

HIS 122

Medieval Europe

N.B: SYLLABUS NOT YET UPDATED FOR SPRING 2016

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MWF, 10:25-11:15, Hylan 203
 Office hours: TH, 1-3
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This course introduces students to the world of medieval Europe, roughly 500-1500 C.E. Students will be exposed to some of the principal historiographical debates about the period, as well as the major types of primary sources available in English translation, and will develop facility in reading, analyzing, and interpreting both primary and secondary sources. Religion will be a central theme in this study of the so-called “Christian Middle Ages,” as well as the ordering structures borrowed and adapted from Roman and so-called barbarian cultures. We will examine how medieval Europeans dealt with social, cultural, and economic change and will study reactions to the “Others” on the margins and in their midst: heretics, Muslims, and Jews.

Week 1 (1/14-/18)	Introduction	textbook, pp. 1-3
	The Roman Heritage	textbook, pp. 4-8
	<i>Discussion</i>	
Week 2 (1/21-/25)	The Christian Inheritance	textbook, pp. 8-18
	The World of the Barbarians	textbook, pp. 19-27
	<i>Discussion</i>	Tacitus, <i>Germania</i> (online); The Passion of Sts. Perpetua and Felicitas (online)
Week 3 (1/28-2/1)	The East Transformed	textbook, pp. 51-69
	The West Transformed	textbook, pp. 28-40
	<i>Discussion</i>	Sulpicius Severus, <i>Life of St. Martin of Tours</i> (online); Gregory of Tours, <i>History of the Franks</i> (excerpts online)
Week 4 (2/4-/8)	Monks, Missionaries, and Popes	textbook, pp. 40-50
	Charlemagne: A New Augustus?	textbook, pp. 80-101
	<i>Discussion</i>	Bede, <i>Ecclesiastical History of the English People</i> (excerpts online); Einhard, <i>Life of</i>

		Charlemagne (online)
Week 5 (2/11-/15)	An Age of Invasions	textbook, pp. 102-11
	Lords and Vassals	textbook, pp. 118-22
	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>The Song of Roland</i> (purchase)
Week 6 (2/18-/22)	Political Recovery	textbook, pp. 111-18, 123-30
	The World of Church Reform	textbook, pp. 167-72
	Midterm exam	
Week 7 (2/25-3/1)	The Investiture Controversy	textbook, pp. 172-89
	<i>Discussion</i>	Tierney, <i>Crisis of Church and State</i> , excerpts (ER)
Week 8 (3/4-/8)	Byzantium and Islam around 1000	textbook, pp. 63-65, 70-79, 131-39
	The First Crusade	textbook, pp. 217-31
	<i>Discussion</i>	Four accounts of the Crusades (ER)
Week 9 (3/11-/15)	The Growth of Urban Life	textbook, pp. 139-41, 150-61
	The 12 th Century Renaissance	textbook, pp. 290-96
	<i>Discussion</i>	Abelard, <i>Historia calamitatum</i> (History of My Misfortunes—online)
Break (3/18-/22)	Spring Break	
Week 10 (3/25-/29)	The Birth of Popular Heresy	textbook, pp. 190-205, 231-35
	<i>Discussion</i>	Henry of Le Mans (ER); Thomas de Cantimpre, <i>Life of Christina Mirabilis</i> [the Astonishing] (ER)
	Article review	Article review due Friday, March 29
Week 11 (4/1-/5)	Courtly Culture	textbook, pp. 162-66, 269-71, 283-90
	Bureaucrats and Politics: The New Monarchies of the High Middle Ages	textbook, pp. 236-68
	<i>Discussion</i>	Marie de France, <i>La Fresne</i> (ER); Odericus Vitalis, "On

