

HISTORY 2401E
Medieval Europe
Fall/Winter 2020–21
Online Course

Instructor: Prof. Kenneth Duggan

Office Hours by appointment
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Course Description:

This course examines the transformation of European economies, political structures, religious and social institutions, and cultures in the thousand years between the fall of Rome and the European voyages of discovery, and the degree to which ordinary people shaped their societies and affected the course of historical change.

Course Syllabus:

This course examines the civilizations, culture and thought of Europe and the Mediterranean world between 400 and 1500. The events and movements of this period shaped medieval Europe, laying the roots of many of our modern attitudes and institutions. Key themes to be discussed throughout the year include notions of decline, renewal and rebirth in the West. Throughout the year, students will read and view a wide range of primary sources online that they will have an opportunity to discuss in online tutorials.

Lectures will be delivered asynchronously, and tutorials will be synchronous (meeting at a specific time on Zoom). Each week's lecture and readings will be uploaded to OWL by Monday night. Students must prepare for tutorials by completing the assigned readings and watching the corresponding lecture before the tutorial. During tutorials students will be given the opportunity to focus on a particular topic, allowing them to deepen their understanding of major historical events/sources.

A description of the assignments can be found in the "methods of examination" section. Students must upload assignments to the course webpage on OWL. All assignments will be subject to Turnitin analysis.

This course has a number of objectives. By the end of the term you should be able to:

1. acquire a wide range of knowledge on the civilizations and thought of Europe during the middle ages, as well as on their significance for later periods;
2. identify and discuss the major events and key developments of the period;
3. grasp the significance of these events and developments, and be able to communicate both in writing and orally an understanding of them;
4. discuss the range of records available to historians, as well as how to pinpoint and overcome the problems with these records;
5. analyze the variety of ways in which historians have used primary sources, as well as how and why two or more historians using the same material to ask identical questions can often come to very different conclusions;
6. formulate historical questions and investigate them using primary sources.

Course Materials:

All texts used in this course will be made available online.

Methods of Evaluation:

Primary Source Analysis #1 (16 Oct)	15%
Critical Reading Response #1 (20 Nov)	15%
Take-home Midterm (TBA)	10%
Primary Source Analysis #2 (5 Feb)	15%
Critical Reading Response #2 (12 Mar)	15%
Take-home Final Exam (TBA)	20%
Online Tutorial Participation	10%

Primary Source Analysis #1

Each student will write a 500–750-word primary source analysis on “The Plan of Saint Gaul” that will be worth 15% of the final grade. The source can be accessed online through the “Carolingian Culture at Reichenau & St. Gall” website: http://www.stgallplan.org/en/index_plan.html. The assignment will be due before the end of the day (11:59pm) on Friday, 16 October 2020. Further details about the task will be discussed in class.

Critical Reading Response #1

Each student will write a 1,000-word critical reading response to Julia M.H. Smith’s “The Remains of the Saints: The Evidence of Early Medieval Relic Collections”, which can be found in *Early Medieval Europe* 28 (2020), pp. 388–424. The assignment will be worth 15% of the final grade and will be due before the end of the day (11:59pm) on Friday, 20 November 2020. Further details about the task will be discussed in class.

Midterm

Each student will write a take-home midterm worth 10% of the final grade. Details about the midterm as well as the due date will be announced once the December exam schedule has been finalised. Further details about the task will be discussed in class.

Primary Source Analysis #2

Each student will write a 500–750-word primary source analysis on medieval English tally sticks that will be worth 15% of the final grade. An image and description of tally sticks will be uploaded to OWL in the second semester. The assignment will be due before the end of the day (11:59pm) on Friday, 5 February 2021. Further details about the task will be discussed in class.

Critical Reading Response #2

Each student will write a 1,000-word critical reading response to Henry Summerson’s “The Structure of Law Enforcement in Thirteenth-Century England”, which can be found in the *American Journal of Legal History* 23 (1979), pp. 313–327. The assignment will be worth 15% of the final grade and will be due before the end of the day (11:59) on Friday, 12 March 2021. Further details about this task will be discussed in class.

