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Winter 2016 Office Hours: Tuesday and Friday, 9:00 – 10:00, or by appointment.

History 321

Late Medieval Europe

The story of the cultural, political, economic, and religious developments in Europe between 1250 and 1500 is a tale of truly epic disasters, including the Great Famine, the Great Plague, and the seemingly endless Hundred Years' War. Yet, despite the fact that we often speak of this period as one of great calamity and decay, it was also a time of great innovation in the arts and sciences, as well as the moment when the concept of the "state" began to take root in Europe.

This course is a lecture course, but there will be many opportunities to discuss assigned readings. Students are encouraged to remain current with required readings throughout the course in order to facilitate those discussions and enrich their own understanding of the material.

Course Objectives

Students taking this course will:

- Learn about the various historical theories surrounding the interpretation of the Late Middle Ages
- Learn to read primary sources critically and secondary sources analytically
- Engage in analysis of primary sources and use them in supporting arguments concerning their interpretation
- Engage in thoughtful analysis and discussion of a variety of primary source documents and secondary historical writings

Required Reading

The following titles are available at the Duckstore; most are also widely available via other book retailers.

Judith Bennet, *A Medieval Life*

Michael Camille, *Gothic Art: Glorious Visions*

Froissart, *Chronicles*

David Herlihy, *The Black Death and the Transformation of the West*

Additional readings available online will appear with an * in the syllabus. You may find them at the link, or under Course Documents on Canvas.

Assignments and Grading:

Your course grade will consist of four elements.

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|---|-----|------------|
| 1) Two (2) Short Papers | 30% | (each 15%) |
| 2) Midterm Exam | 25% | |
| 3) Take Home Final Exam | 35% | |
| 4) Attendance and Participation in any Discussion | 10% | |

A Word about Plagiarism: Regrettably, I must make a statement regarding the offense of plagiarism. Any violation of the [University of Oregon's academic policy on plagiarism](#) will result in my taking all necessary administrative action to report the conduct. I take the offense of plagiarism seriously, on an academic and personal level. I will fail you on the assignment at best; at worst, I will fail you for the course. Serious consequences up to and including expulsion from the University may result from the offense.

Policy Regarding Late Assignments or Make-up Examinations

All assignments are due by the end of class on the scheduled date unless I have granted an extension. Late assignments will receive penalties on the following scale:

- Assignment received late on the assigned date:** Two-thirds letter grade penalty.
Assignment received one day late: Full letter grade penalty.
Assignment received more than one day late: Two (2) letter grade penalty.
Assignment received more than two days late: No credit.

You must make all requests for extensions in advance. In the case of midterm or final papers, you must notify me no later than one week prior. Naturally, I will consider emergencies on a case-by-case basis, but please note that only *verifiable* emergencies will generally suffice.

Special Needs Note: If you are a student registered with the Accessible Ed Center as eligible for extra time on exams or for other specific needs associated with the class, please let me know immediately. Remember that it is your responsibility to make any arrangements necessary with the **Accessible Education Center** for exams or other accommodations.

Student Conduct:

General: Please refrain from reading materials unrelated to our course during class. Please keep your voice down in the event you need to clarify a note with a neighbor, etc, and please keep any side conversations to a minimum. Never hesitate to ask a question if you need to do so.

Electronics: Please put cell phones into silent mode before class begins; no texting or viewing messages during class. Please confine your use of laptops or other devices to note taking, as activities unrelated to the course are distracting to me as well as to others and thus unacceptable (even if you sit in the back row). I reserve the right to prohibit the use of *all* electronics in class at any time.

