

HISTORY 2401E
Medieval Europe
Fall/Winter 2021-22
Friday, 10:30-12:30, TBA
In-person

Instructor: Dr. Michael Fulton

Office Hours: TBA
Department of History, Office: Lawson Hall, TBA
Email: mfulton8@uwo.ca

This is a draft syllabus. Please see your course OWL site for the final syllabus.

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 is intended to provide a broad introduction to the study of Europe during the Middle Ages. This was a dynamic period in European history, an age of great political transformation, social development, economic transition and religious controversy. Architects built increasingly grand and ornate structures, while artists developed new art forms. Mounted knights secured their place of prominence on the battlefield, only to have it snatched away by the common soldier. Classical knowledge was salvaged from the ashes of Rome, reacquired through foreign caretakers, and ideas were reinterpreted as literacy and education expanded. Trade networks were developed throughout Europe and reached ever eastward as the boundaries of the known world were pushed back. By investigating a range of primary sources, students will gain insights into what life was like during this period, the priorities and concerns of various people, and how historians use these sources to build our understanding of this period.

Students are expected to attend all lectures and tutorials, having completing the assigned readings. Students are expected to actively participate in tutorial discussions and share the insights and understanding they have gained from the assigned readings. Students are to express their own ideas and interpretations in discussions and assignments. All written assignments are to be original, unique, and comply with the university's policy regarding academic integrity, and may be subjected to analysis with plagiarism software, such as Turnitin. See below for a detailed description of each assignment.

This course is planned for in-person learning; however, it may be necessary to pivot to a virtual learning environment in response to unforeseen developments relating to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Learning Objectives

By their completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Express an appreciation of, and ability to analyze, the principal political, religious and cultural developments of the medieval period, their causes and significance.
- Compare developments in different parts of Europe to identify similarities and differences between political, religious and cultural institutions and traditions.
- Demonstrate an understanding the course material by constructing arguments, both in speech and formal writing, that reveal an ability to analyze primary sources and conduct historical research.
- Discuss and critically evaluate texts, conveying an awareness of influences, biases and historical significance, as well as the ways sources can be interpreted differently, leading to historiographical debates.

Course Materials:

Required primary source readings will be provided on the OWL course site.

For additional information, clarification and context, students are strongly encouraged to acquire:

Clifford Backman, *The Worlds of Medieval Europe*, 4th ed. (Oxford, 2021) [ISBN: 9780197571538]

Methods of Evaluation:

| | | |
|------------------------|-------|--|
| Tutorial participation | 10.0% | Weekly |
| Essay proposal 1 | 2.5% | Due 11 October, 9:00am (upload to OWL) |
| Research essay 1 | 20.0% | Due 8 November, 9:00am (upload to OWL) |
| Take-home essay | 15.0% | TBA [December exam period] (upload to OWL) |
| Essay proposal 2 | 2.5% | Due 31 January, 9:00am (upload to OWL) |
| Research essay 2 | 20.0% | Due 28 February, 9:00am (upload to OWL) |
| Final Exam | 30.0% | TBA [April exam period] |

Tutorial Participation

Students are expected to attend all of their tutorials. Marks will be allocated based on students' participation and contribution to tutorial discussions (these are not attendance marks). Students should show up to their tutorials on time, having completed the assigned readings, and prepared to engage in a discussion of the weekly primary source materials. Marks will be granted based on the quality of students' insights, their preparedness and level of engagement.

Grade value: 10%

Date: weekly

Essay Proposals

Prior to writing each of their research essays, students must submit an essay proposal. Students will receive feedback on their proposals, which they can put towards their research essay. As not all research will have been

completed by the time a proposal is submitted, the overall structure of the research essay may differ. Proposals can be point-form and should not be longer than about 250 words. Proposals should include:

- The topic of the essay (chosen from those provided – see below).
- A list of the three supporting arguments to be made.
- A bibliography of at least 3 primary and 3 secondary sources that might be used in the essay.

Proposal 1

Grade value: 2.5%

Due date: Due Monday 11 October, 9:00am (upload to OWL)

Late penalty: late proposals will be given a mark of 0%.

NOTE: Students who do not hand in a proposal by the due date must still have an approved proposal by 9:00am on 25 October or they will receive an automatic mark of 0% on the first research essay.

Proposal 2

Grade value: 2.5%

Due date: Due Monday 31 January, 9:00am (upload to OWL)

Late penalty: late proposals will be given a mark of 0%.

NOTE: Students who do not hand in a proposal by the due date must still have an approved proposal by 9:00am on 17 January or they will receive an automatic mark of 0% on the second research essay.

