

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
Department of History
Semester 1, 1990-91

History 321

Economic Life in Medieval Europe

M. F. Mazzaoui
Rm 4127 Humanities
Office Hrs: MW 4:00-5:00 pm
Telephone: 263-1641

Required Texts:

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)

Recommended Texts:

N. J. G. Pounds, An Economic History of Medieval Europe (Longman)

Course Requirements:

MID-TERM AND FINAL EXAMINATIONS
3 Credit Option: short essay (5 pages)
4 Credit Option: term paper (10-12 pages)
Honors: Please see instructor
PAPERS DUE: November 28

Lecture Schedule

- 9/5-10 Introduction: Sources and Methodology
The Late Roman Economy
Herlihy, ch. 1
Rec: Pounds, pp. 1-40
- 9/12-17 Early Germanic Society
Social and Economic Structures in Early Medieval Europe
Duby, pp. 3-47
Herlihy, ch. 2
Postan, ch. 1
Rec: Pounds, pp. 41-46, 67-71
- 9/19-24 Mediterranean Trade in the Early Middle Ages: The Pirenne Thesis and its Critics
Byzantium, Islam and Carolingian Europe
Duby, pp. 48-76
Rec: Pounds, pp. 71-89
- 9/26-10/1 The Rise of Dependent Cultivation: Lordship and Peasant
The Crisis of the Tenth Century
Herlihy, ch. 3
Duby, pp. 77-111
Postan, ch. 5
Rec: Pounds, pp. 46-47
- 10/3-8 Trends in Demography and Technology
The Agricultural Frontier 1050-1250
Duby, pp. 112-156, 181-210
Postan, chs. 2, 4(pts. 1-3), 6, 7, 8(pts. 1-5), 9(pts. 1 & 2)
Rec: Pounds, pp. 90-222

- 10/10-15 Feudal Society in the High Middle Ages
Social Mobility, Class Values and Family Structure
Duby, pp. 157-180
Postan, ch. 10 (pts. 1 and 2)
Herlihy, ch. 4
- Tues.
10/17 **MID-TERM EXAMINATION**
- 10/22-24 The Revival of Trade: Routes and Commodities
Money, Credit and Business Institutions
Duby, pp. 211-270
Postan, chs. 11 and 13
Rec: Pounds, pp. 338-430
- 10/29-31 Growth of Towns and Municipal Institutions
Urban Social Classes
Postan, ch. 12 (pt. 1 and 2)
Rec: Pounds, pp. 223-278
- 11/5-7 Medieval Industry: Guild and Entrepreneurial Structures
Wealth and Poverty in Town and Countryside
Rec: Pounds, pp. 279-337
- 11/12-14 The Black Death and Demographic Crisis
Economic Recession
Postan, ch. 3
Herlihy, chs. 5 and 6
Rec: Pounds, pp 440-448, 483-487
- 11/19-21 Social Unrest and Reconstruction
The Late Medieval Village
Postan, ch. 8 pt. 6; ch. 9 pts. 3 and 4; ch. 10, pt. 3
Rec: Pounds, pp. 476-483
- 11/22-25 **THANKSGIVING RECESS**
- 11/26-28 Town and Industry in the 14th and 15th Centuries
Patterns of International Trade
Postan, ch. 12 pt. 3
Rec: Pounds, pp. 448-476
- 11/28 **TERM PAPERS DUE**
- 12/3-5 Economic Regulation in the Late Middle Ages
Public Finance
Rec: Pounds, pp. 430-439
- 12/10-12 Toward the Modern Economy: The Theses of Braudel and Wallerstein
Review Session
No Assignment
- Monday
December 17 10:05 A.M. FINAL EXAMINATION