Schedule of Lectures
Week One:
The Medieval Worldview

Monday, Jan. 4

Introduction to the Course; Creating the Late Middle Ages

Wednesday, Jan. 6

The Medieval Worldview

Read: Camille, Chaps. 1 & 2

Friday, Jan. 8

Discussion of Readings

Week Two:
Ways of Seeing Religion

Monday, Jan 11

Learning and Theology: Scholasticism

Read: Aquinas, on the Nature of God <http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/aquinas1.asp> *

Wednesday, Jan. 13

Mysticism

Read: Camille, Chap. 3

Caesarius of Heisterbach, *The Eucharist as a Charm**

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/heisterbach-sacra-charm.asp>;

Elizabeth Petroff, *A New Feminine Spirituality**

Friday, Jan. 15

Discussion of Readings

Week Three:
Ways of Living: Economies and Politics

Monday, Jan. 18

Martin Luther King Day, No class.

Wednesday, Jan. 20

Money, Banking, and Trade

Read: Matthew of Paris: King Henry III's Reformation of the Coinage, 1248

<http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/1248hen3-coinage.asp>

Coinage Agreement Between Hamburg and Lübeck, 1255

<http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/1255hamburg-lubeck-coins.asp>

Get started on *A Medieval Life*

Wednesday, Jan. 22

The Italian Way: Communal Government

Read: Giovanni Villani, *Florentine Chronicle* Excerpts at

<http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/villani.asp>

Week Four

The Calamitous Fourteenth Century Begins

Monday, Jan. 25

The Peasants' World

Read: Bennett, *Medieval Life*; Barbara Hanawalt, *The Ties that Bound*, Group Chapter assignments.

Wednesday, Jan 27

The Great Famine

Read: William Chester Jordan, *The Great Famine**; Johannes de Trokelowe on the Famine in *Annates* (Early Fourteenth Century)

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/famin1315a.asp>;

Friday, Jan 29

Discussion of Readings

Week Five

The End of the World?

Monday, Feb. 1

The Hundred Years' War Begins

Read: Froissart, pgs. 68-110

Wednesday, Feb. 3

The Black Death

Read: Herlihy, *The Black Death* (Entire)

Friday, Feb. 5

Discussion of Readings; Midterm Prep

First Paper Due Today

Week Six:

New Points of View

Monday, Feb. 8

Midterm Examination

Wednesday, Feb. 10

Vernacular Literature

Read: Boccaccio, *Decameron*, 1st Day, Novels 1 – 6 (Group Assignments) available here:

<http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/23700>

Friday, Feb. 12

Discussion of Readings

Week Seven
War and Consequence

Monday, Feb. 15

England, France, and Governance

Read: Thomas Walsingham: *The Good Parliament of 1376* at
<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1376goodparliament.asp>

Wednesday, Feb. 17

War, Mercenaries, and Italy

William Caferro, *The Fox and the Lion* (Excerpt) in *The Hundred Years' War – A Wider Focus*

Friday, Feb. 19

Discussion of Readings

Week Eight
Social Upheaval

Monday, Feb. 22

The *Jacquerie*

Read: Froissart, pgs. 146-166

Wednesday, Feb. 24

The English Peasants' Revolt, 1381

Read: Froissart, pgs. 211-230

Friday, Feb. 26

Discussion of Readings

Week Nine
Challenges to Religion

Monday, Feb. 29

The Great Schism and Heresy

Read: Froissart, pgs. 201-210; Selected Letters of Catherine of Sienna*

Wednesday, Mar. 2

The Hussite Revolution

Read: Thomas Fudge, *The Crusade against Heretics in Bohemia, 1418–1437** Selected excerpts
(Group Assignments)

Friday, Mar. 4

Discussion of Readings

Second Paper Due

Week Ten
The Waning of the Middle Ages

Monday, Mar. 7

The End of the Hundred Years' War

Read: Trial of Joan of Arc, selected transcript excerpts (Group Assignment), available at <http://historymedren.about.com/gi/dynamic/offsite.htm?site=http://www.stjoan-center.com/Trials/>

Wednesday, Mar. 9

Fifteenth Century Italy

Read: Camille, Chapters 4 & 5

Friday, Mar. 11

Wrap up and Discussion of Readings

**Final Exam Due in my inbox on Wed, March 16, by 5:00 PM
via Email Only.**

Have a Great Spring Break!

SAMPLE ONLY