

University of Western Ontario  
Department of History  
2013–2014

## **HISTORY 2401E: MEDIEVAL EUROPE**

Instructor: Christopher Landon  
Office: 2249 Lawson Hall  
Office Hours: Mon. 1:30–2:30pm;  
Wed. 1:30–2:30pm  
Email: clandon@uwo.ca

Lectures: Mon. 12:30–1:30pm;  
Wed. 12:30–1:30pm  
Location: UC 30

### **Course Description:**

This course will provide an overview of the history of medieval Europe from the Christianization of the Roman Empire in AD 300 to the end of the medieval period around AD 1500. Two weekly lectures will emphasize the major political, social and economic developments that reshaped European civilization throughout these centuries, while weekly tutorials will provide students with a forum for discussing medieval primary sources and the modern scholarship on the period.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- practise historical thinking;
- grasp the main outlines of the history of medieval Europe;
- analyze medieval primary sources;
- comprehend and evaluate works of historical scholarship on the medieval period;
- effectively integrate primary and secondary sources in a research paper that makes an argument about some aspect of the history of medieval Europe.

### **Grade Breakdown:**

Book Review.....15%  
Primary Source Study.....15%  
Research Essay.....25%  
Midterm Exam.....10%  
Final Exam.....20%  
Tutorial Participation.....15%

### **Course Readings:**

Judith M. Bennett. *Medieval Europe: A Short History*. 11<sup>th</sup> ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2011.

Weekly tutorial readings will be made available on the OWL course website.

## Schedule of Lectures and Readings:

### Term 1: The Early Middle Ages

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#### *Week 1 Introduction to the Course*

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Sept. 9.....Introduction to the Course  
Sept. 11.....The Study of the Middle Ages  
Bennett, pp. v–8.

**No Tutorials.**

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#### *Week 2 Christianity and the Later Roman Empire*

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Sept. 16.....The Later Roman Empire  
Sept. 18.....The Age of Constantine  
Bennett, pp. 8–18.

**Tutorials Begin.**

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#### *Week 3 Barbarians and Romans*

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Sept. 23.....Barbarian Culture  
Sept. 25.....Barbarians and the Empire  
Bennett, pp. 19–27.

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#### *Week 4 The Successor States*

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Sept. 30.....The Gothic Kingdoms  
Oct. 2.....Merovingian Gaul  
Bennett, pp. 28–40.

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#### *Week 5 The Insular World*

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Oct. 7.....Sub-Roman Britain  
Oct. 9.....The Anglo-Saxon Conquest  
No Bennett Readings.

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#### *Week 6 Religion and Society*

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Oct. 14.....Monasticism  
Oct. 16.....Popular Christianity  
Bennett, pp. 40–50.

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#### *Week 7 The Byzantine Empire*

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Oct. 21.....**Thanksgiving Monday: No Lecture**  
Oct. 23.....The Byzantine Empire  
Bennett, pp. 51–65.

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#### *Week 8 New Powers: The Caliphate and the Carolingians*

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Oct. 28.....The Muslim Conquests  
Oct. 30.....The Early Carolingians  
Bennett, pp. 65–87.

**Book Review Due.**

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#### *Week 9 The Carolingian Empire*

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Nov. 4.....The Age of Charlemagne  
Nov. 6.....Carolingian Society  
Bennett, pp. 88–101.

*Week 10                                   The Limits of Empire*  
Nov. 18.....The Later Carolingians  
Nov. 20.....The Vikings  
Bennett, pp. 102–111.

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*Week 11                                   Unity and Collapse*  
Nov. 21.....The Forging of England  
Nov. 23.....The ‘Feudal’ West  
Bennett, pp. 111–122.

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*Week 12                                   The Norman Conquest*  
Nov. 25.....The Norman Conquest  
Nov. 27.....The Bayeux Tapestry  
No Bennett Readings.

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*Week 13                                   The Holy Roman Empire and Midterm Review*  
Dec. 2.....The Holy Roman Empire  
Dec. 4.....Midterm Review  
Bennett, pp. 123–130  
**Midterm Date TBA.**

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**WINTER BREAK**

**Term 2: The Central and Later Middle Ages**

*Week 14                                   Economic Expansion*  
Jan. 6.....Agriculture and the Countryside  
Jan. 8.....Towns and Trade  
Bennett, pp. 131–161.  
**Primary Source Study Due.**

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*Week 15                                   Social Transformation*  
Jan. 13.....Peasant Society  
Jan. 15.....Aristocratic Society  
Bennett, pp. 162–166.

