

University of Wisconsin – Madison
Department of History
Spring Semester, 2018-2019

History 309
The Crusades

Humanities 1621
Monday and Wednesday
8:00AM - 9:15AM



Prof. Elizabeth Lapina

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Office hours: Wednesday 9:20AM – 10:40 AM and by appointment

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Summary

The crusades, which originated in the late 11th century, were a new type of war believed by participants and contemporaries to be not only just, but also holy. The rallying cry of the participants of the First Crusade was “God wills it!” In this class, we will study political and military history of crusades, analyze the ideas that made crusades possible and discuss experiences of those involved in or affected by them, including men and women, Christians, Jews and Muslims.

Workload:

This 4-credit course meets as a group for 4 hours per week (according to UW-Madison's credit hour policy, each lecture counts as 1.5 hours and each discussion counts as an hour). The course also carries the expectation that you will spend an average of at least 2 hours outside of class for every hour in the classroom. In other words, in addition to class time, plan to allot an average of at least 8 hours per week for reading, writing, preparing for discussions, and/or studying for quizzes and exams for this class.

Learning outcomes:

- Master the basic outline of crusading movement
- Acquire an understanding of such issues religiously-motivated warfare and interfaith, cross-cultural and trans-regional relations in the Middle Ages
- Understand and engage, both orally and in writing, with scholarly debates about crusades
- Analyze a series of primary sources both orally and in writing
- Undertake independent research
- Undertake a group project together with two other students in the class

Reading Assignments:

Please bring all of the primary sources assigned for that week to your discussion sections. The following primary sources are available at the University of Wisconsin bookstore and on reserve at the College Library (Helen C. White Hall, 600 North Park Street). If you wish, you can use different editions as long as you are aware of and accept the inconveniences this might cause you.

(1) Christopher Tyerman, *God's War*

(2) Joinville and Villehardouin, *Chronicles of the Crusades* (Penguin)

Grading:

- 4 Essays (10% each) 40%
- History Through Objects: 20%
(15% for the written part and 5% for the presentation)
- Participation in discussion sections: 13%
- Attendance of Adnan Hussein's talk on "The Formation of a Crusading Society: Islamophobia and Antisemitism" on the evening of May 3rd 2%
(let me know if you absolutely cannot attend it and I will give you a make-up assignment)
- Final Exam 25%

ESSAYS ON ASSIGNED READINGS:

You have to write FOUR essays on questions based on the assigned readings. Each essay should be 700-1000 words. Unless specified otherwise on the syllabus, the papers are due in sections where the assigned readings are to be discussed. No later papers will be accepted. No electronic submissions will be accepted. You cannot write an extra paper to compensate for a poor grade. You do not have to do any outside research for any of the essays. While grading, we will be asking the following questions:

- (a) Are spelling and grammar adequate?
- (b) Are there both an introduction and a conclusion?
- (c) Is the essay well-structured? Does each paragraph develop one theme / idea? Are there effective transitions between paragraphs?
- (d) Does the essay illustrate the main points with quotations? Are these quotations well integrated into the essay? Are they relevant?

(e) Does the essay reflect a careful reading of the assigned text(s) or does it discuss the topic very generally?

(f) Does the essay answer the question asked?

When quoting the assigned text(s) or referring to specific passages, you should identify the page numbers either in parenthesis or in a footnote.

FINAL EXAM

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|------------|--------|--------|
| 05/10/2019 | 7:25PM | 9:25PM |
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HISTORY LAB AND WRITING CENTER:

Both are very useful if you want help with your papers.

Information about the History Lab can be found here: <https://history.wisc.edu/thehistorylab.htm>

Information about the Writing Center can be found here: <http://www.writing.wisc.edu/>

ACADEMIC HONESTY

The University of Wisconsin considers academic honesty to be a very serious issue. I will **always** enforce the university policies on academic honesty. I suggest that you read carefully the following website dealing with the rules about plagiarism: http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/QPA_plagiarism.html If you have questions about plagiarism, please contact me or your TA. Further information about student codes of conduct is found here: <http://students.wisc.edu/saja/misconduct/UWS14.html#points>

DISABILITY

Disability guidelines for course accommodations are found at the UW McBurney Disability Resource Center site: <http://www.mcburney.wisc.edu>

Week 1

Jan 23 (Wednesday): Introduction

Week 2

Jan 28: Christian Holy War

Jan 30: The Middle East on the Eve of the First Crusade

READ: Rubenstein, *The First Crusade*, Documents 1 and 2 (on Canvas); Buc, "Christian Exegesis and Violence" (on Canvas); Tyerman, "The Origins of Christian Holy War."

