

# History 103 – Introduction to the Medieval World

Fall 2007 – UNIV 117

MWF 11:30 – 12:20

## **Christian Griggs**

Email: cagriggs@purdue.edu

Office: REC 421

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 10:00 – 11:00 or by appointment

Office Phone: 494-4110

## Course Overview

This course traces the Medieval Period in European History from its foundations in ancient Rome until the Renaissance. The Medieval Period, also known as the Middle Ages, dates from around 500 to 1500, at which point Europe begins its transition to the modern world. During this thousand-year period, the foundations of the modern West were established, developed, and finally institutionalized. This course challenges students to critically analyze these developments as it seeks to explain the social, political, and cultural realm from which the West has emerged. The course will examine such topics as early Christianity, the barbarian invasion in the West, the rise of Islam, the Carolingians, the agricultural and commercial revolutions, the development of Catholic Christianity, the crusades, state building in Europe, art and thought, the Black Plague, and the Renaissance. Due to the constraints of the semester, England and France will be emphasized generally, but key developments throughout Europe will also be discussed.

## Required Texts

There are two books that we will be reading for this course, a textbook and primary source from the thirteenth century. The textbook is meant to supplement lectures; some material in the text will not be discussed in class and some information from lectures will either not be mentioned at all or touched on only briefly in the textbook. It is expected that each student will have read the assignment in the textbook before coming to class.

*Medieval History: A Short History* by Judith M. Bennett and C. Warren Hollister, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition  
ISBN 0-07-295515-5

*Chronicles of the Crusades* by Joinville and Villehardouin, translated by M. R. B. Shaw  
ISBN 0-140-44124-7

## Course Requirements

Each student in the course will be expected to complete three exams and one essay during the semester.

**Exams** – Each exam will consist of three sections, a matching section, a short answer section, and an essay section. Review sheets will be distributed before the exams to assist students in their preparation. Review sheets will only be distributed in class and will not be sent out electronically to students. *All students are required to bring an unmarked Blue Book to each exam.* These Blue Books will be collected in class on the day of the test and redistributed before the exam begins. The final exam will not be cumulative.

**Essay** – Students are required to write one 3-4 page double-spaced essay based on Villehardouin’s account of the fourth crusade, *The Conquest of Constantinople*. This account is found in *Chronicles of the Crusades*. The assignment is not a research paper and should be based on the book alone. The essay is due when we will be discussing the Crusades in class. Students should come ready to discuss the book when they turn in their papers. Writing prompts will be given out in class that will provide specific instructions for each paper.

Grading Procedures

|                  |        |     |                |   |          |
|------------------|--------|-----|----------------|---|----------|
| Grade Breakdown: | Essay  | 25% | Grading Scale: | A | 90-100   |
|                  | Exam 1 | 25% |                | B | 80-89    |
|                  | Exam 2 | 25% |                | C | 70-79    |
|                  | Exam 3 | 25% |                | D | 60-69    |
|                  |        |     |                | F | Below 60 |

Course Policies and Student Expectations

- Attendance at each lecture is expected. It is essential that students come to class regularly if they hope to perform well in the class. Class will begin promptly at 11:30am, so please be on time.
- Students should come to class prepared for the day’s lecture. Preparation includes having completed any assignments that are due, being ready to listen and answer questions during the lecture, and finishing all the assigned readings for the class.
- Once in class, it is expected that students will be attentive, including taking notes, and that students will show respect to their classmates and the instructor.
- No class work will be accepted via email. All papers must be submitted as a hard copy on the date they are due. Late papers will be penalized.
- Review Sheets and any other handouts will not be sent to students electronically. They must be picked up in class or at the instructor’s office.
- Students must bring a Blue Book to each exam.
- Please turn off all cell phones, watch alarms, etc. in class unless you have extenuating circumstances that you have spoken with the instructor about.
- Cheating in any form, including plagiarism, will not be tolerated. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, copying directly out of a book (including the assigned readings) or from the internet without correct citation or even using the ideas and conclusions of other people without giving them credit. Cheating on any assignment or test will result in a failing grade for the assignment or test and may also result in a failing grade for the course. Please note that each student is responsible for the work he or she turns in. Students who cheat will be reported to the Dean of Students.

**Disclaimer:** In the event of a major campus emergency, the above requirements, deadlines and grading policies are subject to changes that may be required by a revised semester calendar. Any such changes in this course will be posted, once the course resumes, on the course website or can be obtained by contacting the instructor via email or phone.

