

PAPER ASSIGNMENT #2 – HIST 101

To complete this assignment you must write a 500-to-1000-word essay considering ONE of the following questions. You must double-space your response and use 12-point “Times New Roman” font with 1” margins. To receive full credit, you need to correctly cite *at least* one example **from a primary source in the *Perspectives from the Past* reader** to support your argument/answer. Citations should be in Chicago/Turabian format (for examples, see pg. 112 of Mary Rampolla’s *A Pocket Guide to Writing History* or <http://bit.ly/KrFvY>). While I do not expect a research paper, I do anticipate that these essays will reflect your ability to think critically and creatively. This paper will be due in class on **13 November** for Section 400 and on **15 November** for Section 401.

QUESTIONS:

1. Arguably, the Byzantine, Islamic, and Carolingian Empires could all claim to be the legitimate heir of the Roman Empire. Which do you believe has the strongest claim to Rome’s legacy? Why?
2. Using specific primary sources, provide examples of how Christianity has changed over time. Does the malleable nature of religious belief necessarily call into question its spiritual value? Why/why not?
3. How do the historical circumstances in which Islam emerged compare to those that shaped early Christianity? What are some key similarities and differences?