Introduction to Europe: The Middle Ages, c. 400-1500

Hist 2533

Dr. Jennifer MacDonald
Office: 447 BAC
Office Hours: Mondays 4:00-5:30(not Sept 14 & Nov 9), Wednesdays 5:00-6:30, Fridays 1:30-4:30
Email: je.macdonald@acadiau.ca
Phone: (902) 585-1243

Course Description:
The medieval period saw tremendous developments and upheavals. It involved Germanic migrations, development of kingdoms, feudalism and urbanisation. It is characterised by religious vitality and conflict as the Christian Church expanded, changed, and clashed with kingdoms, heretics and other religions. Cultural achievements, including art, architecture, and learning, will be discussed.

Course Objectives:
In this course, you will gain new insights into the Middle Ages and this will help you have a greater understanding of the medieval people and how they lived. This course will make heavy use of primary sources and you will thus improve your ability to work with historical documents. You will think about how historians can use various types of sources when evaluating the past. This course will give you a solid foundation for European studies.

Marking Scheme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Record your mark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>Continuously</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Source sign up</td>
<td>September 18</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Source Analysis</td>
<td>September 28</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>October 7</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional Primary Analysis Rewrite</td>
<td>October 26</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>November 18</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>In exam period</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Textbooks
Rosenwein, B. A Short History of the Middle Ages. 4th ed. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2009. (Ros)

Readings and Schedule
The reading schedule is a guideline. Topics will be covered in roughly this order, but topics may carry on into the next day(s) depending on this class’s particular interests. All adjustments will be discussed in class and it is your responsibility to stay on top of the reading schedule. You should read the introductions and study questions for each chapter in Hol.

September 2 Introduction to Course and Medieval Europe
Ros: Please familiarize yourself with the resources at the back of the book: 330-343

September 4 Late Antiquity
Hol: Constantine’s Victory and Conversion, p. 7-8; Edict of Milan, p. 8-9; Nicene Creed, p. 10; Theodosian Code on religion, p. 10-12; Image 1, p. 192-193
Ros: 1-8,

September 7 Labour Day, no classes

September 9 Byzantium
Hol: Theodosian Code, p. 23-25; Procopius, p. 43-45; Justinian, p. 45-49
Ros: 28-36, 39-50, 79-88

September 11 Growth of Christianity, and Rome’s artistic legacy
Hol: St Augustine, p. 17-19; Boethius, p. 53-56;
Ros: 8-21

September 14 Growth of the Papacy
Hol: Leo I, p. 51-52; Gelasius I, p. 52; Gregory the Great, p. 63-69
Ros: 74-5

September 16 Growth of Monasticism
Hol: Letter by St Jerome, p. 12-17; Life of Daniel the Stylite, p. 40-43; St Benedict, p. 56-63

September 18 Germanic tribes and Rise of Islam
Hol: Huns, p. 25-26; Vandals, p. 27-30; Jordanes, p. 33-34; The Qu’ran, p. 75-81; Conquest of Middle East, p. 83-85;
Ros: 21-28, 50-64, 72-77

September 21 Merovingians
Hol: Gregory of Tours, p. 34-36; Pope Gregory II, p. 90; Letters of Boniface, p. 91-94; Willibald, Life of Boniface, p. 95-97; Image 2, p. 194-195
Ros: 87-96
September 23 Early Carolingians and beginning Charlemagne
Hol: Coronation of Pepin the Short, p. 97-98; Einhard, p. 101-105; Charlemagne, Letter, p. 105; Charlemagne’s Coronation, p. 105-107; Capitulary of Missi, p. 107-113; Charlemagne Letter, p. 113-115; Letters of Alcuin, p. 115-117; Image 5-6, p. 200-202
Ros: 96-99, 102-114

September 25 Charlemagne continued.

