HIEU 111: Europe in the Middle Ages

Fall, 2014 office hours:

Thursdays, 2-3:20

6084 H & SS

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**Course Description**

Between the eleventh and the fifteenth centuries, European society expanded its intellectual and social horizons. This class focuses upon European culture during the High and Late Middle Ages, roughly 1000-1400. We will discuss the revival of urban life, shifts in power relations and social structures, the rise of universities, new economies, gender relations, and attitudes of the dominant Christian culture towards other religious groups. Since a short course such as this can only cover a limited amount of material from such a vast time period, the readings give priority to texts that illuminate individual lives. Thus we will read autobiographies, letters, hagiographies, and first-person accounts of contemporary events. The last few weeks of the class are devoted to some classic academic interpretations of the Middle Ages.

Protected: Schedule of Readings

Please purchase the following books in print or kindle versions. They are listed in order of use. Links to online sellers are provided.

~Caroline Walker Bynum, Holy Feast and Holy Fast link (week 7-8)

~Emmanuel LeRoy Ladurie, Montaillou: Promised Land of Error link (week 9. The link takes you to the amazon page with the most copies for sale, but you may purchase any edition. If you search amazon, you will find various editions and prices.)

~R.I. Moore, The Formation of a Persecuting Society link (week 10)

Many readings are available as PDFs; others as links to external websites.

Reading units and lectures are numbered and organized by week: numbers refer to the week of the quarter, while “a” and “b” designate the first or second class meeting of that week, respectively.
This syllabus is subject to change without notice. While I do not expect to alter the schedule of readings very significantly, I reserve the right to remove, add to, or alter the assigned readings. If such changes occur, I will announce them in lecture and ask you to consult this space for updates.

First class: Introduction to the website and class.

1a-b: What is Medieval History?

趺 John Arnold, What is Medieval History? PDF1 PDF2 PDF3 PDF4

2a: Space

趺 T-O and Y-O Maps: >Click here to visit the Index of Cartographic Images and browse some of the T-O slides (205 series). Examine the entire 223 series (Psalter mappamundi); the entire 226 series (Hereford map); and entire 224 series (Erbstorf Map).

2b: Time

趺 Tundale’s Vision PDF

3a-b: An Autobiography: Childhood, Monastic Life, and the Commune

趺 Guibert of Nogent, Autobiography link

4a: Religious Power: Ideology

趺 No Reading for Today ~ catch up or start reading ahead.

4b: Worldly Power: Force

趺 Galbert of Bruges, The Murder of Charles the Good. Click here for the ebook on Roger. You must be logged in via a recognized IP address in order to access the text.
5a: Worldly and Religious Power Combine: The Crusades

- Urban II’s Speech at Clermont ~ five versions link
- The siege and capture of Jerusalem ~ various sources link

5b: The Rise of Universities

- Peter Abelard, Prologue to Sic et Non link
- Roger Bacon, On Experimental Science link

6a: VETERANS’ DAY HOLIDAY

6b: Lecture topic by request. I will poll you for suggestions.

- First paper due ~ No reading.

7a: Religion Moves out of the Monastery and into the Streets

- Thomas of Celano, First Life of St. Francis, Book I: 1-15, 21, 28-30; II: 1-3, 8-10. link
- Jacques de Vitry, Life of Marie of Oignies PDF1 PDF2

7b-8a: Gender, Religion, and Authority

- Caroline Walker Bynum, Holy Feast, Holy Fast.

8b: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

9a-b: Daily Life, Heresy, and Inquisition

10a: A “Persecuting Society”?


10b: Final Thoughts

FINAL PAPER DUE DURING FINALS’ WEEK

Protected: Assignments & Policies

I am a hard grader and make no apologies for it: do not enroll in this class if your highest priority is an easy A. In accordance with university policy, students must complete all formal course requirements, and consistently attend class meetings, in order to receive course credit.

University policy also requires me to report all cases of suspected plagiarism to the Office of Academic Integrity. You are responsible for understanding what constitutes plagiarism, and for avoiding it: “I didn’t know...” is not an acceptable excuse. If you are unsure how plagiarism is defined, please check here for guidance. All assignments must be submitted in electronic form to turnitin.com (see the bottom of this page for instructions).

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The assignments for this class are as follows:

>Class attendance/discussion @ 10%. I assume that you will attend class regularly and participate in discussion. If attendance begins to drop off, I will begin calling roll. Your attendance and contributions to class discussion will factor into your final grade.

>Two 7-8-page papers, due sixth week & during finals’ week. The higher grade will count for 50% and the lower grade for 40%.
I do not accept re-writes or assign extra credit projects, so take these papers seriously if you wish to do well.

Your papers will be graded on how well you integrate together the readings from class, in order to compose an historical argument with a clear thesis, reliant on primary-source and secondary-source evidence.

YOU WILL DESIGN your own paper questions and topics. I encourage you to come to office hours in order to discuss prospective topics with me. Papers will be graded in part on how illuminating your topic or question is, as well as on how well you address it. You should strive to formulate an inquiry that allows you to integrate together the readings from class, in order to compose an historical argument with a clear thesis, reliant on primary-source evidence. I will discuss general guidelines and expectations — e.g., how many sources to use, from which readings — further in class.

All papers must be submitted via turnitin.com; I will not accept papers in any other format.

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What should we expect of one another?

What I will do: I will try to establish a class atmosphere that is open and informal; at the same time, however, I will try to challenge you intellectually. When I am lecturing, I will strive to craft informative presentations that build upon one another, are reasonably entertaining, and are well-organized. I will listen carefully when you have questions and comments about the material, and I will offer appropriate answers or feedback. I will assist you in formulating paper topics for this class, encouraging you to formulate topics that are challenging, yet appropriate for the page limits imposed. I will return your graded work in a timely manner, with feedback and comments. In keeping with basic principles of equity and fairness, I will apply the same rules and standards to everyone enrolled in this class.

I expect that you will act with integrity and take responsibility for your own education. I expect you to follow directions, whether written down or explained verbally. I expect that you will complete all the reading listed on the schedule, attend class, and be on time. I expect you to be attentive during lectures, sometimes to respond to questions when I ask them, and to come to office hours if you would like to
discuss the class material further. I strongly encourage you to speak up during class meetings, but I expect that you will formulate your comments in direct response to our common class materials (e.g., in a way that everyone can follow and that adds to the general conversation). I expect you to submit your assignments on time unless you have experienced an unexpected crisis of some significance. I expect that you will treat me, and your fellow-students, with courtesy and honesty.

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HOW TO USE TURNITIN.COM

• Go to http://turnitin.com

• Register for this class using the following information:

  class ID:

  PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU MUST NOT HAVE A SPACE AFTER THE CLASS ID NUMBERS, OR IT WILL NOT WORK — Block and copy only the numbers, with no extra spaces or returns.

  You will be prompted for an enrollment password. This is the same password as for this website; the password you needed to see and read the course PDFs

  • Follow the instructions online to upload your paper

  • You have until the stated deadline for each assignment to submit your paper to turnitin.com. If you do not submit your paper to turnitin.com by the specific time your paper will not count.