



Department of History

EUH 3122: HIGH MIDDLE AGES

Professor: [Dr. Florin Curta](#)

Office: 202 Flint Hall

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Class will meet in Flint 111 on MWF 9:35-10:25

COURSE SYLLABUS

Fall 2019





COURSE DESCRIPTION

The High Middle Ages was a period of fundamental transformations. A world of peasant communities, with a small elite of aristocrats dominating and feeding itself from the labors of the peasantry, Europe after AD 1000 underwent exceptionally intense changes. Economic growth, territorial expansion, and dynamic cultural and social change, all marked the vitality of European society between 1000 and 1400. For four hundred years, before the slump and crisis of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, population grew, the cultivated area expanded, urbanization and commercialization restructured economic and social life. Through incorporated towns, universities, central representative bodies, and the international orders of the Roman Catholic Church, Europe of the High Middle Ages first began to define itself in expansionary terms. For the first time, the High Middle Ages witnessed what Robert Bartlett called "the making of Europe."

In this course we will examine the various aspects of this transformation. We will initially follow a topical, rather than chronological order. We will then move along chronological and geographical lines, as we will tackle the issue of state centralization. Our focus will be on Western Europe, but we will also look at some of the neighboring areas, such as Eastern Europe and Central Asia.



TEXTBOOKS



required

- Alfred J. Andrea. *The Medieval Record. Sources of Medieval History*. Boston/New York: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1997 [hereafter *Andrea*].
- Malcom Barber. *The Two Cities. Medieval Europe 1050-1320*. Second edition. London/New York: Routledge, 2004 [hereafter *Barber*]; available as e-book through the University of Florida Libraries.



optional

- *Atlas of Medieval Europe*. 2nd edition. Edited by David Ditchburn, Simon Maclean, and Angus Mackay. London/New York: Routledge, 2007 [hereafter *Atlas*]

NOTE: It is recommended that you read the assigned sections in your textbook(s) before the time they are due in class. Class meetings will be organized around a lecture/discussion format and quizzes will necessitate familiarity with the material.

There is no attendance policy, but you are responsible for attending all lectures and reading the required texts. Class participation may be taken into account to determine the overall grade. The basis for evaluation of performance will be four quizzes and two exams (Midterm and Final). The unannounced quizzes are exclusively based on primary source readings from your *Andrea* book and the web readings and will consist only of questions (no essay). A careful study of these texts is necessary for a good performance at the quiz. The Midterm and Final exams will cover everything from lectures and readings. Both will consist of a short answer portion and a longer essay. Make-up Midterm and Final exam will be given for very serious reasons. There is no make-up for quizzes. Extra-credit work will be accepted only for students with active participation in class discussions. You should discuss with me the format of the extra-credit option during regular office hours. The following point system will be used in determining the final grade:

Quizzes: 40 points
Midterm: 30 points
Final exam: 30 points
Total: 100 points

<i>Points</i>	<i>Grade</i>
95-100	A
90-94	A-
87-89	B+
81-86	B
75-80	B-
68-74	C+
61-67	C

55-60	C-
48-54	D+
41-47	D
35-40	D-
under 30	E

Students in this class participate in the pilot evaluation of the new course evaluation system called GatorEvals. The new evaluation system is designed to be more informative to instructors so that teaching effectiveness is enhanced and to be more seamlessly linked to UF's CANVAS learning management system. Students can complete their evaluations through the email they receive from [GatorEvals](#). Please note your other classes this semester may be evaluated in the current [GatorRater](#) online evaluation system. Thank you for serving as a partner in this important effort



[COURSE WEEKLY TOPICS](#)

Introduction
Agriculture and rural society
The revival of commerce
Urban economy
Medieval Christian faith
Monasticism and Church reform
Crusades and crusaders
Crusader states
Midterm. Mongols
The world of thought and art
The community of the realm
Centralization and war
On the fringes
Monarchs and popes in conflict
Crisis and expansion
Final exam

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