

HTST 321: High and Late Medieval Europe, c. 1075 - 1418

MWF, 9:00 – 9:50. Location: EDC 388

Instructor: Dr. Lucie Laumonier

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Office Hours: Monday 10:00 – 11:30 ; Wednesday 10:00 – 11:30

Office: SS 622

Course overview

The course explores the history of Western Europe (France, the British Isles, Germany, Italy and Spain), from the reforms of the mid-eleventh century to the end of the Middle Ages at the turn of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Making extensive use of archives and various sources, the course will be structured in four sections enabling the students to gain a general understanding of the High and Late Middle Ages:

- the first section, on Church and the history of European kingdoms from the eleventh century to the thirteenth century, is oriented towards a reflection on political supremacy
- the following unit, on religious sensitivities, crusades and heresies, provides insights on the social changes of the High Middle Ages
- the third section, on the elites who emerged from the thirteenth century to the fifteenth century, highlights the economical, political and social evolutions of Late medieval societies
- the last unit of the course focuses on the fourteenth and fifteenth century and aims to challenge the traditional view that qualified those centuries as a “time of crises”.

Based on lectures, the analysis of various sources, and discussions in class, the aim of the course is to provide a general understanding of the High and Late Middle Ages while stimulating reflections on historical sources and concepts related to the field.

Course objectives

The aim of the course is to provide students with a general understanding of the High and Late Middle Ages while stimulating reflections on historical sources and concepts related to the field. At the end of the semester, students should be able to identify the main features of high and late medieval Europe, to understand the evolutions that societies experienced, to comment on archival material, and to discuss historical concepts and secondary sources. As well as gaining a solid knowledge of the period, the course will foster personal and professional development, enabling students to acquire and develop transferable skills such as critical thinking, articulating ideas persuasively, sorting information and independent learning.

Exams and Assignments (see details below)

20% The Middle Ages in Pop Culture – Monday, February 6th

20% Midterm exam – Monday, February 27th

35% Research Paper – Wednesday, March 22nd

25% Final Exam – to be scheduled by the registrar

Required textbook

Barbara H. Rosenwein, *A Short History of the Middle Ages* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2014) – 4th edition.

A complementary bibliography will be posted on the portal Desire2Learn

Weekly schedule, assignments and readings

	Content	Assignments
Week 1 (9 Jan.)	Introduction	
Week 2 (16 Jan.)	Feudalism and social organization (late-11 th – early-13 th c.)	Readings: p. 160-164
Week 3 (23 Jan.)	Governance and affirmation of power (late-11 th – early-13 th c.)	Readings: p. 164-170; p. 173-178; p. 200-213.
Week 4 (30 Jan.)	The monastic and pontifical reforms of the 11 th and 12 th c.	Readings: p. 181-194.
Week 5 (6 Feb.)	Crusades to the Holy Land (1095-1291)	Readings: p. 170-173. Monday: Short assignment
Week 6 (13 Feb.)	Heresies and the Church's responses (late-11 th – early-13 th c.)	Readings: p. 228-237.
Week 7 (20 Feb.)	<i>Mid-Term Break</i>	

Week 8 (27 Feb.)	The birth of Universities (late-11 th – early-13 th c.) Mid-term exam	Readings: p. 178-181. Monday: Mid-term exam
Week 9 (6 Mar.)	Urban expansion: <i>bourgeoisie</i> (13 th – 15 th c.)	Readings: p. 213-228.
Week 10 (13 Mar.)	Economic exchanges: merchants (13 th – 15 th c.)	Readings: p. 244-252.
Week 11 (20 Mar.)	Royal and pontifical institutions: administrators (13 th – 15 th c.)	Readings: p. 252-258. Wednesday: Essay
Week 12 (27 Mar.)	Turmoil (14 th – 15 th c.)	Readings: p. 276-301.
Week 13 (3 Apr.)	Death and Grace (14 th – 15 th c.)	Readings: p. 258-266; p. 301-304.
Week 14 (10 Apr.-12 Apr.)	Outcomes and new starts (14 th – 15 th c.)	Readings: p. 267-275; p. 305-313; p. 316-325.
Week 15	Final Exam	Final Exam

20% Short assignment: The Middle Ages in Pop Culture

Due date: Monday, February 6th

Length: three double-space pages to four double-space pages

This assignment is a personal reflection on the representation of the High and Late Middle Ages in pop culture. Students must choose a book, movie, TV show or video game from the list (see below) and discuss the way in which the Middle Ages in general or a particular event / character / trend are depicted in the piece of pop culture.

A question must be asked in the introduction and the source should be presented (title, author, date, content). The question can be as broad as “What is medieval in Games of Throne?” and as specific as “Is the weaponry used in Kingdom of Heaven historically accurate?”

The body of the essay should be a discussion based on specific examples and on complementary readings (books, scholarly articles, textbook), cited in footnotes. Many scholarly articles focus on ‘modern medievalism’. Footnotes and proper references to the piece of pop culture are expected.

See the Students’ Handbook to learn how to present footnotes:

http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/2012_handbook.pdf

List of videos, books, etc.:

Video Game: Assassin’s Creed II, 2009 (Italy, late 15th c.)

Video Game: Assassin’s Creed: Brotherhood, 2010 (Italy, late 15th c.)

Book: Umberto Eco, *The Name of the Rose*, 1980 (Italy, 1st half of the 14th c.)

Book: Ellis Peters, any book from the *Brother Cadfael* mystery series (England, early 12th c.)

Book: Ken Follett, *The Pillars of the Earth*, 1989 (Britain, 12th c.)

Movie: *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, 1975 (Britain, early med.)

Movie: *The Name of the Rose*, 1996 (Italy, 1st half of the 14th c.)

