

**DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**  
**HIST\*2200 The Middle Ages**  
**Winter 2024**

Instructor: [REDACTED]  
Teaching Assistant: [REDACTED]  
Office Hour: [REDACTED]  
Classes: [REDACTED]

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION**

This course examines many of the major events and developments in medieval Europe from the fall of the Roman Empire to 1500 CE. Important themes include the spread of Christianity, interactions with Islam and Judaism, the emergence of important medieval institutions and relations with the Byzantine Empire and the Eastern Mediterranean.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is a survey of the Middle Ages in Europe from the fall of the Roman Empire to the onset of the European Overseas Expansion. Students should emerge from the course with an understanding of the factors that led to the political rise and decline of the Christian Church; the development of crusading ideologies; some of the defining social structures of Europe in this period and the factors that contributed to the so-called crisis of the late Middle Ages.

**ASSESSMENT AND DUE DATES**

In-Class Discussion	15%	Jan. 18, Feb. 1, 8, Mar. 7, 21, 28
Midterm Exam	20%	Tuesday 13 February 2024
Primary Source Paper	30%	Friday 22 March 2024
Final Examination	35%	Monday 22 April 2024, 2:30-4:30 PM

**Discussion** is an important component of studying History. There will six discussions over the course of the semester where you are expected to come to class and discuss questions related to primary source documents. You must bring a copy of the reading (electronic or paper) with you to class. You will receive credit for participating in five discussion classes and a bonus mark will be given to those students who participate in all six classes. Because each discussion class forms such a small part of the grade, and because it fosters such an important skill, discussion grades will not be re-weighted and cannot be made up by alternative means except in cases of long-term illness or other serious matters for which documentation may be required.

**The Midterm Examination** will be written in class on **Tuesday, 13 February 2024**. If you require extra time as part of an accommodation granted by Student Accessibility Services, you must book an exam with them as soon as possible.

**The Primary Source Paper** is an essay 1800- 2200 words in length that discusses the historical importance of a primary source (i.e., a medieval document) that relates to medieval Europe. Students will choose their primary source from a set of medieval documents posted on Courselink or they may choose their own. To select a Primary Source, students must submit a **short proposal** and a list of five relevant scholarly sources (beginning on **29 January 2024**). A template for the proposal will be provided on Courselink. The **proposal will not be graded, but it must be approved** before the student may begin working on the paper. Under normal circumstances, only 2 students will be approved to work on a given primary source, so it is recommended that proposals are submitted early. Failure to submit a proposal by **8 March 2024 will result in a 5% penalty** on the Primary Source Paper and will risk further late penalties on the assignment.

The final Primary Source Paper must draw on a minimum of 7 scholarly sources. The paper should be uploaded into Courselink by 11:59 pm Friday 22 March 2024. **Any student who cites fewer than 5 scholarly sources in the footnotes of their paper will receive a failing grade.** Because the purpose of a citation is to allow the reader to verify information **the failure to list specific page numbers (i.e., the 1-2 pages where the specific information being cited can be found) will result in a minimum deduction of 15%.** Consult the rubric on courselink for more instructions. Contact the instructor if you have difficulty meeting these research requirements.

This course uses Turnitin Software to check for originality. Students are encouraged to check your originality scores prior to submission. Please see me if you need further assistance.

All submissions must be original work and reflect the ideas and research conducted by the student. Use of AI software (e. g. ChatGPT) may result in charges of academic misconduct. Please see the instructor if you are unsure as to what tools may be used.

The Final Exam will be written in person during the exam period. The date and location will be announced on Web Advisor.

## **LATE PENALTIES**

All assignments should be submitted to the Courselink Dropbox by 11:59 pm on the day they are due. For the Primary Source Paper, there is a grace period that extends to Monday 25 March 2024 at 9am. The grace period is meant to accommodate short term illness. Assignments that are submitted in the grace period are considered late and will

not receive detailed feedback, but equally they will not receive a penalty. All students are welcome to make an appointment to receive oral feedback on their work.

Late Penalties are in place to ensure equity among students. Assignments received after the grace period will receive a late penalty of 2% per weekday and are calculated on the calendar day. Late penalties are capped at 15%, but papers will not be accepted after **5 April 2024** at 11:59 pm when the drop box closes. If a student is experiencing exceptional difficulties (e.g., long term illness, a death in the family) or needs accommodations related to a learning disability, they should contact me as soon as possible, and in most cases prior to the assignment due date.

### **REWEIGHTING OF ASSIGNMENTS**

The value of the various components for this course will **not** be reweighted, except in very exceptional cases (such as severe and prolonged illness or health circumstances, or the death of a close family member). Each component of the course is designed to contribute to and assess different aspects of the course's learning objectives, and you are expected to complete all of them.

### **USE OF EXTERNAL COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL WEBSITES**

Course slides, sample assignments, rubrics and templates are the intellectual property of the instructor. These are freely given to registered students in the course as part of their education. I do not give my permission for students to post these materials on any external commercial website or platform (e.g., CourseHero). If you are struggling in the course, arrange to meet with me and I can either help you or point you in the right direction.