ESSAY: Summarize the main points of Buc's chapter. Which ones do you find compelling and which ones perhaps less so?

Week 3

Feb 4: The First Crusade I

Feb 6: The First Crusade II

READ: Rubenstein, *The First Crusade*, Documents 15, 16, 17, 21, 23, 27, 33, 37, 39, 41, 50 (on Canvas); Tyerman, “The Summons to Jerusalem,” “The March to Constantinople”; “The Road to the Holy Sepulcher”; “The Foundations of Christian Outremer,” “The Latin States,” “East is East and East is West: Outremer in the Twelfth Century.”

Week 4

Feb 11: Was the First Crusade a Defensive or an Offensive War?

Feb 13: The Latin States.

READ by February 11th

(1) Matthew Gabriele, “Islamophobes want to recreate the Crusades” (on Canvas)

(2) <https://apholt.com/2018/04/15/the-first-crusade-as-a-defensive-war-four-historians-respond/>

ESSAY (due on February 11th at the beginning of class): Was the First Crusade a defensive war?

Come up with three arguments in favor and three arguments against.

History through Objects: in your sections, be prepared to tell your classmates about the progress you have made so far and the challenges you are encountering.

Week 5

Feb 18: Military Orders. Castles and Siege Warfare

Feb 20: Women

READ: Bernard Hamilton, “Women in the Crusader States: The Queens of Jerusalem (1100-1190)” (on Canvas); Michael R. Evans “‘Unfit to Bear Arms’: The Gendering of Arms and Armour in Accounts of Women on Crusades” (on Canvas)

Week 6

Feb 25: Second Crusade

Feb 27: Fall of Jerusalem

READ: Francesco Gabrieli, *Arab Historians of the Crusades*, 125-139; 146-175 (on Canvas); Tyerman, “‘The Spirit of the Pilgrim God’: Fighting the Second Crusade”; “The Third Crusade.”

ESSAY (topic TBA)

Week 7

March 4: Third Crusade

March 6: Fourth Crusade

READ: Tyerman, “The Fourth Crusade”; Villehardouin, *The Conquest of Constantinople*, Chapter 1 – Chapter 9.

ESSAY: For Villehardouin, the Fourth Crusade was a story of loyalty. In his chronicle, who owed loyalty to whom? Who remained loyal throughout and who broke one’s loyalty? Make sure to include at least three quotations from the chronicle.

Week 8

March 11: Albigensian Crusade

March 13: Fifth Crusade

READ: Bird *et al*, *Crusade and Christendom*, 158-225 (on Canvas); Tyerman, “The Albigensian Crusades”; “The Fifth Crusade”

ESSAY: According to Oliver of Paderborn, what characteristics made what we know as the Fifth Crusade a “holy war”?

Week 9

March 18: SPRING RECESS

March 20: SPRING RECESS

Week 10.

March 25: NO CLASS

March 27: Spain

READ: Tyerman, “Frontier Crusades 1: Conquest of Spain”

History through Objects: 5-minute informal presentation in your section.

Week 11

April 1: The Baltic Frontier

April 3: The Sixth Crusade (Frederick II)

READ: Bird *et al*, *Crusade and Christendom*, 247-265; Tyerman, “Frontier Crusades 2: The Baltic and the North”; “The Defense of Outremer” (up to the crusades of Louis IX).

Week 12

April 8: The Seventh Crusade (Louis IX)

April 10: Later Crusades

READ: Tyerman, “The Defense of Outremer” (on the crusades of Louis IX); “The Later Crusades”; Joinville, *The Life of Saint Louis*, Chapter 3 – Chapter 9

ESSAY: According to Joinville, what characteristics made Louis IX a model king? Come up with a list of 4-6 characteristics. Include one quotation for each characteristic.

Week 13

April 15: Crusades Today I.

April 17: Crusades Today II.

