UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
Department of History
Semester I, 1996-97

History 317: MEDIEVAL SOCIAL 7 INTELLECTUAL HISTORY, 400-1200
Lectures: TR @ 1:00-2:15 in 1641 Humanities
W. Courtenay, 4102 Humanities, 263-1812; office hrs: Wed 12:00-1:00 &
by appointment

Required Reading:
Cook and Herzman, The Medieval World View (Oxford)
C. S. Lewis, The Discarded Image (Cambridge)
J. Leclercq, The Love of Learning and the Desire for God (Fordham)
Augustine, Confessions (Penguin)
Boethius, The Consolation of Philosophy (Penguin)
Abelard, Story of Abelard’s Adversities (PIMS, Toronto)
Anselm, Basic Writings (Open Court)

Recommended Reading:
D. Knowles, The Evolution of Medieval Thought
M. L. W. Laistner, Thought and Letters in Western Europe
E. Kitzinger, Early Medieval Art
R. W. Southern, The Making of the Middle Ages
C. H. Haskins, The Renaissance of the Twelfth Century
C. Brooke, The Twelfth-Century Renaissance
H. Waddell, The Wandering Scholars
R. Benson & G. Constable, Renaissance and Renewal in the 12th Cent.
Guibert of Nogent, Self and Society in Medieval France

Those students lacking a background in medieval history are strongly urged to consult one of the
following textbooks on reserve:
Brian Tierney, Western Europe in the Middle Ages
R. H. C. Davis, A History of Medieval Europe
A. Lewis, Emerging Medieval Europe

For those students taking the course for three credits, grading will be based on the mid-term and
final examinations. Graduate students and those taking the course for four credits or honors will
be expected to write a research paper in addition to the two examinations. The topic for the
papers should be selected by the student and approved by the instructor by October 1.

LECTURES
A. The Classical Heritage and Christian Learning:
Sept. 3: Course Introduction; Latin West in Late Antiquity
Sept. 5: Religion and Society in the 4th and 5th Centuries
Sept. 10: Christian Monasticism
Sept. 12: Education in Late Roman and Early Medieval Cultures
Sept. 17: Gnosticism and Neoplatonism
Sept. 19: Augustine on Creation and Evil
Sept. 24: The Pelagian Crisis
Sept. 26: Augustinian View of Human Nature and Society
Oct. 1: Boethius
Oct. 3: Benedict and Cassiodorus

B. Early Medieval Culture: Survival and Renewal:
Oct. 8: Society, Religion, and Learning c.600
Oct. 10: Carolingian Revival: Age of Charlemagne
Oct. 15: Carolingian Revival: Louis the Pious and Successors
Oct. 17: Carolingian Neoplatonism
Oct. 22: Gottschalk and Semi-Pelagianism
Oct. 24: MIDTERM EXAMINATION

C. The New Economy and the Transformation of Medieval Culture:
Oct. 29: Social-Economic Change and Recovery of Town Life
Oct. 31: Monastic Reform in the 10th and 11th Centuries
Nov. 5: The Gregorian Reform
Nov. 7: The Cistercian Reform and Bernard of Clairvaux
Nov. 12: From Customary Law to Common Law
Nov. 14: From Epic to Romance
Nov. 19: From Romanesque to Gothic

D. Education, Religion, and Philosophy in the 12th Century
Nov. 21: Anselm of Bec
Nov. 26: Educational Change and the Schools of Northern France
Nov. 28: THANKSGIVING
Dec. 3: The Rise of Dialectic and the School of Laon
Dec. 5: The “School of Chartres” and Chartrain Humanism
Dec. 10: Peter Abelard
Dec. 12: Hugh of St. Victor and Peter Lombard
Dec. 17: Naturalism and Individualism
Dec. 19: Love in the 12th Century