

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History
Semester I, 1988-89

History 321 Economic Life in Medieval Europe M. F. Mazzaoui

Required Texts:

N. J. G. Pounds, An Economic History of Medieval Europe (Longman)
David Herlihy, Medieval Households (Harvard)
M. M. Postan, The Medieval Economy and Society (Penguin-Pelican)
Georges Duby, The Early Growth of the European Economy: Warriors and Peasants (Cornell)

Course Requirements:

MID-TERM AND FINAL EXAMINATIONS
3 Credit Option: short essay (4-5 pp.)
4 Credit Option: term paper (10-12 pp.)
Honors: Please see instructor
PAPERS DUE: December 1

Lecture Schedule

9/6-8 Introduction: Sources and Methodology
 The Late Roman Economy

 Pounds, pp. 1-40
 Herlihy, ch. 1

9/13-15 Early Germanic Society
 Social and Economic Structures in Early Medieval Europe

 Pounds, pp. 41-46, 67-71
 Duby, pp. 3-47
 Herlihy, ch. 2
 Postan, ch. 1

9/20-22 Mediterranean Trade in the Early Middle Ages: The Pirenne
 Thesis and its Critics
 Byzantium, Islam and Carolingian Europe

 Pounds, pp. 71-89
 Duby, pp. 48-76

9/27-29 The Rise of Dependent Cultivation: Lordship and Peasant
 The Crisis of the Tenth Century

 Pounds, pp. 46-47
 Herlihy, ch. 3
 Duby, pp. 77-111
 Postan, ch. 5

- 10/4-6 Trends in Demography and Technology
The Agricultural Frontier 1050-1250

Pounds, pp. 90-222
Duby, pp. 112-156, 181-210
Postan, chs. 2, 4 (pts. 1-3), 6, 7, 8 (pts. 1-5), 9
(pts. 1 and 2)
- 10/11-13 Feudal Society in the High Middle Ages
Social Mobility, Class Values and Family Structure

Duby, pp. 157-180
Postan, ch. 10 (pt. 1 and 2)
Herlihy, ch. 4
- Tues. 10/18, MIDTERM EXAMINATION
- 10/20-25 The Revival of Trade: Routes and Commodities
Money, Credit and Business Institutions

Pounds, pp. 338-430
Duby, pp. 211-270
Postan, chs. 11 and 13
- 10/27-11/1 Growth of Towns and Municipal Institutions
Urban Social Classes

Pounds, pp. 223-278
Postan, ch. 12 (pt. 1 and 2)
- 11/3-8 Medieval Industry: Guild and Entrepreneurial Structures
Wealth and Poverty in Town and Countryside

Pounds, pp. 279-337
- 11/10-15 The Black Death and Demographic Crisis
Economic Recession

Pounds, pp. 440-448, 483-487
Postan, ch. 3
Herlihy, chs. 5 and 6
- 11/17-22 Social Unrest and Reconstruction
The Late Medieval Village

Pounds, pp. 476-483
Postan, ch. 8 pt. 6; ch. 9 pts. 3 and 4; ch. 10, pt. 3
- 11/24-27 THANKSGIVING RECESS

11/29-12/1 Town and Industry in the 14th and 15th Centuries
Patterns of International Trade

Pounds, pp. 448-476
Postan, ch. 12 pt. 3

12/6-8 Economic Regulation in the Late Middle Ages
Public Finance

Pounds, pp. 430-439

12/13-15 Toward the Modern Economy: The Theses of Braudel and
Wallerstein
Review Session

No Assignment

Fri.
Dec. 23 2:45 P.M. FINAL EXAMINATION