

The University of Texas at Tyler
Spring Semester 2016
HIST 3354 – Medieval Europe
Professor Edward Tabri -BUS 205A
566-7322 or etabri@uttyler.edu
Office Hours: T, Th. 3:30-5:00

Course Overview and Student Learning Outcomes: This course is an upper-level survey of Europe in the Middle Ages. We will examine the period from 500-1300, focusing on political, economic and social considerations along with the role of the Church. We will explore how Europe was affected by kingship, feudalism, and the Christian faith. We will also look at how the common folk lived.

Course Requirements: The course will consist of lectures and discussions; regular attendance and participation are 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 final grade. The exams will consist of choices of terms (5 out of 10 possible) and essays (1 of 2). The paper will be an analysis of the books 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. The grading scale is A=270-300, B=240-269, C=210-239, D=180-209, F=180-0. Make-ups will not be given nor will late papers be accepted, *the only exception being officially documented family or medical emergencies.*

Final Withdrawal Date: March 27

Required Books:

Clifford Backman, *The Worlds of Medieval Europe*

Einhard and Notker, *Two Lives of Charlemagne*

Joinville and Villehardouin, *Chronicles of the Crusades*

Topics and Assignments:

Week 1 (Jan. 17 and 19)

Introduction

Week 2 (Jan. 24 and 26)

Roman Greatness and Decline

Readings: Backman, chapters 1 and 2

Week 3 (Jan. 31 and Feb. 1)

The Early Church

Readings: Backman, chapters 3 and 4

Week 4 (Feb. 7 and 9)

Post-Roman Europe and the Germanic Kingdoms

Readings: Backman, chapter 5

Week 5 (Feb. 14 and 16)

Byzantium and Islam

Readings: Backman, chapter 6

Einhard, *The Life of Charlemagne*

Week 6 (Feb. 21 and 23)

Charlemagne

Readings: Notker, *The Deeds of Charlemagne*

Week 7 (Feb. 28 and Mar. 2)

The Viking Age

Readings: Backman, chapter 7

Week 8 (March 7 and 9)

Midterm Exam, Tuesday, March 7

Week 9 (Mar. 14 and 16)

No Meetings – Spring Break

Week 10 (Mar. 21 and 23)

The Normans and Europe

Readings: Backman, chapters 8 and 9

Week 11 (March 23-27)

The Church and the Papal Monarchy

Readings: Backman, chapters 10-12

Villehardouin, *The Conquest of Constantinople*

Week 12 (March 28 and 30)

Knights, Crusades and Chivalry

Readings: Joinville, *The Life of Saint Louis*

Week 13 (April 4 and 6)

Peasants and Elites

Readings: Backman, chapters 14 and 15

Week 14 (April 11 and 13)

The Medieval Monarchies

Readings: Backman, chapter 13

Week 15 (April 18 and 20)

Political and Religious Upheaval

Readings: Backman, chapter 16

Term Paper Due – Thursday, April 20

Week 16 (April 25 and 27)

The World of Dante

Readings: Backman, chapters 17 and 18

Final Exam – Tuesday, May 2, 2-4 pm