

The University of Western Ontario
Department of History
2014-2015

HISTORY 3605E– CRUSADERS AND MUSLIMS IN THE HOLY LAND

Professor Maya Shatzmiller Ph.D. FRSC

Lecture: Thursday 2:30-4:30

Classroom: LWH 1218

Office: Lawson Hall 2229

Telephone: 519-661-2100 ext. 84994

Email: maya@uwo.ca

Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description

The Crusades to the Holy Land are what we call ‘a moment in world history’ – they were unique. We will study them analytically, chronologically and comparatively, as a chapter in the history of Western and Eastern Christianity, medieval Europe and the medieval Islamic Middle East.

The course material is organized around four main themes. The first consists of the following topics: the preaching and the call for the first Crusade, the background in and eleventh century Europe, the march to the Holy Land, the main groups participating in the march, the conquest of Jerusalem and the settlement, the Crusaders states and cities. The second theme is the economic foundations of the Crusaders states. We will talk about the feudal system as a socio/economic/political system which was transplanted from Europe to the Middle East and compare it with the Islamic *iqta*, cultivation methods and agricultural patterns in the Middle East and Europe, trade and the effect of the Crusades on the development of the Italian cities and the Mediterranean trade as a whole. The third theme is the institutions created in the Holy Land by the Crusaders, mostly those of the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem. These include political, social and legal institutions, investigated in comparison to similar Islamic institutions. Our fourth and last theme will be the political developments in the Holy Land. Here we will begin with the Second Crusade following the fall of Edessa in 1143, the Battle of *Hattin* and the elimination of the kingdom of Jerusalem, the loss of the interior and the survival of the coastal cities, as well as the Third and the Fourth Crusades. We will end with the liquidation of the Crusaders enterprise in the Holy Land in 1291 and the developments in the Islamic Middle East in its aftermath.

Class work

Introductory lectures for each of themes will be provided weekly during the class meetings. Students are asked to prepare the weekly assigned readings, which will provide the background needed for the discussion in class. Several texts taken from the primary sources in English translation will be read and analyzed in class. In addition to the weekly readings and the preparation of primary sources for class discussion, the students’ work also consists in writing a 20 page paper. The selection of research paper topic will

be done by the third meeting to allow enough time for in depth research. Each student will present her or his paper in class in a Power Point presentation.

Learning outcome

The seminar provides knowledge of an important subject in world history. The preparation for class meetings, the research, the analysis of historical material, as well as the presentation of a concise analytical research paper enable students to gain understanding of global events, and acquire better analytical and oral skills for the future.

Evaluation

Participation and attendance (preparation of the weekly readings, class discussion, attendance and performance in paper presentation)	30%
Mid-term exam	30%
Research Paper (due 1 week after presentation)	40%

Readings and Textbooks

Most textbooks dealing with the Crusades focus on the religious aspects of the movement. While important, this approach is only one way of telling the history of the Crusades, and according to me, not satisfying at that. There is more to the Crusades to the Holy Land than the wars and the supposed hatred between Christians and Muslims in the medieval period. The social and economic dimensions are in many instances completely ignored in the European textbooks. Muslim historians are equally uninterested in them. This Crusades course adopts a different approach, one which seeks to elucidate the shared social and economic experience as an exercise in medieval state building and the environment of both medieval Muslims and Christians . For this reason I have assigned two general textbooks, one a general history of the Crusades centered on the Christian world, the other on the Islamic side. Both were chosen because they recognize, albeit partially, the importance of dealing with institutions and social and economic background and both are **available** for purchase in the bookstore.

1. Hans Eberhard Mayer, *The Crusades*. Translated by John Gillingham (Oxford University Press), first published in 1965 in German but new editions of the English texts keep appearing. Any edition beginning with the second one of 1990 is OK.
2. Peter M. Holt, *The Age of the Crusades. The Near East from the Eleventh Century to 1517*. (Longman) first published in 1986 but numerous printings as well. Try and get the latest.

