



Fall Semester 2025
HIST 3354 – Medieval Europe

Professor: Dr. Edward Tabri

etabri@uttyler.edu

Office: CAS 121
Office Hours: Wednesday, 4-6 pm, Thursday, 2-3pm

Course Overview and Objectives:

This course is an upper-level survey of Europe in the Middle Ages. We will examine the period from ca. 500 to 1300, focusing on political, economic and social considerations along with a study of the most significant institution of the period, the Roman Catholic Church. No prior knowledge of the period is required. The only prerequisite is an interest in the topic.

Course Requirements:

The course will consist of lectures and discussions; regular attendance is essential. There will be a midterm exam, a final exam and a term paper (approx. 6-8 pages). Each of these will be worth 1/3 of your course grade. The exams will consist of choices of terms from our lecture outlines (5 out of 10 for a total of 25% of the exam grade) and an essay (choice of 1 out of 2 for a total of 75% of the exam grade). The term paper will be based on your analysis of the works by Einhard, Notker and Joinville. Further instructions for the paper will be given separately.

Grading Policy:

Each assignment is worth 100 points for a course total of 300 points. The grading scale is

A=270-300
B=240-269
C=210-239
D=180-209

Make up exams will not be given nor will late papers be accepted, the only exception being officially documented family or medical emergencies. Plagiarism of any sort will result in an F for the assignment. **The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools for tests and papers is prohibited.**

Required Books:

R.H.C. Davis, *A History of Medieval Europe* (free e-book which I will email)

The two following books are at the UT-Tyler bookstore:

Einhard & Notker, *Two Lives of Charlemagne* (Penguin Classics)

Joinville and Villehardouin, *Chronicles of the Crusades* (Penguin Classics)

Calendar of Topics and Assignments:

Week 1 (Aug. 26-28)

Course Introduction

Reading: Davis, Introduction

Week 2 (Sept. 2 and 4)

The Roman Empire

Reading: Davis, chapter 1

Week 3 (Sept. 9 and 11)

The Decline of the Roman Empire

Reading: Davis, chapter 2

Week 4 (Sept. 16 and 18)

Early Germanic Society

Reading: Davis, chapter 3

Week 5 (Sept. 23 and 25)

The Rise of the Catholic Church and Papacy

Reading: Davis, chapter 4

Week 6 (Sept. 30 and Oct. 2)

The Byzantine Empire and the Islamic Caliphate

Reading: Davis, chapter 5

Week 7 (Oct. 7 and 9)

Charlemagne and the Frankish Monarchy

Reading: Davis, chapter 6, Einhard and Notker

Week 8 (Oct. 14 and 16)

The Decline and Fall of Charlemagne's Empire

Reading: Davis, chapters 7 and 8

Week 9 (Oct. 21 and 23)

Midterm Exam, Tuesday, October 21

Week 10
(Oct. 28 and 30)
The Normans and Europe
Reading: Davis, Part Two, chapter 1

Week 11
(Nov. 4 and 6)
The Medieval Church and the Papal Monarchy
Reading: Davis, Part Two, chapters 2, 3 and 7
Last Day to Withdraw From the Course: Monday, Nov. 3.

Week 12
(Nov. 11 and 13)
The Crusades
Reading: Davis, Part Two, chapters 4 and 5
Geoffrey of Villehardouin, The Conquest of Constantinople

Week 13
(Nov. 18 and 20)
Medieval Kings and Kingdoms
Reading: Davis, Part Two, chapters 6 and 8

Week 14
(Nov. 25 and 27)
No Meetings – Thanksgiving Break
Reading: John of Joinville, The Life of Saint Louis

Week 15
(Dec. 2 and 4)
Medieval Civilization at its Height
Reading, Davis, Part Two, chapter 9
Term Paper Due, Tuesday, December 2

Week 16
(Dec. 9 and 11)
Final Exam, Thursday, Dec. 11

For all other UT Tyler Policies, see the following link:

<https://www.uttyler.edu/offices/academic-affairs/files/syllabuspolicy.pdf>