Research Essays

The research essays provide an opportunity for students to showcase their critical thinking and research skills. Students will have a choice of two topics (to be announced in class). Although the topics are set, students will have considerable freedom to approach their topic in a manner that best suits their personal interests and the findings of their research. Each essay should be argumentative and analytical, rather than descriptive – focus on ‘why’ rather than ‘what’. Essays should be about 2000 words (+/-200). More instructions relating to formatting can be found on OWL.

Research essay 1

Grade value: 20%

Due date: Monday 8 November, 9:00am (upload to OWL)

Late penalty: a penalty of 10% will be incurred for each 24 hour period beyond the deadline. Late essays will not be accepted after 9:00am on Friday 12 November.

Choice of Topics: *topics will be announced in the first class of the first term.*

Research essay 2

Grade value: 20%

Due date: Monday 28 February, 9:00am (upload to OWL)

Late penalty: a penalty of 10% will be incurred for each 24 hour period beyond the deadline. Late essays will not be accepted after 9:00am on Friday 4 March.

Choice of Topics: *topics will be announced in the first class of the second term*

Take-home Essay

This essay is an opportunity for students to demonstrate what they have learned and the skills that they have developed during the first term. The topic of the essay will be assigned in the last class of the first term, and essays will be due on the date assigned by the Registrar. This is not a research essay, and students should only make use of materials assigned in the course (no outside or extra sources should be used). The take-home essay should be between 1,000 and 1,500 words. The formatting should be the same as the research essays. More instructions will be provided in the last class of the fall term.

Grade value: 15%

Due date: TBA [December exam period] (upload to OWL)

Late penalty: Late essays will not be accepted unless the student has received permission from their home Academic Counselling office.

Topic: TBA

Final Exam

This will be a traditional final exam, featuring a variety of question types. It will feature material from the complete course. No electronic devices or notes will be permitted.

Grade value: 30%

Date: TBA [April exam period]

Accommodation for missed tests/midterms, including Self Reported Absences (SRA):

Students with an approved absence from an in-class test will be required to write a makeup test.

Students should be aware that the make-up test will not necessarily be in the same format, be of the same duration, or cover the same material as the original test.

Online courses will have online makeup tests.

In person classes have scheduled makeup tests scheduled at the following times:

Fall Term

- Tests scheduled before November 1 – the makeup will take place November 8 at 9:30am.
- Tests scheduled between November 2 and December 7 – the makeup will take place December 8 at 9:30pm.

Winter Term

- Tests scheduled before February 19 – the makeup will take place February 28 at 9:30am.
- Tests scheduled between February 20 and March 31 – the makeup will take place April 1 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.

Course professors may not be available to respond to questions during the makeup test slots.

Students should be aware that when they have submitted an SRA for one test, they are not permitted to write a test or complete an assignment for another course during the period covered by the SRA. Failure to observe this regulation will result in the cancellation of the SRA and the possible application of late penalties.

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.

Course Schedule and Readings:

Readings TBA

Fall

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Friday, 10 September | Introduction |
| Friday, 17 September | Legacy of Rome |
| Friday, 24 September | Byzantines |
| Friday, 1 October | Gothic Italy |
| Friday, 8 October | Franks |
| Friday, 15 October | Anglo-Saxons & Vikings |
| Friday, 22 October | Anglo-Danes |
| Friday, 29 October | Carolingian Decline |
| <i>FALL STUDY BREAK</i> | |
| Friday, 12 November | Norman Conquest |
| Friday, 19 November | England & France |
| Friday, 26 November | Hundred Years' War |
| Friday, 3 December | Germany |

Winter

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Friday, 7 January | Italy |
| Friday, 14 January | Al-Andalus |
| Friday, 21 January | Crusades |
| Friday, 28 January | Schism |
| Friday, 4 February | Exploration |
| Friday, 11 February | Social Order |
| Friday, 18 February | War |
| <i>WINTER STUDY BREAK</i> | |
| Friday, 4 March | Economics |
| Friday, 11 March | Monasticism |
| Friday, 18 March | Learning |
| Friday, 25 March | Belief |
| Friday, 1 April | Health |

Use of Electronic Devices:

No electronic devices will be allowed during the final examination.

Additional Statements:

Please review the Department of History Course Must-Knows document,

<https://www.history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/Docs/Department%20of%20History%20Course%20Must-Knows.pdf>,

for additional information regarding:

- Academic Offences
- Accessibility Options
- Medical Issues
- Plagiarism
- Scholastic Offences
- Copyright
- Health and Wellness