		Henry I' (selections online)
Week 12 (4/8-/12)	The Rise of the Mendicants	textbook, pp. 205-10
	Universities and Scholasticism	textbook, pp. 271-83
	<i>Discussion</i>	Thomas of Celano, <i>Life of St. Francis</i> (online); regulations of the University of Paris (ER); Thomas Aquinas, <i>Summa theologia</i> (selections--ER)
Week 13 (4/15-/19)	Inquisitors and Heretics	textbook, pp. 231-35
	Marriage, Family, and Everyday Life	textbook, pp. 141-50
	<i>Discussion</i>	Bernard Gui, <i>Manual for Inquisitors</i> (selections--ER); Inquisition records for Arnaud Gelis , Barthelemy Amilhac , and Beatrice de Planissoles
Week 14 (4/22-/26)	Paper due	Primary source paper due on Monday, April 22.
	A society on the borderlands: Medieval Spain	textbook, p. 211-16, 267-69, 332-35
	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Code of Cuenca</i> (ER); Las siete partidas, On Jews (online); Ordinance of Jews in Aragon (online)
Week 15 (4/29-5/3)	Political crises of the later Middle Ages	textbook, pp. 297-301, 322-32, 335-43
	The Black Death	textbook, pp. 301-13
	<i>Discussion</i>	Henry Knighton, <i>Chronicle</i> (ER); trial of Joan of Arc (ER)
Week 16 (5/6)	Crisis in the Church	textbook, pp. 313-21, 354-61
May 10	Take-home final exam due	Final exam must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. (on Friday, May 10.

Learning objectives: At the end of this course, students will be able to

- Read and understand medieval primary sources as products of a specific historical context
- Identify major historical debates about the Middle Ages in Europe

- Identify the thesis and analyze the argument of secondary sources regarding medieval Europe
- Discuss the role of religion in ordering medieval European society
- Identify some of the ways in which medieval Europeans dealt with social, economic, and cultural change
- Discuss ways in which medieval European Christians dealt with "Others" in their midst and on their margins

Required materials: The following textbooks are required for the course and are available in the bookstore.

Judith M. Bennett, *Medieval Europe: A Short History*, 11th ed. (Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2011). ISBN-13: 978-0-07-338550-1. (Abbreviated in the syllabus as textbook.)

Glyn Burgess, trans., *The Song of Roland* (Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1990). ISBN-13: 978-0140445329.

Any additional readings, including articles for the article review, will be posted on electronic reserve via this course's Blackboard site. (Abbreviated in the syllabus as <er>.)

Assignments and grading: Reading assignments are due on the day they appear in the lecture schedule below. Written assignments are weighted as follows:

Reading responses (1-2 pages) for discussions	20%
Midterm (February 26)	15%
Article review (4-5 pages, due March 23)	15%
Primary source-based paper (5-7 pages, due April 23)	20%
Take-home final exam	20%
Participation	10%

About the reading responses: For each discussion, you must bring to class and hand in a 1-2 page (double spaced) response to the readings. You will want to demonstrate that you have done all the reading (so if there are multiple texts to be discussed, be sure to mention all of them), that you have thought about the reading (so you will want to raise some questions or ideas for discussion), and that you can use evidence from the readings to back up a point (so you will want to offer brief quotations in support of arguments that you advance).

Grading scale:

A	100-93%
A-	92.9-90%
B+	89.9-87%

B	86.9-83%
B-	82.9-80%
C+	79.9-77%
C	76.9-73%
C-	72.9-70%
D+	69.9-67%
D	66.9-63%
D-	62.9-60%
F	Below 60%

In case of some mix-up, it is a good idea to save all returned work until you receive your grade at the end of the semester.

General policies:

Late work will be penalized 10% for each calendar day late. I do not accept emailed assignments without prior arrangement and only under the most exigent of circumstances.

Attendance:

Students are responsible for all material covered in and announcements made in class; attendance is, thus, crucial for doing well in the course. Participation in discussions is a critical component of the course. The instructor reserves the right to impose a failing grade for the course after a student's absence from four or more discussions. (For the sake of accounting, three tardies will constitute one absence.)

Students with disabilities: The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL, 1-154 Dewey Hall, 585-275-9049) offers a variety of disability services for undergraduates and graduate students in Arts, Sciences & Engineering. These services aim to provide an inclusive experience and equal access to academic content and program requirements. They can help you to request accommodations for your success in this class. You can learn more at: www.rochester.edu/college/cetl/undergraduate/disability. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me as well.

Classroom etiquette: Please turn off cell phones or set them to a silent alert. In the rare event you must enter late or leave class early, please let me know in advance.

Academic honesty: All assignments and activities associated with this course must be performed in accordance with the University of Rochester's Academic Honesty Policy. Cheating and plagiarism are serious offenses and will be treated as such. Anyone who engages in such activities will be turned over to the College Board on Academic Honesty for disciplinary action, as outlined at <http://www.rochester.edu/College/honesty/>.

Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to change topics and assignments on the syllabus at any point in the semester.