Movie: *Kingdom of Heaven*, 2005 (Kingdom of Jerusalem, 2nd half of the 12th c.)

TV show: *The Pillars of the Earth*, 2010 (England, 12th c.)

TV show: *Games of Throne*, 2011-today (HBO, medieval fantasy)

TV show: *Galavant*, 2015 (BBC, England, 12th c.?)

20% Mid-term exam

Date: Monday, February 27th

Duration: 50 min

Students will be asked to:

- identify locations on a map (6 points), such as capital cities, seas, rivers, mountains of Europe and of the Middle-East.
- answer two questions out of three (7 points each, 15 to 20 lines) pertaining to the content of the lectures and to the reading of the textbook, from week 1 to week 6 inclusive.

35% Essay or research paper

Due date: Wednesday, March 22nd

Length: five / six double-space pages

The research paper must follow the structure of an academic essay, exploring a question and offering hypothesis in the introduction, arguing and discussing the hypothesis in the body of the paper, summarizing the arguments and drawing a conclusion in the conclusion. The topic of the paper must focus on High/Late medieval European history (11th century to end of the 15th century). The question leading the argumentation should be “How” or “Why” oriented – for instance: how did the plague affect religious sensitivities?

Do not hesitate to contact the teaching assistants to discuss the research paper.

Historians cite their sources: students are expected to include footnotes in their paper referring to scholarly books (at least two) and scholarly articles (at least three), as well as provide a bibliography after the essay.

Read the *Student's Handbook* for more information on how to write an essay and to write footnotes¹.

Through the essay, it is expected that you can demonstrate your ability to define a precise topic of research, to identify reliable sources of information, to articulate arguments and to prove a solid point.

25% Final exam

Date: to be scheduled by the registrar

Duration: 120 minutes

The final exam consists in a short source commentary (7 points) and three questions pertaining to the content of the course and readings for the whole semester (6 points each).

¹ http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/2012_handbook.pdf

Course policies

Assignments

All papers must include a title page, be written in Times New Roman, font size 12, with a double spacing. The minimum page requirements for each assignment must be met, the maximum page requirements should not be exceeded.

All assignments must include footnotes. Except for scientific journals available on line, Internet sources are usually not reliable scholarly sources. The secondary sources used in the papers must be from peer-reviewed books or journals. When referring to an article accessed on-line the reference should be the same as for the paper version and without citing an internet URL. Refer to the *Student's Handbook* for more information.²

Failure to follow the guidelines such as length of paper, footnotes, etc. will be sanctioned with the loss of a maximum of 1 point.

Spelling and grammatical errors in the papers may be penalized in the following manner: the first two errors will not be counted, then for every two errors 0.25 point will be taken off the grade. Maximum loss: 10% of the grade.

Plagiarism constitutes a fraud and will be severely sanctioned.

Late Assignments

Assignments will be handed to the professor or teaching assistants in class on the due date. Students can also drop off their assignments in the "red box" located outside of the History Department Office (SS 656). Assignments received after 4:00 pm are date stamped with the date of the next business day.

No electronic copies of assignments will be accepted.

Assignments submitted after the deadline will be penalized with the loss of 5% of the grade by day of delay, including weekends.

Electronic Devices

Cell phones should be turned off during class.

Audio and/or visual recording of lectures is not permissible.

² http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/2012_handbook.pdf

Students who bring laptops in class should turn off the Wi-Fi and use them for taking notes only. They are strongly invited to sit at the back or at the sides of the classroom so their device does not distract close by students.³

Email and D2L

The instructor and the teaching assistants will not respond to emails after 5pm on week days nor on Saturdays and Sundays.

Students will find on D2L:

- the contact information of the teaching assistants and their office hours
- a copy of the course outline
- a complementary bibliography
- the lectures' tables of content

Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. For detailed information on common academic concerns, you can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Arts Students Centre, Social Sciences 102, 403-220-3580, or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

Departmental Twitter Handle @ucalgaryhist - For departmental updates and notifications

Writing:

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at

³ Pam A. Mueller and Daniel M. Oppenheimer, "The Pen Is Mightier than the Keyboard: Advantages of Longhand over Laptop Note Taking," *Psychological Science* (2014), pp. 1-10 [[link](#)]. Carrie B. Fried, "In-class Laptop Use and its Effects on Student Learning," *Computers & Education*, 50-3 (2008), pp. 906-914 [[link](#)].

least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

Writing Support:

Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Copyright:

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. This means that instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. What this simply means is that no copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or that you will have to consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

Red Box Policy:

Essays and other assignments may be handed in to the red box located outside of the History Department office (SS 656). Please include the following information on your assignment: course name and number, instructor, your name and your student number. Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. will be date stamped with the date of the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the office to be stamped. The box is emptied promptly at 8:30 a.m. and at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Departmental Grading System:

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme has been adopted for use in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent—superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
80-84	A-	3.70	
77-79	B+	3.30	
73-76	B	3.00	Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-72	B-	2.70	
67-69	C+	2.30	
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.
60-62	C-	1.70	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation.
56-59	D+	1.30	Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
50-55	D	1.00	
0-49	F	0	Fail—unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. As noted in *The History Student's Handbook* (http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history_students_handbook_2015.pdf), plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works.
- The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Arts' associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*.

Universal Student Ratings of Instruction:

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference. Please participate in USRI Surveys.

Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected grounds other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

Other Useful Information:

- Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.
- *Safewalk and Campus Security*: 403-220-5333.

Please also familiarize yourself about the following topics by consulting the information at these links:

- *Freedom of Information*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/foip-hia>
- *Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>
- *Safewalk*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>
- *Student Union Information*: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>
- *Graduate Student Association*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>
- *Student Ombudsman Office*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

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