

The University of Texas at Tyler  
Spring Semester 2017  
HIST 5310 – Seminar in History  
Post-Roman Europe  
Professor Edward Tabri, BUS 205-A  
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Office Hours: T, Th. 3:30-5:00 pm or by appointment

**Course Overview and Student Learning Outcomes:**

This course is a graduate research seminar designed to formulate professional research and writing skills for academic historians. The ultimate goal is for students to produce a research paper suitable for presentation at an academic conference. Our topic is one of pivotal importance for European history. In our readings and discussions we will examine the transformations of Frankish Gaul and Anglo-Saxon Britain in the aftermath of the disintegration of Roman imperial authority to examine the nature of politics, culture and society which resulted. An over-arching theme to our examinations is the question of whether these post-Roman societies reflect continuity or catastrophe.

**Course Requirements and Grading Policy:**

The main requirement of the course is the production of a research paper of roughly fifteen pages on a relevant topic of your choice. It will constitute 70% of the course grade. The remaining 20% of your grade will consist of two short papers (20%) and class participation (10%). Attendance at all class meetings is mandatory. Late papers will not be accepted.

**Final Withdrawal Date: Monday, March 27**

**Required Books:**

Edward James, *The Franks*  
Henry Mayr-Harting, *The Coming of Christianity to Anglo-Saxon England*  
Gregory of Tours, *History of the Franks*  
Bede, *Ecclesiastical History of the English People*

**Optional:**

Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*

**Calendar of Meetings and Assignments (subject to change with prior notification):**

January 17    Course Introduction

January 24    Discussion of James, *The Franks*; book review due

January 31    Discussion of Gregory of Tours, Books I-V and W.M. Daly, "Clovis: How Barbaric, How Pagan?" *Speculum* 69 (1994) 619-64 (**JSTOR**)

- February 7 Discussion of Gregory of Tours, Books VI-X and S.T. Loseby, "Marseille: a Late Antique Success Story?" *Journal of Roman Studies* 82 (1992) 165-185. **(JSTOR)**
- February 14 Discussion of Mayr-Harting
- February 21 Discussion of Bede, Books I-III and B. Ward-Perkins, "Why Did the Anglo-Saxons not Become More British?" *English Historical Review* 115 (2000) 513-533. **(JSTOR)**
- February 28 Discussion of Bede, Books IV-V and J.T. Rosenthal, "Bede's Use of Miracles in the Ecclesiastical History" *Traditio* 31 (1975) 328-335. **(JSTOR)**
- March 7 Short Paper Due – Miracles in Bede and Gregory of Tours; Presentation of Research Ideas
- March 14 No meeting – Spring Break
- March 21 Individual Consultations with Instructor
- March 28 No meeting
- April 4 No meeting
- April 11 Presentations/Commentaries - Initial Drafts
- April 18 Individual Consultations with Instructor
- April 25 No meeting
- May 2 Presentations/Commentaries - Final Drafts