

Annotated Bibliography

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History 501: Classical World of Greece and Rome

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“AnswerGarden.” Creative Heroes. Accessed July 29, 2018.

AnswerGarden is a website where users can create a “garden,” at the center of which is a question. The user then shares the garden’s link, and those accessing the link answer the question. The answers populate the garden, creating a word cloud with the anonymous submissions. AnswerGardens are a great way to start or end class, quickly assess student learning, and summarize information, as a maximum of forty characters is allowed per answer.

“AP World History Course and Exam Description.” New York: College Board, 2017.

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/ap-world-history-course-and-exam-description.pdf>

Advanced Placement courses are organized and evaluated by the College Board, which details the content standards and academic skills required for success in its courses. It describes sub-topics that fit within the five themes around which the course is organized (see Part II: Thematic Learning Objectives). Advanced Placement World History considers Constantine’s importance in Key Concept 2.1, which says,

Core beliefs of Christianity were based on the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth as recorded by his disciples and their belief in his divinity. Christianity drew on Judaism as well as Roman and Hellenistic influences. Despite initial Roman imperial hostility, Christianity spread through the efforts of missionaries, merchants, and early martyrs through many parts of Afro-Eurasia and eventually gained Roman imperial support by the time of Emperor Constantine. 49

Athanasius. *On the Incarnation*. Buffalo, NY: Christian Literature Publishing Co., 1892.

<http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/2802.htm>

Athanasius' pivotal work details his arguments against Arianism, supported with biblical references and theological details. Students may use this to defend their own positions if they are Alexandrians or, if they are Arians, they might use it to anticipate arguments from the opposition.

“BackChannel Chat – Safe Secure Classroom Discussions.” LearnWeaver Party Ltd. 2014.

<http://backchannelchat.com/>

BackChannel is an online chat room that allows teachers to create and moderate conversations. For the Council of Nicaea, students will log into the chat room under their character's name, rather than their own, and at the end of the chat they will reveal who they are in order to facilitate grading. The teacher can also download statistics that show how many times each student has contributed to the discussion as well as a transcript of the discussion comments. This allows students quiet processing time, limits domination by extroverts that often occurs in verbal discussions, and helps introverts feel more comfortable contributing and escaping into their roles. Additionally, if they have prepared quotes, comments, or questions, they can copy and paste them into the discussion at the appropriate time.

“Bible Gateway.” Zondervan. 2008. <https://www.biblegateway.com/>

Bible Gateway is a searchable biblical database. It will allow students to navigate biblical texts by key terms that relate to the questions they are researching and collecting quotes to enhance their arguments in the online discussion.

Eusebius. *The History of the Church*. Buffalo, NY: Christian Literature Publishing Co., 1890.

<http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/2501.htm>

The Bishop of Caesarea wrote about the first three hundred years of Christian history leading up to the Council of Nicaea. This historical source includes references to scripture and explanations that students may use to support their arguments in the class discussion.

Green, John. "Christianity from Judaism to Constantine: Crash Course World History #11."

YouTube video, 11:36. April 5, 2012.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TG55ErfdaeY&t=1s>

Crash Course is a YouTube series that covers disparate educational topics, and students come to class already familiar with its host John Green, a young-adult fiction author with a number of best-selling books and their film adaptations. The Crash Course World History episodes focus on a particular topic, include "Thought Bubble" cartoon asides on a particular issue related to the topic, and a "Secret Compartment" segment in which the host connects a modern object to the historical topic.

Henderson, David E. and Frank Kirkpatrick. *Constantine and the Council of Nicaea*. Chapel Hill, North Carolina: Reacting Consortium Press, 2016.

The Reacting to the Past game book provides information more specifically related to the Council of Nicaea, providing a much deeper level of understanding of the event and the people in attendance. Students will use the individual role descriptions on pages 54-56 and the faction descriptions on pages 37-40 to learn about their specific perspective that they will represent in the online discussion.

"Documents Concerning the Meletian Schism." Wisconsin Lutheran College. May 10, 2012.

<http://www.fourthcentury.com/documents-concerning-the-meletian-schism/>

This collection of documents provides an in-depth look at primary sources that detail the debate between the Meletius and Peter, Bishop of Alexandria. The Meletian Schism concerns how to treat the members of the church who succumbed to the pressures of persecution. Students will be assigned one of the documents, which they will read and annotate so that they can later use the quotations in the discussion.

“Revised K-12 Social Studies Academic Standards.” Minnesota Department of Education. 2011. <http://www.mcass.org/Resources/Documents/2011%20Social%20Studies%20Standards.pdf>

The state of Minnesota details the content knowledge and skills in which public school students must gain proficiency. For high school students, this knowledge can be included in any of the required social studies coursework from grades nine through twelve. Osseo Area Schools teaches World History at the eleventh grade level, so the standards affecting Constantine’s Rome would be covered at that point. Standard 9.4.3.8.3 requires students to “Analyze the emergence, development, and impact of religions and philosophies of this era, including Hinduism, Confucianism, Buddhism, Judaism and Christianity.” This guides teachers in focusing their instruction and assessment.

Portnow, James. “Extra History S12 E2 Early Christian Schisms - II: The Woes of Constantine.” YouTube video, 8:54. May 7, 2016. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hZsZXHPDwsw>
Extra Credits produces informative history, sci-fi, and gaming videos each week, sharing accessible, educational information through cartoons and music. This episode will be a resource for students to use in completing their thematic graphic organizers.

Strayer, Robert W. and Eric W. Nelson. *Thinking through Sources for Ways of the World: A Brief Global History, Volume 1: Through the Fifteenth Century*. New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2016.

Thinking through Sources is a primary-source companion to the course textbook. For each chapter, it offers four to six primary source texts or images with questions to accompany each as well as a set of overarching questions that each source addresses.

Chapter 4, "The 'Good Life' in Asian Cultural Traditions" considers perspectives from Confucius, Laozi, the *Bhagavad Gita*, the Sermon on the Mount, and an image from Saint John Climacus' *Ladder of the Divine Ascent*. Students devote one day each week to analyzing the sources that accompany its chapter.

Strayer, Robert W. and Eric W. Nelson. *Ways of the World: A Global History with Sources*. New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2016.

The Advanced Placement World History Course textbook covers ten thousand years of history, from 8,000 BCE to the present. It focuses on themes throughout world history, one of which is culture. The development of religious beliefs and organizations falls under this cultural umbrella, and the course periodizations often revolve around religions, such as the third periodization beginning with Christianity in year 0 and the fourth beginning in 600 CE with the advent of Islam. Students read one of its twenty-three chapters each week in order to prepare for the Advanced Placement exam.

Ward, Allen M., Fritz M. Heichelheim and Cedric A. Yeo. "Constantine the Great and Christianity, A.D. 306 to 337." In *A History of the Roman People*. New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 2003.

This text will provide the background information necessary to understand Constantine's efforts to improve the Roman Empire. As students read, they will complete a graphic organizer connecting the content to the five themes of Advanced Placement World History: society, politics, environment, culture, and economics. *A History of the Roman People* provides the in-depth information required to understand the context surrounding the Council of Nicaea, as their course textbook discusses it only briefly.