of the ninth century, and the difficulties they posed for Byzantine society at the time. We will conclude with a thorough analysis of the Byzantine state and its imperial ambitions as it grew under the Lekapenoi and finally Konstantine VII.

Do I need any particular skills or experience?

What will I achieve?

By the end of the course I will be able to:

1. Provide a broad outline of the circumstances of the rise to power of Basil I in 867 AD.
2. Give at least three reasons for the difficulties faced by Emperor Leo VI 896-905 AD, and their impact on Byzantine society.
3. Provide an outline of at least three key social institutions at Constantinople at the end of the 9th century AD.
4. Give a brief outline of the career of Tsar Simeon of Bulgaria and its significance.

What teaching methods will be used and will there be work outside of the class?

- The WEA's digital learning platform, Canvas will be used to provide resources or to support lessons, enable assessment, provide learner feedback and for other activities for individuals away from the course. If you want to understand more about our digital learning platform please visit: <http://bit.ly/WEAonline>
- The WEA tutor will use a range of different teaching and learning methods and encourage you and the group to be actively involved in your learning

What kind of feedback can I expect from the tutor?

- Your tutor will provide written, text and audio feedback recorded in WEA Canvas, WEA's digital learning platform.
- A range of informal activities will be used by the tutor to see what you are learning which may include quizzes, question and answer, small projects and discussion
- You will have opportunities to discuss your progress with your tutor

What else do I need to know? Is there anything I need to bring?

- What you need: You will need an internet connection, speakers, a microphone and a webcam so that you can use our video learning platform, Zoom. If you'd like to understand more Zoom please visit: <http://bit.ly/ZoomSpec>
- You will also need access to the internet outside of your sessions. You could do this using a smart phone, tablet, laptop or a desktop computer (at home or through a library etc.).
- You will need a personal email address to join the WEA's digital learning platform, Canvas so that you can receive resources, record your progress and achievement and to work with others and share ideas. If you want to understand more about our digital learning platform please visit: <http://bit.ly/WEAonline>

Pre-course work, reading and information sources

- No pre reading is required but research on the subject on the internet or in the library may be helpful
 - The Byzantines: Averil Cameron, Blackwell Press 2004
- A Short History of the Byzantine Empire: Dionysios Stathakopoulos, Tauris Books 2014

Possible next steps after this course (including career opportunities if appropriate)

- Progress to another WEA course

Learning with the WEA

WEA courses increasingly make use of the rich variety of educational tools and material available on the internet and from digital devices. The WEA's digital learning platform, Canvas will play an increasing role in all WEA courses to provide resources or support, or to conduct lessons, enable

assessment, provide learner feedback and for other activities for individuals away from the course. It is helpful, although not essential if you have access to a computer or smartphone to support your course.

You can read about your entitlements and responsibilities as a WEA student in our leaflet, Student Handbook here <http://www.wea.org.uk/learn-wea/student-support> This includes information on fees, learning support and financial support. As part of your course you accept our Learning Agreement and Privacy Notice. Full details of the Learning Agreement and privacy notice can be found on our website at <http://www.wea.org.uk/policies>. This applies to all courses you take in this academic year.

You can enrol online for most courses <http://www.wea.org.uk/learn-wea/course-search> or contact: WEA Support Services, Suite 10B Joseph's Well, Hanover Way, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS3 1AB Tel: 0300 303 3464 Email: courseenquiries@wea.org.uk



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