

Course details

Course title

History: Advanced History : Byzantium - the Great Age

Course code

Q00016041

Course date

Start: 01/05/25

End: 17/07/25

Fee range

Free to £88.80

How you'll learn

You'll join a small group of fellow learners for classes at the venue indicated. Some materials may be provided in our virtual learning environment.

Got it!

In venue

Venue

WEA (Derby)

The Mill

Lodge Lane

Derby

DE1 3HB

Level of study

Advanced

Course overview

How did the Roman Empire survive the great challenges it faced at the dawn of the 9th century? We will examine How the Empress Irene was able to not only maintain her status at court but also continue to pursue her own policies. We will go on to consider the difficulties posed by her irregular methods of maintaining imperial authority and how they in turn ultimately created the circumstances of her own downfall. Thereafter, we will look at the efforts made by her immediate successes to stabilise Roman interests both in the East and the West.

Course description

Following on from the previous term, we will now address the ways in which Irene continued to maintain her own authority as Empress, and in particular her relations with the Frankish Empire of Charlemagne. As a result, we will investigate (at some length) the manner in which Charlemagne was able to invest himself as Emperor in the West, and the subsequent protestations of Constantinople and Irene's government As well as looking at what this apparent "division" Of power actually meant in real terms. Thereafter, we will go on to consider the circumstances in which Irene's own failures ultimately led to her downfall, and her replacement with a more "normalised" Government and state of affairs. However, we will also conclude with an examination of the immediate difficulties and shortcomings of the newly restored Imperial authority, and the ways in which this new administration also failed to deal with its own immediate crises. As part of that analysis, we will also look at the ways in which both the Islamic world and the Bulgar Khanate had, by the early 9th century, now evolved their own strategic ambitions with newly informed and ambitious leaders.

What financial support is available?

We don't want anything to stand in your way when it comes to bringing Adult learning within reach so if you need anything to support you to achieve your goals then speak to one of our education experts during your enrolment journey. Most of our courses are government funded but if you don't qualify or need alternative financial help to access them then let us know.

What other support is available?

All of our digital content, teaching and learning activities and assessments are designed to be accessible so if you need any additional support you can discuss this with the education experts during your enrolment journey and we will do all we can to make sure you have optimal access.

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