September 28 Later Carolingians
Hol: Dhuoda, Handbook, p. 121-125; Nithard, History of the Sons of Louis the Pious, p. 130-133; Oath of Strasbourg, p. 133-134
Ros: 99-102

September 30 Early Anglo-Saxon England
Hol: Gregory, to the Missionaries to England, p. 68; Eddius, Whitby, p. 69-70; Bede, Hilda, p. 71-75, Image 3-4, p. 196-199
Ros: 64-72

October 2 Vikings & Invaders
Ros: 127-131

October 5 Viking Age British Isles
Hol: Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, p. 138-142
Ros: 135-139

October 7 Midterm

October 9 Vikings in the North Atlantic
Hol: Greenland Saga, p. 165-167

October 12 -16 No Classes

October 19 Manorialism and the Peasantry
Hol: Select Feudal Documents, p. 134-138;
Ros: 131-135

October 21 Feudalism and Knights
Ros: 213-218

October 23 Ottonian Germany
Hol: Widukind, Battle of Lechfeld, p. 144-146; Luidprand, Otto the Great in Italy, p. 146-149; Account of the Lombard Kingdom, p. 157-160
Ros: 139-145, 146-7
October 26 Changes in Monasticism, Romanesque Art & Architecture  
*Ros:* 

October 28 Church Reform and Investiture Conflict  
*Ros:* 164-170  

October 30 Reform continued

November 2 Eastern Europe, Eastern Mediterranean, and Islamic World and Crusades  
*Hol:* Basil II, p. 49-50; Russian Primary Chronicle, p. 160-165; The First Crusade, p. 180-189; Bernard of Clairvaux, Knights Templar 189-190  
*Ros:* 115-127, 145, 146-151, 155-160, 170-173, 175, 197-201, 233-236, 241-244, 252-3  

November 4 East and Islam continued

November 6 Economic Growth, Italy and Asia  
*Hol:* Regulations for the May Fair, p. 178-179; Customs of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, p. 174-175  
*Ros:* 160-164, 218-220, 241, 244-252  

November 9 Late Medieval France  
*Hol:* Suger, Life of Louis VI, p. 306-308; Documents relating to Louis IX, p. 308-313  
*Ros:* 176-178, 207-208  

November 11, Remembrance Day, no classes

November 13 Late Medieval England  
*Ros:* 173-174, 201-207, 236-239  

November 16 Church and Empire  
*Ros:* 208-213,  

November 18 Gothic Art and Architecture  
*Hol:* Images 13-23, p. 216-234  
*Ros:* 220-228
November 20 Learning
*Ros:* 178-181

November 23 Monasticism and Heresies
*Hol:* St Francis, Rule, p. 242-246; Humbert of Romans, Formation of Preachers, p. 246-249; Albigensian Heresy, p. 249-252; Waldensian Heresy, p. 252-253; 4th Lateran Council, p. 253-256
*Ros:* 181-195, 228-233

November 25 Age of Crisis: Famine and Plague
*Ros:* 276-286, 297-301

November 27 Crisis in Papacy
*Hol:* Philip the Fair and Boniface VIII, p. 313-319; Petrarch, Papal Court at Avignon, p. 342-343; William of Ockham, On Imperial and Papal Power, p. 343-354; Declaration of the Cardinals, p. 345-346; Catherine of Siena, Letter, p. 346-340; Decrees of the Conciliar Movement, p. 349-351
*Ros:* 252-261, 265-266, 301-302, 304

November 30 Lay Piety and Religious Change
*Hol:* Lollard Conclusions, p. 367-369; Jan Hus, p. 369-370
*Ros:* 260-264, 302-304

December 2 Conflict and Change in Western European Kingdoms
*Ros:* 252-258, 286-287, 289-297

December 4 Changes in the Mediterranean World and Conclusions
*Hol:* Capture of Constantinople, p. 385-387
*Ros:* 267-275, 287-289, 305-329
Description of Assignments

*** General Instructions, Referencing and formatting: All papers must be properly referenced using Turabian style footnotes and bibliographies. You may not cite class lectures. You may not use Wikipedia or other non-specialist websites. If you have questions about acceptable web resources, come see me. All assignments must use both primary and secondary sources. Please double space your papers, use a font like 12pt Times New Roman, use 2.54cm margins, and number your pages. At the beginning of all papers, I want to see a title, my name, the course name and the course number, the word count, and your name. Your name is to be on the right hand side of the first page. Word counts include everything except the bibliography. If you are having problems with any assignment, please come see me during office hours.

Class participation: You are expected to come to class and to do the readings for each class. You will be marked on oral participation and written work done during class in groups and/or as individuals. You will also be given marks for contributing to discussions on Acorn. Criteria for marking include sophistication and completeness of ideas, originality of thought, knowledge of material covered and ability to present the material clearly. Poor attendance can lead to failing participation marks.

