

Medieval Legacy

HIS 221-02

T R 9:30-10:45

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Office Hours: By appointment (I'm here all the time, just ask).

Introduction

Stuck between the supposed glory of the Roman Empire and the Renaissance, the medieval period often gets a bad rap. The Middle Ages – a period spanning from around 500 (the end of the Roman Empire in the West) to 1400, 1500, or 1600 (depending on when the Renaissance occurred in a particular location) – is frequently portrayed as either the “Dark Ages” or the idyllic world of chivalry and King Arthur’s knights, and thus loses much of its vibrant (yet often dangerous) reality. In this course, we will investigate primary sources (those written during the period) in order to uncover the reality of 1) how the structure and exercise of government changed over this period as kings and nobles struggled to exert their authority; 2) how the beliefs, practices, & institutional functions of Christianity changed over this period; 3) how literature and education developed and influenced people’s understandings of the world; and 4) how individuals were defined by the various groups to which they belonged. Thus, rather than solely memorizing names and dates, we will be looking at changes in law, governmental structure and practice, Christianity, and social organization (particularly the history of peasants, women, and other out-groups) in order to understand how all of these aspects worked together to create a dynamic, fluid society.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate broad knowledge of the political, religious, and social history of the European Middle Ages (c.800-1500)
2. Analyze and interpret primary sources
3. Synthesize material from a variety of sources to produce a larger analytical conclusion
4. Recognize historical methods and utilize them in analyzing the past.
5. Demonstrate logical argumentation in speech and in writing.

Books:

1. Patrick J. Geary, *Readings in Medieval History*, 4th edition (Univ. of Toronto Press, 2010) [ISBN: 9781442601208]
2. Anonymous, *Song of Roland*, ed. Glyn Burgess. (Penguin, 1990). [ISBN 9780140445329]

Recommended: Judith Bennett, *Medieval Europe: A Short History*, 11th edition (McGraw-Hill, 2005)
Though not required, Bennett’s text will give you an excellent overview of the period. If you find it difficult to put concepts in context or maintain a conceptual timeline, this book will help.

Online texts. There are quite a few readings located online, mostly at the Online Medieval Sourcebook. For each of these readings, I have listed the link where they may be found (The on-line version of this syllabus has clickable links) If you have trouble using the internet, please see me for assistance. Please note that lacking internet access the day a reading is due is no excuse for not having read it. You have the whole semester to access, print, or save copies of the readings.

Attendance:

After you have missed three class periods for any reason, your final average for the course will be reduced by three percentage points (ie from 84 to 81) for each additional absence.

Adverse Weather Policy:

If you think that the university might be closed due to weather, either call the UNCG Adverse Weather Line at (336) 334-4400 or check the university's website (www.uncg.edu). If the university is open, we will have class (that includes two-hour delays. **We will start class at 10**). If the university is closed, I will send an email letting you know how the syllabus has changed and what readings we will cover during the next class.

Academic Integrity Policy:

I do not tolerate plagiarism, cheating, or any other violation of the honor code. Any violations will be dealt with according to the Academic Integrity Policy (if you don't know what the policy says, it's right here: <http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu/complete>. Go read it). This includes any and all plagiarism from websites – **the only websites you should be using are those specifically assigned**. If you think I won't notice that you copied and pasted whole paragraphs from Wikipedia, you're wrong.

Other Important Stuff:

Please turn off your cell-phones before the lecture starts. **Do not text during my class**. It is rude and disrespectful to me, and disruptive to your fellow students. If I catch you texting during my class, I will stop class and ask you to leave, since you obviously have something more important to be doing than learning.

You can bring your laptop to class for note-taking purposes. However, if I find that you are using your laptop for non-class-related purposes, I will ask you to put it away and not bring it to class again.

Assignments and Grading:

Pop-Quizzes and Participation: 10%

Homework: 10%

Exam and Paper #1: 25%

Exam and Paper #2: 25%

Final Exam and Paper #3: 30%

Grading Scale:

100-97 = A+	89-87 = B+	79-77 = C+	69-67 = D+	59-0 = F
96-94 = A	86-84 = B	76-74 = C	66-64 = D	
93-90 = A -	83-80 = B-	73-70 = C-	63-60 = D-	

Homework assignments can be found on Blackboard, and are due every Thursday at the beginning of class.

