

University of Wisconsin – Madison
Department of History
Spring Semester, 2021-2022

History 309
The Crusades

HUMANITIES 1651

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 – 10:45



Prof. Elizabeth Lapina

lapina@wisc.edu

office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00-12:00

During my office hours, I will be on Zoom (<https://uwmadison.zoom.us/j/96074706649>) AND in my office (4131 Mosse Humanities). You can stop by virtually or in person. If you cannot stop by during my office hours, e-mail me and we will set up an appointment.

TA: Andrew Kelly

ajkelly@wisc.edu

office hours (via Zoom): Tuesdays from 2:30 to 4:30 PM

The crusades were a new type of war believed by participants and contemporaries to be not only just, but also holy. The rallying cry 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.

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 course.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- To learn about crusades, interfaith and cross-cultural relations during the period of crusades and religious violence.
- To engage with a variety of primary and secondary sources, both orally and in writing
- To learn to interpret critically modern representations and uses of the medieval past

READING ASSIGNMENTS:

Please have these sources at hand for each class and each discussion section. If you wish, you can use different editions as long as you are aware of and accept the inconveniences this might cause you.

1. Jonathan Riley-Smith, *The Crusades: A History* (3rd edition)
2. Joinville and Villehardouin, *Chronicles of the Crusades* (Penguin)
3. James E. Lindsay and Suleiman Mourad, *Muslim Sources of the Crusader Period: an Anthology* (Hackett)
4. *The Gesta Tancredi of Ralph of Caen: A History of the Normans on the First Crusade* (available for free via our library catalog)

Make sure to read any primary sources before you read Riley-Smith's *The Crusades*.

PUBLIC LECTURES:

UW's Medieval Studies Program has organized a series of events that the students in History 309 should find of interest. I will send you specific information about these lectures over Canvas. Please note that you will have to attend ONE of the first four (Zoom) lectures or to watch a recording and to submit a response. You can attend other lectures for extra-credit. You will get +1% to your final grade for any additional responses (for the maximum of +5%). You will have to submit a response within 3 days of the talk or of the video posted on-line. Please, do try to attend the lecture "live." However, if you have a valid excuse for not being able to do so, send me an e-mail and I will forward you a recording.

1. Prof. Hannah Barker (Arizona State University) "Health Fraud in the Medieval Genoese Slave Market." Thursday, February 17, 5:00 pm. ZOOM
2. Prof. Brendan Goldman (University of Washington) "That the Pilgrims May Be Spared Prison": Extortionate Taxation and the Politics of Pilgrimage in Islamic Jerusalem (970-1071)." Thursday, February 24, 5:00 pm. ZOOM
3. Prof. Suzanne Yeager (Fordham University), "Pilgrim Toil: Emotional and Physical Labor and Claims to Sanctity." Thursday, March 24, 1:00 pm. ZOOM

4. Dr. Dilshat Harman (Center for Visual Studies of the Medieval and Early Modern Culture, Russian State University for the Humanities in Moscow) “Imagining Jerusalem in Late Medieval Nuremberg: Adam Kraft and Albrecht Durer.” Friday, April 1, 12:00 pm. ZOOM
5. Prof. Michael Lower (University of Minnesota) “The Age of Diplomacy: Franks and Ayyubids in Western Asia, 1229-1244.” Thursday, April 7, 5:00 pm. IN-PERSON
6. Prof. Lisa Mahoney (DePaul University) “The Lost Royal Tombs of the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem.” Thursday, April 21, at 5:00 pm. IN-PERSON

A response paper should reply to following questions

[1] What was the speaker’s main idea? (at least three sentences)

[2] What primary sources did the speaker use? (at least one sentence)

[3] What was the most interesting fact that you did not know about before? (at least one sentence)

[4] List three questions that you would have liked to pose to the speaker.