Primary Source sign up: You are to find a primary source which we are not discussing in class. I suggest using our Library or one of the websites listed below under Computer Usage. You must bring your source to me in person for approval. Anyone having trouble finding a document should see me well in advance of the due date.

Primary Source Analysis: I cannot guarantee to return late papers promptly and this could have a negative impact on the time you have to rewrite the paper. The document analysis should be 900-1100 words long. You will explain the source of the passage and discuss what we can learn by reading it. The best document analyses contain an argument and often focus on one specific idea. While you are concentrating on developing your own ideas about the document, you must make significant use of secondary sources. Failure to use secondary sources will lead to poor grades on this assignment.

Primary Source Rewrite: After your analysis is marked, you have the option of rewriting it. The new mark will replace the old one. You must submit the new version and the old assignment with my comments. Each individual version should be stapled in the upper left corner and the two versions should be held together by a clip. If the old essay is missing, I will not mark the new one. The new essay will be marked on content, argument, style, and improvements.

Essay: I will circulate a series of suggested topics as term progresses or you may create your own topic. Please note: your essay topic should differ significantly from your primary source analysis. The research essay must be 2000-2200 words long. You will be graded on content, argument and style. As you work, concentrate on creating a strong thesis statement and backing up your ideas with evidence from primary sources. You must also use a good variety of secondary sources.
Midterm: There will be one midterm examination in this course. It will take place in class and will include short answer, primary source (from either textbook) and essay questions. It may cover any of the material in your assigned readings and anything discussed in class. You must show detailed knowledge of the course content.

Final Exam: The exam will take place during the exam period. The first section of the exam will similar to the midterm and will be on material covered since the midterm. The second section will cover material from the whole term and will include primary source and essay questions. These tend to cover the most important themes from the entire term.

Policies
Late Assignments: Hardcopies of assignments are due at the times specified above. Late assignments will be penalised one letter step per day. If the paper is one week late, it will receive a maximum of 50%. I stamp all hardcopies with date on which I receive them and that is the only date that counts. If you have a legitimate reason for not being able to hand in work on time, please contact me as soon as you can and attach documentation to the assignment when you submit it.

Class Attendance: The best way to succeed in this course is to come to class. There is a participation mark in this course and if you are not in class, you are not participating.

Computer Usage: I expect all students to check their university email on a regular basis. This course makes use of Acorn for discussions, some assignments, updates and the like. Websites of Special interest for this class:
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/sbook.html
http://omacl.org/
http://www.the-orb.net/
http://www.georgetown.edu/labyrinth/labyrinth-home.html
http://www.rosenweinshorthistory.com/

Contact Information: My email address and office number are given at the beginning of this syllabus. If you send an email, please include your full name and the course number. I never check email in the evenings or on the weekends. You are encouraged to visit the office during my posted office hours and I am happy to arrange to meet you at other times. You may post questions of general interest on Acorn.

Accessibility Learning Services: If you are a student with a documented disability who anticipates needing accommodations, please inform Kathy O’Rourke (902-585-1823) in Accessible Learning Services, Fountain Commons, Lower Level. disability.access@acadiau.ca

The Writing Centre offers free help to all students wishing to improve their writing skills. You can sign up online today:
• To book a one-to-one appointment with a writing tutor, click here:
writingcentre.acadiau.ca/writing-tutorials.html
• To see which helpful presentations and workshops you can attend this year, click here: writingcentre.acadiau.ca/workshops-and-presentations.html

**Plagiarism:** The University’s policy on academic integrity, cheating and plagiarism can be found in the Calendar. It includes the following definitions: 1) Cheating is copying or the use of unauthorized aids or the intentional falsification or invention of information in any academic exercise. 2) Plagiarism is the act of presenting the ideas or words of another as one’s own. Students are required to acknowledge and document the sources of ideas that they use in their written work. 3) Self plagiarism is also a form of plagiarism. It is the presentation of the same work in more than one course without the permission of the instructors involved. 4) A student who knowingly helps another to commit an act of academic dishonesty is equally guilty. 5) Penalties are levied in relation to the degree of the relevant infraction. They range from requiring the student to re-do the piece of work, through failure on that piece of work, to failure in the course, and to dismissal from the university. See the Calendar for more on procedures concerning infractions. The Library has a helpful tutorial on plagiarism. It can be found at http://library.acadiau.ca/tutorials/plagiarism/.