

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History
Semester II, 1987-88

History 115

MEDIEVAL EUROPE, 410-1500

Mr. Watt

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Brian Tierney & Sidney Painter, Western Europe in the Middle Ages, 4th edition (Knopf)

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

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

This course is an introduction to the history of the Middle Ages, covering European history from the fall of Rome to the Renaissance. There will be three lectures and one discussion section per week. All students will be assigned to discussion sections. All students are expected to attend regularly both lectures and discussion sections and to participate actively in the weekly sections. Students are expected to do the required readings before a given topic is covered in lecture or discussion.

Students taking this course will take two one-hour exams and the two-hour final exam. Students taking this course for four credits will have to write, in addition to the three exams, either a research paper (roughly ten pages in length) or three book reviews (roughly three to five pages each). All paper choices, in either format, must be approved by the instructor or the teaching assistant.

Final grades will be determined roughly as follows:

3-credit students:

class participation	10%
two one-hour exams	25% each
final exam	40%

4-credit students:

class participation	10%
two one-hour exams	20% each
paper(s)	20%
final exam	30%

I. The Early Middle Ages

Week 1 (January 19-22):

Introduction

The Late Roman Empire

(Reading assignment--Text: 1-5; Sources: 1-4; Readings: 1-3)

N.B. Numbers refer to sections, not to pages or chapters.

- Week 2 (January 25-29):
 The Origins of Christianity
 The Early Christian Church and the Patristic Period
 Early Germanic Society
 (Reading assignment--Text: 6-10; Sources: 5-9, 13)
- Week 3 (February 1-5):
 Barbarian Invasions and the Fall of Rome
 Germanic Successor States and the Survival of the Empire in
 the East
 The Byzantine Empire
 (Reading assignment--Text: 11-13; Sources: 10-12, 22)
- Week 4 (February 8-12):
 The Kingdom of the Franks
 The Growth of Monasticism
 The Birth of the Islamic Religion
 (Reading assignment--Text: 14-17; Sources: 14-15; 19-21,
 23; Readings: 4-7)
- Week 5 (February 15-19):
 The Carolingian Empire
 Vikings, Slavs, Saracens
 The Aristocracy and Feudalism
 (Reading assignment--Text: 19-24; Sources: 24-34;
Readings: 8-10)
- Week 6 (February 22-26):
 The Peasantry and Manorialism
 Early Latin Christian Culture
 First exam: February 26
 (Reading assignment--Text: 25-27; Readings: 11)
- II. The Central Middle Ages
- Week 7 (February 29-March 4):
 The Growth of the Papacy
 The Holy Roman Empire
 The Investiture Controversy
 (Reading assignment--Text: 28-34; Sources: 35-38;
Readings: 21-22)
- Week 8 (March 7-11):
 The Crusades
 Economic Revival and the Development of Towns
 Social Changes in the Central Middle Ages
 (Reading assignment--Text: 35-42; Sources: 39-41, 45-48;
Readings: 12-14)

Week 9 (March 21-25):
New Religion Orders and Changes in Learning
The Hohenstaufen vs. the Papacy
The Rise of Feudal Monarchies in England and France
(Reading assignment--Text: 43-51; Sources: 42-44, 54-63;
Readings: 15-17)

Week 10 (March 28-31):
The Development of Common Law
The Rise of Representative Institutions
(Reading assignment--Text: 52-56, 61-64; Sources: 64-71;
Readings: 23-26)

Week 11 (April 4-8):
Scholasticism and Education
From Romanesque to Gothic and from Epic to Romance
Second Exam: April 8
(Reading assignment--Text: 57-60; Sources: 75-77;
Readings: 27-29)

III. The Late Middle Ages

Week 12 (April 11-15):
Social and Economic Crises
Peasant & Urban Unrest
Late Medieval Political Thought
(Reading assignment--Text: 65-70; Sources: 78-83;
Readings: 31-32)

Week 13 (April 18-22):
Lay Piety, Mysticism & Devotio moderna
Late Medieval Politics
Late Medieval Warfare
(Reading assignment--Text: 71-77, 80-82; Sources: 84-86;
Readings: 33)

Week 14 (April 25-29):
Schism, Conciliarism and the Renaissance Papacy
The Medieval Family
The Growth of National Monarchies
(Reading assignment--Text: 83-88; Sources: 87-92;
Readings: 18-20; 30)

Week 15 (May 2-6):
Rise of Humanism
The Problem of the Renaissance
Concluding Remarks
(Reading assignment--Text: 89; Sources: 93)

Final Exam: T, May 10, 12:25 p.m.