I do not accept late homework, and there will be no make up for homework assignments. The

homework is graded on a \checkmark +, \checkmark , \checkmark - scale, in which \checkmark + is a 95, \checkmark is an 85, and \checkmark - is a 75. More information on the requirements for each category is available in Blackboard under the Assignments folder.

The exams will be available on Blackboard for the 24-hour period of the due date, and will have two sections. For the first part of each exam, you will write a take-home, 3-4 page typed essay on an assigned question, to be submitted as a .doc file on the exam day. For the second part of the exam, you will be asked to respond to a series of short-answer questions. No notes will be allowed for this section.

Late Work: Exams are due on the date and at the time listed on the syllabus; if a crisis (such as illness or family emergency) arises that prevents you from taking it at that time, it is your responsibility to inform me **on or before the due date**. If you do not contact me, **I will not accept your late exam**.

		Required Texts	Recommended Texts
Jan 10	Class Intro Europe 300-800		
Jan 12	Germanic tribes	Geary: <i>Tacitus Germania</i> (65-77) <i>Hildebrandslied</i> (111-112)	Bennett: 28-40
Jan 17	<i>Beowulf</i>	Blackboard: Beowulf	
Jan 19	Early Medieval Religion	Homework #1 Due The Nicene Creed (http://www.creeds.net/ancient/nicene.htm) Geary: <i>The Passion of Saints Perpetua and Felicity</i> (58-64) Benedictine Rule (161-188, but read only chapters 1-7, 22-30, 39-40, 54-55, 59, 67-68)	Bennett: 40-50
Jan 24	The Franks	Blackboard: Frankish Queens Geary: Salic Law (122-128)	Bennett: 82-87, 100-101
Jan 25	Charlemagne	Homework #2 Due Geary: Einhard, <i>Life of Charles the Great</i> (266-279) General capitulary on the missi (296-30) Charlemagne's <i>De litteris colendis</i> (290)	Bennett: 88-100
Jan 31	Cluny & Relics	Guibert of Nogent on Relics (http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/nogent-relics.asp) Geary: <i>Foundation charter of the order</i> (315-317) <i>Charters of the Grossi Family</i> (317-321)	Bennett: 191-197, 199-205
Feb 2	Alfred the Great and the Vikings	Homework #3 Due Ravages of the Northmen in Francia (http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/843bertin.asp) Geary: <i>Alfred's Dooms</i> (223-228) Asser, <i>Life of Alfred</i> (230-239) Anglo-Saxon Chronicle (239-246) <i>Treaty Between Alfred and Guthrum</i> (228)	Bennett 107-114

Feb 7	Feudal System: Knights & Lords	<p>The Peace of God (http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/pc-of-god.asp)</p> <p>The Truce of God (http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/t-of-god.asp)</p> <p>Geary: <i>Letter to William of Aquitaine (376)</i> <i>Agreement Between Lord and Vassal (377-381)</i></p>	Bennett: 118-122, 131-136, 162-166
Feb 9	Feudal System: Peasant Life	<p>Homework #4 Due</p> <p>Peasant Servitude (http://www.uncg.edu/~rebarton/peasant-servitude.html)</p> <p>Grant of Freedom to a Betrothed Serf (http://www.fordham.edu/HALSALL/source/1059serfs2.asp)</p> <p>Peasant Life (http://www.uncg.edu/~rebarton/peasant-life.htm)</p>	Bennett: 139-150
Feb 14		Exam #1 & Paper #1 Due	
Feb 16	Administrative Kingship, Part One: 1066-1154	<p>Geary: Domesday Book (716-718) Dialogue of the Exchequer (724-729)</p>	Bennett: 248-251
Feb 21	Administrative Kingship, Part Two: 1154-1272	<p>Description of Henry II (http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1177peterblois-hen2.asp)</p> <p>Geary: Magna Carta (739-746)</p>	Bennett: 251-267
Feb 23	Rise of the Papal Monarchy	<p>Homework #5 Due</p> <p>The Two Swords: On Spiritual and Temporal Power (http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/gelasius1.asp)</p> <p>Geary: <i>The Investiture Controversy (562-586)</i></p>	Bennett: 167-178, 182-187
Feb 28	The Marginalized in Medieval Society	<p>Emicho and the Slaughter of the Jews (http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1096jews.asp)</p> <p>The Jews of Mainz (http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1096jews-mainz.asp)</p> <p>Blackboard: Baldwin IV Becomes King of Jerusalem</p>	Bennett: 65-69, 197-199, 232-234

