

The University of Texas at Tyler
Fall Semester, 2014
HIST 5354 – Medieval Europe
Professor Edward Tabri 903/566-7322 or etabri@uttyler.edu
Office Hours: M, W, F: 2-4pm

Course Overview and Student Learning Outcomes:

This course is an examination of the contemporary secondary literature on medieval European history. We will be focusing this semester on medieval cities. A basic knowledge of the period is assumed. For review you may wish to consult a good textbook, such as Hollister's. In addition to gaining advanced knowledge of the above-mentioned topics, the course is designed to sharpen your reading and writing skills through analysis of classic and contemporary scholarly works.

Course Requirements and Grading Policy:

Your grade will be based on your written reviews of each of the books we are reading, along with oral presentations of selected articles. Papers should analyze the author's thesis, sources and evidence, methodology and perspective. They should be roughly 4-6 pages in length. Late papers will not be accepted. Attendance (and participation) are mandatory.

Six written book reviews = 60% of course grade

Comprehensive essay = 30% of course grade

Attendance and participation = 10% of course grade

Students will write reviews of six books. Papers should analyze the author's arguments, evidence and methodology and perspective/bias in addition to providing a brief summary. A general guideline for length is 4-6 pages. The comprehensive essay should be an 8-10 page essay in which you ruminate on all eight of our required books.

Final Withdrawal Date: March 25

Required Books:

John Rich, ed., *The City in Late Antiquity*

Ralph Mathisen, *Roman Aristocrats in Barbarian Gaul*

Richard Hodges, *Towns and Trade in the Age of Charlemagne*

Henri Pirenne, *Medieval Cities*

John Baldwin, *Paris 1200*

Augustine Thompson, *Francis of Assisi: The Life*

Augustine Thompson, *Cities of God: The Religion of the Italian Communes, 1125-1325*

D.M. Palliser, *Medieval York*

Calendar of Meetings and Assignments:

Aug. 28 – Introduction

Sept. 4 – Discussion of Rich

Sept. 11 - JSTOR articles on late antique cities

Sept. 18 – Discussion of Mathisen, Review Due

Sept. 25 – JSTOR articles on Carolingian cities

Oct. 2 – Discussion of Hodges, Review Due

Oct. 9 – No meeting

Oct. 16 – Discussion of Pirenne, Review Due

Oct. 23 – JSTOR articles on the Pirenne Thesis

Oct. 30 – Discussion of Baldwin, Review Due

Nov. 6 – Discussion of Thompson, *St. Francis* (no review due)

Nov. 13 – No meeting

Nov. 20 – Discussion of Thompson, *Cities of God*, Review Due

Nov. 27 – No meeting (Thanksgiving)

Dec. 4 – Discussion of Palliser, Review Due

Dec. 11 – Comprehensive Essays Due