GRADING:

- GUEST SPEAKER RESPONSE 5%
- WEEKLY IN-CLASS QUIZZES (there will be 14 quizzes; you will get 100% if you take 10; you will not get extra-credit for taking more than 10; this means you can miss 4 quizzes without any penalty; please note that you can make up missed quizzes by attending guest lectures instead) 15%
- PARTICIPATION IN SECTIONS: 10%
- MIDTERM 20%
- FINAL 25%
- SHORT PAPER 25%

HISTORY LAB:

Very useful if you want help with your papers!

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

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 25 (Tuesday): Introduction.

Jan 27 (Thursday): The Middle East on the eve of the First Crusade.

READ: No reading assignment, but you might wish to get a head start on next week's assignment.

Week 2

Feb 1: The city of Jerusalem.

Feb 3: The First Crusade I.

READ:

- *Gesta Tancredi*; Chapters 1 and 2
- *Muslim Sources*, Chapter 3.1 "Ibn al-Athir on the emergence of the Franks"
- Riley-Smith, Chapter 1, "Holy and Penitential Warfare"; Chapter 2, "The birth of the crusading movement: The preaching of the First Crusade."

Week 3

Feb 8: The First Crusade II.

Feb 10: The First Crusade III.

READ:

- *Gesta Tancredi*, Chapters 16, 17, and 18.
- *Muslim Sources*, Chapter 3.2 "Ibn al-Qalanisi on the capture of Antioch...."
- Riley-Smith, Chapter 3, "The Course of the First Crusade."

Week 4

Feb. 15: The Second Crusade.

Feb. 17: Military Orders.

READ:

- *Gesta Tancredi*, Chapter 112-134
- Riley-Smith, Chapter 4, "The holy places and the patriarchates of Jerusalem and Antioch."; Chapter 6, "Crusading in adolescence, 1102-87"

Week 5

Feb. 22: Latin States.

Feb. 24: NO CLASS (make sure to attend one of the Zoom guest lectures!)

READ:

- *Muslim Sources*, Chapter 3.7, “Ibn al-Qalanisi on the Siege of Damascus”
- *Muslim Sources*, Chapter 3.8, “Ibn al-Athir on the Siege of Damascus.”
- Riley-Smith, Chapter 5, “Settlement, government and defense of the Latin East, 1097-1187.”

Week 6

March 1: Sicily

March 3: Women and Crusades

READ:

- Ibn Jubayr (on Canvas)
- Benjamin of Tudela (on Canvas)

Week 7

March 8: The Fall of Jerusalem and the Third Crusade

March 10: NO CLASS (midterm due at 5pm; submit on Canvas)

READ:

- *Muslim Sources*, Chapter 3.10 “Ibn al-Athir on the defeat of the Franks at Hattin in 1187”
- *Muslim Sources*, Chapter 3.11 “Imad ad-Din al-Istafahani on the seizure of the Relic of the True Cross...”

SPRING RECESS: March 12 – March 20

Week 8

March 22: The Fourth and Fifth Crusades.

March 24: The Albigensian Crusade.

READ:

- Sayfo, “From Kurdish Sultan to Pan-Arab Champion and Muslim Hero: The Evolution of the Saladin Myth in Popular Arab Culture” (on Canvas)
- Hamilton, “The Elephant of Christ.” (on Canvas)
- Riley-Smith, Chapter 7, “Crusading comes of age, 1187-1229.”

Week 9

March 29: The Sixth Crusade.

March 31: The Seventh and Eighth Crusade.

READ: Villehardouin, *The Conquest of Constantinople* in *Chronicles of the Crusades*, pages 5-68 (Chapters 1 through 7).

Week 10.

April 5: Crusader Castles.

April 7: Fall of Acre.