Mar 1	The Crusades: The Call to Crusade and the First Crusade	Homework #6 Due Geary: First Crusade (394-429)	Bennett: 221-225
Mar 13	The Crusades: Later Crusades	The Battle of Hattin (http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/1187ernoul.asp) The Capture of Jerusalem by Saladin (http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/1187saladin.asp) Peace between Richard I and Saladin (http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/1192peace.asp)	Bennett: 226-232
Mar 15	Song of Roland	Homework #7 Due Song of Roland	Bennett: 283-284
Mar 20	Medieval Universities And Scholasticism	Statutes for the University of Paris (http://www.fordham.edu/HALSALL/source/courcon1.asp) Life of the Students at Paris (http://www.fordham.edu/HALSALL/source/vitry1.asp) Medieval Students' Songs (http://www.fordham.edu/HALSALL/source/medievalstudentsongs.asp)	Bennett: 271-282, 345-346
Mar 22	Church Developments: New Orders & Marriage Reform	Homework #8 Due Gratian on Marriage (http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/gratian1.asp) Geary: <i>The Rule of Saint Francis of Assisi</i> (456-459) <i>Canons of the Fourth Lateran Council</i> (430-455, but read only canons 1-23, 44-52, 65-70)	Bennett: 187-189, 205-210, 316-318
Mar 27	Chivalry and the Roman	The Art of Courtly Love (http://www.fordham.edu/HALSALL/source/capellanus.asp) Blackboard: Marie de France's <i>Lanval</i>	Bennett: 284-288
Mar 29		Exam #2 & Paper #2 due	

Apr 3	Towns and Guilds	<p>Charter for the Town of St. Omer (http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1127stomer.asp)</p> <p>Oaths from Medieval Ipswich (http://users.trytel.com/~tristan/towns/ipswich9.html)</p> <p>Grant to London Abolishing Weavers' Guild (http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1202Weavers1.asp)</p> <p>Regulations of the Weavers' Guild (http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1233Weavers4.asp)</p>	Bennett: 150-161
Apr 5	Late Medieval Women	<p>Homework #9 Due</p> <p>Blackboard: Catherine of Siena</p> <p>Geary: Margery Kempe (523-553)</p>	Bennett: 318-320, 350-352
Apr 10	The Black Death and its Aftermath	<p>Population Tables (http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/pop-in-eur.asp)</p> <p>Jews and the Black Death (http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/jewish/1348-jewsblackdeath.asp)</p> <p>Boccaccio – The Decameron Introduction (http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/boccaccio2.asp)</p> <p>Froissart – the Peasant's Revolt in England (http://www.nipissingu.ca/departement/history/muhlberger/froissart/peasantr.htm)</p>	Bennett: 297-312, 320-321
Apr 12	The Babylonian Captivity of the Papacy	<p>Homework #10 Due</p> <p><i>Unam Sanctam</i> (http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/b8-unam.asp)</p> <p>University of Paris on the Schism (http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/grtschism2.asp)</p> <p><i>Frequens</i> (http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/constance2.asp)</p>	Bennett: 314-316
Apr 17	100 Years War	<p>Geary: Froissart's Chronicles (677-700) Joan of Arc (701-715)</p>	Bennett: 322-327
Apr 19	Review		
May 1	Final Exam	Paper #3 due	