

## Course details

### Course title

History: Beginners History

### Course code

Q00015927

### Course date

Start: 16/09/24

End: 02/12/24

### Number of classes

12 sessions

### Timetable

Mon 16th Sep, 19:15 to 21:15  
Mon 23rd Sep, 19:15 to 21:15  
Mon 30th Sep, 19:15 to 21:15  
Mon 7th Oct, 19:15 to 21:15  
Mon 14th Oct, 19:15 to 21:15  
Mon 21st Oct, 19:15 to 21:15  
Mon 28th Oct, 19:15 to 21:15  
Mon 4th Nov, 19:15 to 21:15  
Mon 11th Nov, 19:15 to 21:15  
Mon 18th Nov, 19:15 to 21:15  
Mon 25th Nov, 19:15 to 21:15  
Mon 2nd Dec, 19:15 to 21:15

### Tutor

Gary Slator

### Fee range

Free to £88.80

## How you'll learn

You'll join a small group of fellow learners for classes online in video meetings and materials will be provided in our virtual learning environment.

Got it!

Online

## Venue

Online

## Level of study

Beginners

## Course overview

The term will begin with an analysis of Eastern Europe and the Near East at the beginning of the 11th century, exploring the steps towards a climate that would produce the first crusade. In particular, we will examine the condition and policies of the Byzantine Empire and why its position would be so critical in the events which unfolded later, along with the conquests and upheavals of the Seljuk Turks, leading to the critical battle of Manzikert. Thereafter, we will look at how developments in Western Europe would then lead to the circumstances and outcomes of the first crusade.

## Course description

A detailed analysis of the circumstances and condition of the Byzantine Empire (particularly in its Anatolian regions) during the early 11th century will be used as a foundation for establishing the apparent stability and strength of Anatolia and the Near East during the period. Thereafter, we will look at the successive crises and difficulties faced by the empire through the 11th century and why these problems would then lead to greater difficulties upon the emergence of the Seljuk Turks from the east. Some closer assessment will be made of the Seljuk invasions, and the ways in which these conquests then destabilised the previous equilibrium of affairs in both Anatolia and the Near East. We will then go on then to look at the events and circumstances surrounding the critical battle of Manzikert, and the consequences of its immediate aftermath. Finally, the latter part of the course will examine the prevailing conditions within Western Europe (including both the society of the Frankish world and developments in Spain), along with the response of the papacy to those developments, that provided the circumstances for the emergence of the first crusade and its various movements, before finally looking at its ultimate achievement.

## 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.

**Source URL:** <https://www.wea.org.uk/courses/humanities-science/history/16-september-history-beginners-history>