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*Week 16                                   Church and State in the Central Middle Ages*  
Jan. 20.....The Gregorian Reform  
Jan. 22.....The Investiture Contest  
Bennett, pp. 167–174.

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*Week 17                                   The Papal Monarchy*  
Jan. 27.....Education and Bureaucracy  
Jan. 29.....Innocent III and the Zenith of Papal Power  
Bennett, pp. 175–189.

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*Week 18                                   New Paths to God*  
Feb. 3.....Personal Piety  
Feb. 5.....Monks and Mendicants  
Bennett, pp. 190–210.

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*Week 19* *The Crusades*

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Feb. 10.....The Crusades in the Holy Land  
Feb. 12.....The Crusades within Europe  
Bennett, pp. 211–235.

**READING WEEK**

*Week 20* *States Made and Unmade*

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Feb. 24.....Germany and Italy  
Feb. 26.....France and England  
Bennett, pp. 236–268.

*Week 21* *Intellectual and Artistic Life*

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March 3.....The Twelfth Century ‘Renaissance’  
March 5.....Art and Architecture  
Bennett, pp. 269–296.

*Week 22* *Plague and Social Crisis*

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March 10.....The Black Death  
March 12.....Life After Plague  
Bennett, pp. 297–313.

*Week 23* *Unity and Dissent*

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March 17.....The Avignon Papacy  
March 19.....Forerunners of Reformation  
Bennett, pp. 313–321.  
**Research Essay Due.**

*Week 24* *Toward the Sovereign State*

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March 23.....The Hundred Years’ War  
March 25.....New Political and Religious Boundaries  
Bennett, pp. 322–343.

*Week 25* *Intellectual Currents at the End of the Middle Ages*

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March 31.....Humanism  
April 2.....Science and Magic  
Bennett, pp. 344–361.

*Week 26* *Conclusion and Exam Prep*

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April 7.....Conclusion and Exam Prep  
No Bennett Readings.  
**Final Exam Date TBA.**

**Written Assignments:**

As an ‘E’, or ‘Essay Full Course’, written work will make up a substantial portion of your overall grade. This written work will take the form of two shorter essays and one longer research paper. All assignments are to be submitted in tutorial on the specified due dates. These due dates are firm. The late penalty for written assignments will be 2% per day.

**Exams:**

This course will have one mid-term and one final exam: the first in the winter exam period and the second in the spring exam period.

**Tutorial Participation:**

Tutorial attendance is mandatory. Attendance alone, however, is not sufficient to receive full tutorial participation marks; students are expected to show up to their tutorials prepared and ready to contribute actively to the weekly discussion. Generally, tutorials will consist of discussions of the primary sources and/or modern secondary scholarship of medieval Europe.

**Evaluation Standards:**

The following table is taken from the University’s 2013–2014 Academic Calendar. It outlines the meanings of the letter and numerical grades which will be used in this course.

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work which is clearly above average
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	below 50	Fail

**Writing Help:**

If you are unsure how to approach a written assignment, or need help along the way, please consult with the Writing Support Centre: <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/writing/>.

**Academic Integrity:**

Students should familiarize themselves with the University’s policies on Scholastic Offences: (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2013/pg113.html>). These policies are taken extremely seriously. Students will also be asked to submit electronic copies of all written work to Turnitin.com.

**Student Well-Being:**

University is sometimes stressful. Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

## **SUPPORT SERVICES**

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

*Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.*

## THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

### PLAGIARISM

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of Publication and page number. Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writer's ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source; these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction, your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

#### MEDICAL ACCOMMODATION

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to [https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical\\_accommodations\\_link\\_for\\_OOR.pdf](https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf) to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. Please go to <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medicalform.pdf> to download the necessary form. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation is warranted. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once a decision has been made about accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for term tests, assignments, and exams.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact, Rebecca Dashford, Undergraduate Program Advisor, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84962 or [rdashfo@uwo.ca](mailto:rdashfo@uwo.ca)