Please also purchase – if you don't already have, a copy- of the following, you will need it for the paper.

Mary Lynn Rampolla, *A Pocket Guide to Writing In History, Sixth Edition.*

(Bedford/St.Martin's, 2010)

OR

William Kelleher Storey and Towser Jones, *Writing History. A Guide for Canadian Students, Third Edition.* (Oxford University Press, Canada, 2011)

In addition to these basic textbooks, I have assigned more readings from other sources which I consider important for our course. These books are on the Reserve Shelves in D.B. Weldon Library.

1. Joshua Prawer. *The Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem: European Colonialism in the Middle Ages.* (London, Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1972)
American ed. Published under title: *The Crusader's Kingdom: European Colonialism in the Middle Ages.* (New York, Praeger Publishers, 1972)
2. Kenneth Setton, General Editor, *A History of the Crusades.* (The University of Wisconsin Press) in 6 Vols. Assigned readings are from volumes 1, 2, and 5.
3. James A. Brundage, *The Crusades. A Documentary Survey* (Milwaukee, 1962)
2nd printing 1975.
4. Peter W. Edbury, *John of Ibelin and the Kingdom of Jerusalem.* (The Boydell Press, 1997). Selected readings.

PRIMARY Sources

The study of the Crusades involves work in the primary sources, both Latin and Arabic, and students are expected to use them in their papers. A list of the primary sources in translation will be provided. The following is a selection of primary sources, which will be read in class:

From James A. Brundage, *The Crusades. A Documentary Survey* (Milwaukee, 1962) 2nd printing
1975.

1. *The Sermon of Pope Urban II at Clermont, pp. 17-21*
2. *The Capture of Jerusalem, pp. 63-65*
3. *Godfrey of Bouillon becomes "Defender of the Italy Sepulcher," pp. 70-73*
4. *The Foundation of the Order of Knights Templar, pp. 76-77*
5. *The Battle of Hattin, pp. 153-59*

From Peter W. Edbury, *John of Ibelin and the Kingdom of Jerusalem* (The Boydell Press, 1997)

6. *Le livre des Assises*, pp. 191-200

Preparation of primary documents for class discussion is an essential component of the seminar and involves historical and historiographical interpretation and analysis

For instance, identification of the primary source from which the reading is taken, the year in which the source was written, where it was written and for what purpose, when did the author live and what was the source's role and significance; on the historical level, the identification of all persons mentioned in the document, when they lived, where, and what was their historical significance; familiarity with the event, or events, described in the document, where, when and why they occurred, and their historical background. Familiarity with the bibliographical tools for this study.

**LECTURE TOPICS:
FIRST TERM**

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| Meeting No. 1 | September 4, 2014
INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORIOGRAPHY OF THE CRUSADES: EUROPEAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN SOURCES
Readings: Mayer, pp. 1-7
Holt, pp. 1-8 |
| Meeting No. 2 | September 11, 2014
BACKGROUND TO THE FIRST CRUSADE I: EUROPE AND BYZANTIUM
Readings: Mayer, pp. 8-37
<i>A History of the Crusades</i> , Vol. I: pp. 3-28, 31-54, 54-67, (Byzantium) 177-219 |
| Meeting No. 3 | September 18, 2014
BACKGROUND TO THE FIRST CRUSADE II: THE MIDDLE EAST
Readings: Holt, pp. 9-15, 167-177
<i>A History of the Crusades</i> , Vol. I: pp. 68-176; Vol. V: pp. 3-32 |
| Meeting No. 4 | September 25, 2014
THE FIRST CRUSADE: PREACHING THE IDEA AND THE ROLE OF THE PAPACY
Readings: Same as above
Document 1: The Sermon of Pope Urban II at Clermont ,
Brundage, pp. 17-21 |
| Meeting No. 5 | October 2, 2014
THE FIRST CRUSADE: THE REALIZATION
Readings: Mayer, pp. 38-57
Holt, pp. 16-30 |