Final Exam

Each student will write a take-home final exam that will be worth 20% of the final grade. Details about the exam as well as the due date will be announced once the April exam schedule has been finalised. Further details about the task will be discussed in class.

Online Tutorial Participation

All students must attend their online tutorials. The participation grade (worth 10%) will be based on the quality (not to be confused with quantity) of students' seminar discussions.

Students must submit all assignments in order to pass the course.

Assignments submitted after the deadline without any appropriate documentation will be penalised 2% per day. No assignment will be accepted if it is submitted more than six days after the deadline. Students are encouraged to contact the instructor if they foresee any difficulties in submitting an assignment on time.

Accommodation for missed midterms with a Self Reported Absence:

Students with an approved absence from an in-class test will be required to write a makeup test on one of the two time slots available in each term:

Fall Term

- Tests scheduled before November 1 – the makeup will take place Monday, November 9 at 9:30am.
- Tests scheduled between November 9 and December 3 – the makeup will take place Friday, December 4 at 12:30pm.

Winter Term

- Tests scheduled before February 13 – the makeup will take place Monday, February 22 at 9:30am.
- Tests scheduled between February 22 and April 1 – the makeup will take place Friday, April 2 at 12:30pm

No other make-up opportunities will be provided. Students who fail to write a makeup test in the designated time slots will receive a grade of zero.

Students in online courses will write the make-up test through OWL over a 24-hour period beginning at the time noted above.

Students should be aware that course professors may not be available to respond to questions during the makeup test slots.

Accommodation for missed assignment deadlines with a Self Reported Absence:

If a student reports a SRA for an assignment (i.e. an essay) the new due date will be 48 hours after the SRA was submitted. For example, if you complete a SRA on March 19 at 3pm, your new due date will be March 21 at 3pm.

Course Schedule:

Week 1: Introduction (7–13 September)

Week 2: What is “medieval”? (14–20 September)

Week 3: The Fall of the Roman Empire (21–27 September)

Week 4: After the Fall (28 September–4 October)

Week 5: The Early Medieval Christian Church (5–11 October)

Week 6: The Byzantine Empire (12–18 October)

Week 7: The Rise and Spread of Islam (19–25 October)

Week 8: Merovingian Gaul (26 October–1 November)

Week 9: Reading Week (2–8 November)

Week 10: Charlemagne and the Carolingian Empire (9–15 November)

Week 11: The Vikings: Raiding and Plundering (16–22 November)

Week 12: The Vikings: Settlement (23–29 November)

Week 13: The Conquests of the Eleventh Century (30 November–6 December)

Week 14: The Crusades (7–9 December)

Week 15: The Gregorian Reform (4–10 January)

Week 16: The Investiture Controversy (11–17 January)

Week 17: The Avignon Papacy (18–24 January)

Week 18: The Great West Schism (25–31 January)

Week 19: Royal Governments and their Records (1–7 February)

Week 20: Magna Carta (8–14 February)

Week 21: Reading Week (13–21 February)

Week 22: Keeping the Peace in the Middle Ages (22–28 February)

Week 23: Money in the Middle Ages (1–7 March)

Week 24: The Jews in Western Europe (8–14 March)

Week 25: The Black Death (15–21 March)

Week 26: Rebellion (22–28 March)

Week 27: Children and Childhood (29 March–4 April)

Additional Statements

Academic Offences:

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

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 for such checking 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>).

Accessibility Options:

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 Student Accessibility Services at 519 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website: www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html

Medical Issues

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://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf

to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. 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 should be requested. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once the instructor has made a decision about whether to grant an accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for tests, assignments, and exams.

Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation.

Please visit https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/index.html to view all updated academic policies regarding medical accommodations.

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>).

Students are expected to retain all research notes, rough drafts, essay outlines, and other materials used in preparing assignments. In the unlikely event of concerns being raised about the authenticity of any assignment, your instructor may ask you to produce these materials; an inability to do so may weigh heavily against you.

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 another writer's ideas.

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 receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

Scholastic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website:
www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Copyright

Lectures and course materials, including power point presentations, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. You may take notes and make copies of course materials for your own educational use. You may not record lectures, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, wiki material, and other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without my written consent.

Health and Wellness

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 Student Accessibility Services at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.