

Department of History

Semester II Year

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
115	Medieval Europe, 410-1500	Courtenay

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an introduction to the society of Western Europe in the period from the end of the Roman Empire up to (but not including) the sixteenth-century Reformation. It will cover the emergence of feudal society in the early Middle Ages, particularly the administrative, military, and social aspects. The rebirth of the European economy in the tenth to thirteenth centuries will also be examined, with attention to agrarian and urban development. Throughout the course consideration will be given to religious, intellectual, and artistic developments.

LECTURES

Two lectures of 75 min. each per week, covering specified topics in a roughly chronological order. The fourth course-hour will be a discussion section.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

Two one-hour exams, in the 6th and 12th weeks, and one two-hour final exam. Students may substitute for the 12-week exam a term paper, on a topic to be chosen by the student in consultation with the professor.

GRADING SYSTEM

Final grade will be based on the results of the three examinations (or two exams and the paper) and participation in the discussion section. Greater weight will be given to the later marks. No curve will be used. Grades will be awarded on the basis of how well each student masters the content of the course.

REQUIRED READINGS

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History
Semester II, 1983-84

History 115: Medieval Europe 410-1500

Mr. Courtenay

REQUIRED READING:

Brian Tierney & Sidney Painter, Western Europe in the Middle Ages, 300-1475, 3rd edition (Knopf)

Brian Tierney, The Middle Ages, I: Sources (Knopf)

Brian Tierney, The Middle Ages, II: Readings (Knopf)

The course is structured around two 75-minute lectures and one discussion section per week. There will be two one-hour examinations during the semester (March 1 and April 12) in addition to the final examination (May 13). Those taking the course for four credits are expected, in addition, to write a short term paper (5-10 pp.); three-credit students who so wish may substitute a short term paper in place of the second examination. Honors students will be expected to do a term paper (5-10 pp. for 3-credit students, 10-20 pp. for 4-credit students). All papers shall be due by the date of the second examination: April 12.

The required readings are central to the course, and the questions on the examinations will presuppose a knowledge of the developments and major factual data presented in those readings. The lectures will not substitute for the readings but will, instead, cover selected topics in greater depth, draw together various ideas and developments, or suggest alternative approaches. It is important to keep up in your reading in order to understand the lectures and benefit from the discussion section.

A. The Early Middle Ages

Jan. 24: Course Introduction

Jan. 26: The Late Roman World

Readings: Western Europe, ch. 1; Sources, 1-4

Jan. 31: Christianity and Classical Culture

Feb. 2: Change and Continuity in Social Structures

Readings: Western Europe, ch. 2; Sources, 5-8, 12-20;
Readings, 3

Feb. 7: The Roman World in Transition: Germanic Tribes and Islam

Feb. 9: Mentality and Worldview in the Early Middle Ages

Readings: Western Europe, chs. 3-5; Sources, 9-11, 23

Feb. 14: Carolingian France and the Development of Feudalism

Feb. 16: Peasant Society and Manorialism

Readings: Western Europe, chs. 6-8; Sources, 25-29, 31-33;
Readings, 4-11

Feb. 21: The Church and Schools in Carolingian Society

Feb. 23: First Examination

The Central Middle Ages

Feb. 28: Church and Society in the Late Carolingian World

Mar. 1: The Investiture Controversy

Readings: Western Europe, chs. 9-10; Sources, 35-38

Mar. 6: Economic Revival and the Development of Town Life

Mar. 8: The Rise of Feudal Monarchies in England and France

Readings: Western Europe, chs. 12 & 14; Sources, 45-48, 54-55, 64; Readings, 12-13, 18-19

Mar. 13: The Holy Roman Empire and Papal Monarchy in the 12th and 13th cents.

Mar. 15: From Customary Law to Common Law

Readings: Western Europe, chs. 11, 15-16; Sources, 56-60, 65-67;
Readings, 21-24

Mar. 27: The Rise of Representative Institutions

Mar. 29: Religious Change and Lay Society

Readings: Western Europe, ch. 13; Sources, 68-71, 61-63;
Readings, 25-26

Apr. 3: From Epic to Romance

Apr. 5: From Romanesque to Gothic

Readings: Western Europe, ch. 18; Sources, 49-53;
Readings, 20, 28

Apr. 10: Education and Scholasticism

Apr. 12: Second Examination

Readings: Western Europe, ch. 17; Sources, 75-77;
Readings, 29

C. The Late Middle Ages

Apr. 17: Economy and Society in the Late Middle Ages

Apr. 19: Peasant and Urban Unrest

Readings: Western Europe, chs. 19, 22; Sources, 81-83, 89;
Readings, 32-33

Apr. 24: Forms of Religious Life: Lay Piety, Mysticism, and Devotio Moderna

Apr. 26: Schism and Conciliarism: The Late Medieval Church

Readings: Western Europe, chs. 20-21, 24; Sources, 78-80, 87-88;
Readings, 25

May 1: Late Medieval Political Thought

May 3: Universities and Social Change

Readings: Western Europe, ch. 23

May 8: Italian Humanism

May 10: Review and Discussion

Readings: Western Europe, ch. 25 & Epilogue