READ:

- *Muslim Sources*, Chapter 3.18, “Ibn Wasil on Frederick arriving in Acre in September 1228”
- *Muslim Sources*, Chapter 3.19, “Sibt Ibn al-Jawzy on Frederick’s visit to the Noble Sanctuary”
- *Muslim Sources*, Chapter 3.20, “Ibn Wasil on the negotiations...”
- *Muslim Sources*, Chapter 3.21, “Ibn Wasil on the handing over of Jerusalem to the Franks”
- Riley-Smith, Chapter 8, “Crusading in Maturity, 1229-c. 1291” and Chapter 9, “The Latin East, 1192 – c. 1291.”

Week 11

April 12: Italian Crusades. Spain.

April 14: Baltic Crusades.

READ:

- John of Joinville, *The Life of Saint Louis* in *Chronicles of the Crusades*, 173-311 (Part II, Chapter 3 – Part II, Chapter 13).
- *Muslim Sources*, Chapter 3.23, “Jamal al-Din Ibn Matruh’s poem.”
- Riley-Smith, Chapter 10, “The Variety of Crusading, c. 1291-1523”

WATCH: Battle on the Ice scene from *Alexander Nevsky* (1938) (from about :55 to about 1:25)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-nRev9FvsBU>

As you watch this episode, jot down ideas about what made this film such effective propaganda.

Week 12

April 19: Crusades Today I (discussion of *The Crusades* (1935)).

April 21: Half of the class will meet in Chazen Museum object study room. The other half of the class: enjoy your morning off!

READ:

- Elliot, “The Poor Fellow Soldiers of Christ: Anders Behring Breivig and the Templar Knights,” *Medievalism, Politics and Mass Media*, Chapter 6 (on Canvas)

WATCH: *The Crusades* (1935).

https://dllstream.library.wisc.edu/player/index.html?item_id=6234

Week 13

April 26: Crusades Today II (discussion of *Saladin the Victorious*).

April 28: Half of the class will meet in Chazen Museum object study room. The other half of the class: enjoy your morning off!

WATCH: *Saladin the Victorious* (1963). Note that the film is three hours long. Available on Netflix (unfortunately, there is no other option).

PAPER DUE ON APRIL 28th AT MIDNIGHT

Write a paper about the film *Saladin the Victorious*. The paper should be 8-12 pages (double-spaced). You have to formulate your own question about the film, which your paper would then answer. Whichever question you choose, make sure to refer to historical context, in which the film was produced (some relevant concepts include pan-Arabism, secularism, anti-imperialism...). You do not have to do any outside research, although you can if you want, but you should consult a selection of the following articles and book chapters (all on Canvas):

- Aberth, “God (and the Studio) Wills it!”
- Ganim, “Reversing the Crusades: Hegemony, Orientalism, and Film Language in Youssef Chahine’s *Saladin*”
- Gilchrist, “The Evil Genius of the Third Crusade”
- Kiernan, “Cultural Hegemony and National Film Language.”
- Stock, “Now Starring in the Third Crusade.”
- Sturtevant, “Saladinasser”

You can use everything we have read so far this semester (do not forget about Sayfo, “From Kurdish Sultan to Pan-Arab Champion and Muslim Hero” and Hamilton, “The Elephant of Christ”). If you want more historical context, you can read the following (both on Canvas):

- Edde, “Saladin’s Conquests”
- Markowski, “Bad King, Bad Crusader”

Week 14

May 3: Crusades Today III (discussion of *Kingdom of Heaven*)

May 5: Review.

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).
- Elizabeth Lapina, “Medievalism, Misogyny and Orientalism: The Representation of Queen Sybilla in Ridley Scott’s *Kingdom of Heaven*,” *The Medieval Globe* 6.2 (2020): 109-130 (on Canvas).

WATCH *Kingdom of Heaven* (Director’s cut) – note that the film is three hours long. Please finish watching the film by May 3rd.

Part 1: https://dllstream.library.wisc.edu/player/index.html?item_id=6236

Part 2: https://dllstream.library.wisc.edu/player/index.html?item_id=6237

FINAL EXAM:

Take-home due on 5/11/2022 at 4:45 pm

City of Jerusalem today.