WATCH: “Kingdom of Heaven” (either theatrical version or Director’s Cut, as you prefer; watch it before April 15th, so that we can have an in-class discussion)

READ: Matthew Richard Schlimm, “The Necessity of Permanent Criticism: A Postcolonial Critique of Ridley Scott's *Kingdom of Heaven*.” *Journal of Media and Religion*, 9 (2010): 129–149 (on Canvas); Elliott, “‘These women-rapeing, Muslim-murdering, medieval monsters’: IS, the Middle Ages and the Mass Media” (on Canvas).

ESSAY: What are some of the problems with the current wide use of the term ‘medieval’? You should base most of your essay on Elliott’s article, but feel free to include your own opinions.

Week 14

April 22: History through Objects I. Presentations.

April 24: History through Objects II. Presentations

Week 15

April 29: History through Objects III. Presentations.

May 1: Review.

History through Objects assignment due in sections.

History through Objects

1. I will come up with groups – assembled randomly – by January 30th. Contact each other and come up with a plan of action.
2. Choose an object from the list (see google document: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/10f1gO8GAYAxFI10QqzBBfldTwJFLcXp5-GWVsArD9pM/edit?usp=sharing>). You should probably browse the books (on reserve at either College or Art libraries) beforehand.
3. Make sure to choose an object that no one else in the class has chosen. Write your names in the Table next to the object you have chosen. If you want to research an object not on the list, make sure to contact your instructor for permission.
4. Read the discussion of the object in the book cited on the list. Read selections of the book that do not deal with the object directly for general background.
5. Check out the books that the initial book cites. I am not expecting you to be able to be able to read books in any language other than English.
6. Do research. Find other books or articles that (a) discuss the object in question or (b) allow you to understand the background.
7. Give a brief presentation of the object in question to your discussion section.
8. Write a paper of no fewer than 4 and no more than 6 pages (double-space) about the object. Although you will do your research as a group, your paper is an INDEPENDENT project. The paper should cover the following topics in the order that works best for you.
 - a. A description of the object.
 - b. A discussion of the materials and technique used in making the object.
 - c. A discussion of the date. How do we know it?

- d. A discussion of the place of production, of the artist and of the patron who commissioned it (whether you know their names or not, you should discuss their background). How do we know this information?
- e. A discussion of the uses of the object.
- f. A discussion of any alterations of the object since its initial fabrication.
- g. A discussion of the object's history. How did it make it from the place where it was made to the place where it is found today?
- h. A discussion of historical context, in which the object was produced, modified and / or used.
- i. A discussion of what the object tells us about crusades.
- j. A discussion of any other factors that are useful for understanding the object.

Your final paper should include an appendix (not counted in the total number of pages) with the following items:

- a reproduction of object
 - a map with the relevant location(s) clearly marked
 - a glossary of names and terms that you mention in the paper and that would not be familiar to your classmates
- k. Do a presentation of about 8 minutes to the entire class. Make sure to upload your Powerpoint presentation to the BOX at least 2 hours before the presentation.

Books on Reserve:

- Louise W. Macke, *Symbols of Power. Luxury Textiles from Islamic Lands, 7th-21st Century*. New Haven and London, 2015.
- Avinoam Shalem, *Islam Christianized. Islamic Portable Objects in the Medieval Church Treasuries of the Latin West*. Frankfurt am Main, 1998
- *Jerusalem. 1000-14000. Every People Under Heaven*, edited by Barbara Drake Boehm and Melanie Holcomb (New Heaven and London, 2016)
- Jaroslav Folda, *Crusader art: the art of the Crusades in the Holy Land, 1099-1291* (Burlington, 2008)
- Cynthia Hahn, *Strange Beauty. Issues in the Making and Meaning of Reliquaries, 400-circa 1204*. Pennsylvania, 2012.
- Bianca Kuhnel et al, *Visual Constructs of Jerusalem*. Turnhout, 2014. [If you are working on reliquaries, make sure to consult the following articles: Bruno Reudenbach "Holy Places and Their Relics" and Nikolas Jaspert, "The True Cross of Jerusalem and the Latin West: Mediterranean Connections and Institutional Agency."]
- Alex G. Malloy, *Coins of the Crusader States, 1098-1291 : including the Kingdom of Jerusalem and its vassal states of Syria and Palestine, the Lusignan Kingdom of Cyprus (1192-1489), and the Latin Empire of Constantinople and its vassal states of Greece and the Archipelago* (New York, 1994)