Document 2: **The Conquest of Jerusalem**, Brundage, pp. 63-65

- Meeting No. 6 October 9, 2014
**ESTABLISHMENT OF CRUSADER STATES:
POPULATION, MONARCHY AND FEUDAL LORDS**
Readings: Mayer, pp. 58-92
 Holt, pp. 31-37, 38-59
 Praver, pp. 110-158
 Russell, "The Population of the Crusaders States,"
 in *A History of the Crusaders*, Vol. V: pp. 295-314
Document 3: **Godfrey of Bouillon becomes defender of the
Holy Sepulcher**, Brundage, pp. 70-73
- Meeting No. 7 October 16, 2014
**THE MILITARY ORDERS, ARCHITECTURE, CASTLES
AND WARFARE**
Readings: Mayer, pp. 93-107
 Praver, pp. 252-351
Document 4: **The Foundation of the Order of the Knights
Templar**, Brundage, pp. 76-77
- Meeting No. 8 October 23, 2014
THE ECONOMY: AGRICULTURE
Readings: Praver, pp. 352-381.
 A History of the Crusades, Vol. V: pp. 251-294
- Meeting No. 9 October 30, 2014
THE ECONOMY: TRADE AND THE ITALIAN CITIES
Readings: Praver, pp. 382-415.
 A History of the Crusades, Vol. V: pp. 379-451
- Meeting No. 10 November 6, 2014
INSTITUTIONS: LOCAL COMMUNITIES
Readings: *A History of the Crusades*, Vol. V: pp. 59-117
 Praver, pp. 46-60, 233-251
- Meeting No. 11 November 13, 2014
INSTITUTIONS: THE LEGAL ASPECTS
Readings Edbury, pp. 127, 155-162
Document 6: **Le livre des Assises**, Edbury, pp. 191-200
- Meeting No. 12 November 20, 2014
**INSTITUTIONS: EUROPEAN FEUDALISM AND THE
IQTA'**
Readings: Holt, pp. 60-81, 138-154
- Meeting No. 13 November 27, 2014
**FACTORS OF ISLAMIC RECOVERY: DEMOGRAPHY,
ETHNICITY, RELIGION, ECONOMY, POLITICAL
ORGANIZATION**
Readings: *A History of the Crusades*, Vol. V: pp. 3-58.

Holt, pp. 82-137

- Meeting No. 14 December 4, 2014
SALADIN AND THE BATTLE OF HATTIN
Readings: Mayer, pp. 107-136.
 Holt, pp. 38-66
Document 5: **The Battle of Hattin**, Brundage, pp. 153-159.

MIDTERM EXAM

SECOND TERM

- Meeting No. 15 January 8, 2015
**POLITICAL HISTORY: SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH
CRUSADERS AND LIQUIDATION**
Readings: Mayer, pp. 93-106, 137-151, 196-213
 A History of the Crusades, Vol. II: pp. 45-85, 153-
 185.
- Meeting No. 16 January 15, 2015
**THE CRUSADER STATES IN THE 12TH AND 13TH
CENTURY**
Readings Mayer, pp. 152-195
 Holt, pp. 155-166
- Meeting No. 17 January 22, 2015
LIQUIDATION AND THE NEW MIDDLE EAST
Readings: *A History of the Crusades*, Vol. II: pp. 45-85, 153-
 185
 Holt, pp. 178- 206
- Meeting No. 18 January 29, 2015
RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATIONS
- Meeting No. 19 February 12, 2015
RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATIONS
- Meeting No. 20 February 26, 2015
RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATIONS
- Meeting No. 21 March 5, 2015
RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATIONS
- Meeting No. 22 March 12, 2015
RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATIONS
- Meeting No. 23 March 19, 2015

Meeting No. 24

RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATIONS

March 26, 2015

Meeting No. 25

RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATIONS

April 3, 2015

RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATIONS