between the third and the tenth centuries, a new civilization arose in Europe. This class examines the gradual syncretism of Roman, Christian, and Germanic tribal cultures in the formation of a new, distinctively Medieval society. The course includes short case studies of three early medieval societies (Anglo-Saxon, Frankish, and Icelandic), noting variations in social structures, politics, kinship, and attitudes towards violence. In addition we will focus on the rich diversity of medieval symbolic systems in regard to supernatural powers, including conceptions of God or the gods, demons, saints, elves, and spirits of the dead.

**How I Run the Class:** Lectures will be delivered on Mondays and Wednesdays. On Fridays we will process the material for the week through interactive discussions, workshopping, close readings of the texts, questions-and-answers, and possibly brief written assignments or pop quizzes. The latter assignments, should I resort to them, will be counted as part of your participation grade (see below).

**Grades:** Graded assignments will be based on both the assigned readings and information from lectures. In keeping with UCSD policy, all assignments must be completed in order to pass the course. The relative weights of each are as follows:

- 2 5-page papers @ 30% each. Please do not go over the page limit.
- 1 final exam, 20 multiple choice questions, @20%
- Class attendance and participation @20%

I will take attendance at every class meeting. You are allowed two free absences. After two absences, this portion of your grade will begin to decline rapidly. After ten absences you will receive an F for this 20% of your grade. After twelve absences, you will automatically fail the entire course.

**Late Policy:** If you need an extension on a paper deadline, please come speak with me beforehand: I often am willing to negotiate if I have advance notice. However, I will not accept late papers without a prior extension except in cases of documented medical emergencies. An emergency means something genuinely serious.

**Required Texts:** In order of use. Books available at UCSD bookstore.

Course Reader, available from Cal Copy: 3251 Holiday Court, #103; 452-9949;
- Readings from the Course Reader are designated with the abbreviation: [R]
M 9/29: DAILY LIFE IN ANCIENT ROME
- Inscriptions from the walls of Pompeii [R]
- Seneca, Epistles, the gladiatorial games [R]
- Tacitus, Annals, Murder of Pedanius Secundus [R]
- Ammianus Marcellinus, History: luxury of the rich in Rome [R]
MAP: Roman Empire in 395 AD

W 10/1: ROMANS RESPOND TO GERMANS
- Julius Caesar, The Germans [R]
- Tacitus, Germania. [R]
MAP: Barbarian Migrations in the Fourth and Fifth Centuries

F 10/3 ~ Discussion or other processing.

M 10/6: ROMANS RESPOND TO CHRISTIAN RELIGION
- References to Christianity in Classical Authors [R]
- Certificate of Having Sacrificed to the Gods [R]
- Perpetua, Prison Diary [R]

W 10/8: A CHRISTIAN RESPONDS TO ROMAN RELIGION
- Augustine, The Divination of Demons [R]

F 10/10 ~ Discussion or other processing.

M 10/13: THE SOCIETY OF THE FRONTIER
- Sidonius Appollinarus, Letters [R]
- Salic Law [R]

W 10/15: A CHRISTIAN ROMAN SOLDIER CONFRONTS GERMANIC PAGANISM
- Sulpitius Severus, Life of Saint Martin [R]

F 10/17 ~ Discussion or other processing.

M 10/20: ASCETICISM: THE MONASTIC LIFE
- Saint Benedict’s Rule for Monasteries [R]
- Plan for the Abbey of St. Gall

W 10/22: MONASTIC PATRONAGE AND SELF-PROTECTION
- Cluniac Charters: Foundation of the Order & Charters of the Grossi Family [R]
- Patrick Geary, “Humiliation of Saints” [R]
- Lester Little, Benedictine Maledictions [R]

F 10/24: Discussion or other processing. ➔ FIRST PAPER DUE!

M 10/27: FROM PAGANISM TO SUPERSTITION
- Lay of the Nine Herbs, Elf-Charm and Spells [R]

W 10/29: SUPERSTITION: THE UNAUTHORIZED SUPERNATURAL
- Burchard of Worms, Corrector [R]
- Agobard of Lyon, On Hail and Thunder

F 10/31 ~ Discussion or other processing.
M11/3: ANGLO-SAXON ENGLAND
- Bede, *History of the English*, I: 27; II: 2, 5-6, 9-14; III: 25, 30; IV: 7-8, 19, 23-24

W11/5: UNDER THE GAZE OF ETERNITY: TIME AND SPACE
- Bede, *History of the English*, I: 32; V: 12-14
- Gregory of Tours, *History of the Franks*, Book I: 1-7; page 604

F11/7 ~ Discussion or other processing.

M11/10: THE LONG-HAIRED KINGS
- Gregory of Tours, *History of the Franks*,
  II: 12, 27-31; 43;
  III: 1; 7; 10; 15; 18; 22-23; 26-27; 31;
  IV: 3-4; 20-22; 25-28; 36; 49-51.
  MAPS: Barbarian Kingdoms in the 1st Half of the 6th Century; Merovingian Gaul c. 600

W11/12: SEX AND MARRIAGE
- Gregory of Tours, *History of the Franks*,
  V: 1-4; 14; 18; 33-34; 39; 47-48;
  VI: 1; 6; 24; 29; 31-32; 34; 45-46.
  VII: 4-7; 9; 14; 19-20; 33; 44-45; 47

F11/14 ~ Discussion or other processing.

M11/17: THE ECONOMY: STEALING AND GIFTING
- Gregory of Tours, *History of the Franks*,
  VIII: 28-29; 31; 44.
  IX: 19-22; 27; 34; 39-43
  X: 15-17; 20; 25; 27; pp. 602-604.

W11/19: THE CAROLINGIAN COUP D’ETAT
- Einhard, *Life of Charlemagne*
  MAP: The Carolingian Empire Under Charlemagne, 768-814

F11/21 ~ Discussion or other processing.

M11/24: Catch up on reading.
**SECOND PAPER DUE!**

Wednesday’s (11/26) and Friday’s (11/28) classes are cancelled due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

M12/1: PLEASE DO NOT SHIT ON THORSTEIN GOD-BITER’S SACRED MOUNTAIN
- Eyrbyggja Saga, Chapters 1-29. YOU CAN SKIP: 7; 17; 19; 23; 26.
  MAP: Vikings

W12/3: THE UNQUIET DEAD
- Eyrbyggja Saga, Chapters 30-65. YOU CAN SKIP 39; 41-42; 56; 58-62.

& F12/5 ~ Discussion or other processing.

**Finals Week**

The Final Exam will be held on Friday 12/12, from 10-11am, in 1330 H&SS (our regular room). **Do not arrive before 10am, or you will have to wait for me to arrive and the exam to begin!**