# CLASS SCHEDULE

| DATE         | TOPICS                                 | READINGS<br>(pages from textbook) | ASSIGNMENTS                    |
|--------------|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| August 20    | Introduction and Overview              |                                   |                                |
| August 22    | Ancient Rome                           |                                   |                                |
| August 24    | Roman Empire                           | Ch.1, p.8-13                      |                                |
| August 27    | Crisis of the Third Century            | Ch.1, p.13-16                     |                                |
| August 29    | Early Christianity                     | Ch.1, p.16-29                     |                                |
| August 31    | Barbarian Invasions                    | Ch.2, p.30-38                     |                                |
| September 3  | NO CLASS – LABOR DAY                   |                                   |                                |
| September 5  | Decline and Fall of the Western Empire | Ch.2, p.38-41                     |                                |
| September 7  | Early Barbarian Civilizations          | Ch.2, p.42-48                     |                                |
| September 10 | Rise of the Papacy                     | Ch.3, p.50-56                     |                                |
| September 12 | Early Monasticism                      | Ch.3, p.56-66                     |                                |
| September 14 | Byzantine Empire                       | Ch.4, p.68-81                     |                                |
| September 17 | Rise of Islam                          | Ch.4, p.81-85                     |                                |
| September 19 | Spread of Islam                        | Ch.4, p.85-95                     |                                |
| September 21 | Foundation of the Carolingian Empire   | Ch.5, p.97-104                    |                                |
| September 24 | Reign of Charlemagne                   | Ch.5, p.104-118                   |                                |
| September 26 | EXAM                                   |                                   | <b>EXAM 1<br/>Chapters 1-5</b> |
| September 28 | Carolingians after Charlemagne         | Ch.6, p.119-121                   |                                |
| October 1    | Invasions                              | Ch.6, p.121-128                   |                                |

| <b>DATE</b> | <b>TOPICS</b>   | <b>READINGS</b><br>(pages from textbook) | <b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>              |
|-------------|---|--|---------------------------------|
| October 3   | Reorganizations: England and West Francia               | Ch.6, p.128-139                          |                                 |
| October 5   | Reorganization: Germany                                 | Ch.6, p.139-147                          |                                 |
| October 8   | NO CLASS – OCTOBER BREAK                                |  |                                 |
| October 10  | Agricultural Revolution and the Life of a Peasant       | Ch.7, p.149-167                          |                                 |
| October 12  | Commercial Revolution and Cities                        | Ch.7, p.167-184                          |                                 |
| October 15  | Changes in Christianity                                 | Ch.8, p.186-201,<br>208-213              |                                 |
| October 17  | Gregorian Reforms                                       | Ch.8, p.201-207                          |                                 |
| October 19  | Conflict Between Church and State                       | Ch.10, p.240-264                         |                                 |
| October 22  | Introduction to the Crusades                            |  |                                 |
| October 24  | Causes for the Crusades and Background for the Crusades | Ch.9, p.215-227                          | <b>ESSAY DUE</b>                |
| October 26  | The First Crusade                                       | Ch.9, p.227-228                          |                                 |
| October 29  | The End of the Crusades                                 | Ch.9, p.228-238                          |                                 |
| October 31  | EXAM  |  |                                 |
|             |   |  | <b>EXAM 2<br/>Chapters 6-10</b> |
| November 2  | Statebuilding in England                                | Ch.11, p.266-272                         |                                 |
| November 5  | Statebuilding in England                                | Ch.11, p.272-277                         |                                 |
| November 7  | Statebuilding in France                                 | Ch.11, p.277-281                         |                                 |
| November 9  | Statebuilding in France and other parts of Europe       | Ch.11, p.281-288                         |                                 |
| November 12 | Changes in Medieval Education                           | Ch.12, p.289-300                         |                                 |
| November 14 | Rise of Universities                                    | Ch 12, p.300-319                         |                                 |

| <b>DATE</b>       | <b>TOPICS</b>                                  | <b>READINGS</b><br>(pages from textbook) | <b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>                     |
|-------------------|--|--|--|
| November 16       | Famine and Plague                              | Ch.13, p.321-330                         |  |
| November 19       | Peasant Rebellions                             | Ch.13, p.330-336                         |  |
| November 22       | NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING                        |  |  |
| November 24       | NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING                        |  |  |
| November 26       | Problems in the Church                         | Ch.13, p.336-344                         |  |
| November 28       | England and France – The<br>Hundred Years’ War | Ch.14, p.346-353                         |  |
| November 30       | The War Continues                              | Ch.14, p.353-356                         |  |
| December 3        | End of the War and its Impact                  | Ch.14, p.356-365                         |  |
| December 5        | Renaissance Thought                            | Ch.15, p.366-374                         |  |
| December 7        | Renaissance Art                                | Ch.15, p.374-383                         |  |
| December<br>10-15 | FINALS WEEK                                    |  | <b>Exam 3</b><br><b>Chapters 11-15</b> |