

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MADISON
Semester I: 1994-95

The Religious Community
The Roots of Christian Monasticism

History & Medieval Studies 366:
1-2:15 TR: 1221 Humanities

Instructor: Prof. Courtenay
4102 Humanities (263-1812)
Office Hrs: Thur. 10-12 & by appt.

The course will cover the history of Christian monasticism from its origins to the end of the Middle Ages. In addition to the texts listed below, other materials will be distributed as the semester progresses. There will be two examinations: a mid-term and a final. Students taking the course for four credits are expected to do a short research paper (10-15 pages) on a topic approved by and discussed with the instructor. Graduate students and honors students are also expected to write a research paper appropriate to their level. In addition to Prof. Courtenay, there will be several guest lecturers.

Required texts:

- C. H. Lawrence, Medieval Monasticism (Longman)
- J. Leclercq, Love of Learning and the Desire for God (Fordham)
- RB 1980. Rule of St. Benedict (Liturgical Press)

Recommended:

- David Knowles, Christian Monasticism (out of print)
- C. H. Lawrence, The Friars (Longman)

Lectures:

- Sep. 1: Course Introduction

- Sep. 6: Origins of Monasticism
- Sep. 8: The Training of the Desert (Ringler)

- Sep. 13: The Training of the Desert (Ringler)
- Sep. 15: The Spread of Monasticism in the West; Jerome

- Sep. 20: Early Monastic Rules: Pachomius, Basil, and Augustine
- Sep. 22: Medieval Monasticism (movie)

- Sep. 27: John Cassian (Ringler)
- Sep. 29: Women in the Religious Life, 4th-6th cents. (LeMoine)

- Oct. 4: Lerins and the Abbatial Bishop
- Oct. 6: St. Benedict

- Oct. 11: Rule of St. Benedict
- Oct. 13: Celtic Monasticism in Ireland (Ringler)

- Oct. 18: Anglo-Saxon Monasticism
- Oct. 20: Mid-term examination

Oct. 25: Celtic Monasticism on the Continent
Oct. 27: Feudalization of Monasticism: the Aristocracy

Nov. 1: Carolingian Monasticism: Royal Abbeys
Nov. 3: Monastic Education

Nov. 8: Cluny
Nov. 10: Plain Chant and the Birth of Polyphony

Nov. 15: Italian Reform Movements in 11th century
Nov. 17: La Grande Chartreuse and le Bec Hellouin

Nov. 22: Women in the Monastic Life, 700-1200 (Schulenberg)

Nov. 29: The Cistercians (papers due)
Dec. 1: The Franciscans and Dominicans

Dec. 6: Mendicant & Monastic Orders in 13th to 15th centuries
Dec. 8: Monasticism and University Education (Sullivan)

Dec. 13: Beguines and the Devotio Moderna (Van Engen)
Dec. 15: Final Remarks and Discussion