### **REQUIRED COMPONENTS**

The following textbook will be used in the class and will be available on course reserve in the library: Rosenwein, Barbara. *A Short History of the Middle Ages*, Sixth Edition. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2023.

Readings for the Document Studies are found directly on Courselink. Copies of these readings **MUST** be brought to class either in paper or electronic format.

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

By the end of the course, an assiduous student who completes readings and attends class on a regular basis should:

1. understand the historical development of many of the key elements of medieval European History

2. have developed an informed historical perspective by reading primary sources in context and, through oral discussion, analyzing their bias and limitations.
3. have learned to deliver clear argument and evidence, document information, and deliver project elements by a specified deadline.
4. be able to synthesize independent research and course readings to develop a balanced historical perspective.

## LECTURES AND READINGS

Tues. Jan. 09 Introduction  
 Thur. Jan. 11 Christianization of the Roman Empire

Readings: *A Short History of the Middle Ages*, Chapter 1.

Tues. Jan. 16 The Fall of Rome and the Byzantine Empire  
 Thur. Jan. 18 [Discussion Class] Doc. Study 01 “Byzantine Village Life”

Readings: *A Short History of the Middle Ages*, Chapter 2; Document Study 01: “Byzantine Village Life and the Education of a Saint”, *Reading the Middle Ages*, pp. 74-77.

Tues. Jan. 23 The Rise of Islam  
 Thur. Jan. 25 Finding Sources for your Primary Source Paper

Readings: *A Short History of the Middle Ages*, Chapter 3.

### Primary Source Paper Proposals accepted starting Mon. January 29, 9am.

Tues. Jan 30 Feudalism and the Carolingian Renaissance  
 Thur. Feb. 1 [Discussion Class]\_Doc. Study 02 “The Donation of Constantine”

Readings: *A Short History of the Middle Ages*, Chapter 4; Document Study 02: “The Donation of Constantine.”

Tues. Feb. 6 Cluniac Reforms and the Eleventh Century  
 Thur. Feb. 8 [Discussion Class] Doc. Study 03 “The Investiture Controversy”

Readings: *A Short History of the Middle Ages*, Chapter 5; Document Study 03: Reading the Middle Ages, "The Investiture Controversy," pp. 281-285.

Tues. Feb. 13 Midterm Examination (in class)

Thurs. Feb. 15 The Crusades

No Readings

### **READING WEEK**

Tues. Feb 27 Growth of Towns and Gothic Cathedrals

Thurs. Feb 29 The Reconquista

Readings: *A Short History of the Middle Ages*, Chapter 5; Document Study 04: "Jacques Fournier, Episcopal Register."

Tues. Mar. 05 Pope Innocent III and the Medieval Inquisition

Thurs. Mar. 07 [Discussion Class] Doc. Study 04 "Episcopal Register"

Readings: *A Short History of the Middle Ages*, Chapter 6.

Tues. Mar. 12 Religious Conflict and Coexistence in Iberia

Thurs. Mar. 14 Marco Polo and the *Pax Mongolica*

Readings: *A Short History of the Middle Ages*, Chapter 7.

Tues. Mar. 19 Black Death, Schism and Hundred Years War

Thurs. Mar. 21 [Discussion Class] Doc. Study 05 "Letter to Pope Gregory XI"

Readings: Document Study 05: Reading the Middle Ages, "St. Catherine of Siena, Letter to Pope Gregory XI (1376)" pp. 525-526.

**Research Paper should be uploaded into Courselink by Friday 22 March, 11:59pm. A grace period extends to Monday 25 March, 9am.**

Tues. Mar. 26 [NO CLASS] Watch Medici Godfathers of the Renaissance  
Tues. Mar. 28 [Discussion Class] Doc. Study 06 "Valla, Discourse on a Forgery"

Readings: *A Short History of the Middle Ages*, Chapter 8; Document Study 06: *Reading the Middle Ages*, "Discourse on the Forgery of the Alleged Donation of Constantine", pp. 539-543.

Tues. Apr. 2 Crusading Overseas  
Thurs. Apr. 4 Conclusion and Review

No Readings

## UNIVERSITY POLICY STATEMENTS

### ***EMAIL COMMUNICATION***

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

### ***WHEN YOU CANNOT MEET A COURSE REQUIREMENT***

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

Associate Diploma Calendar - Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/index.shtml>

### ***DROP DATE***

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all students (undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

### ***COPIES OF OUT-OF-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS***

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

### ***ACCESSIBILITY***

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student. When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability. Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to make a booking at least 14 days in advance, and no later than November 1 (fall), March 1 (winter) or July 1 (summer). Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time.

For Guelph students, information can be found on the SAS website:

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas> For Ridgetown students, information can be found on the Ridgetown SAS website <https://www.ridgetownc.com/services/accessibilityservices.cfm>

### ***ACADEMIC INTEGRITY***

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity, and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community-faculty, staff, and students-to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff, and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that encourages academic integrity.

Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their

part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

### ***RECORDING OF MATERIALS***

Presentations that are made in relation to course work - including lectures - cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

### ***RESOURCES***

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs.

Academic Calendars

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars>

### ***DISCLAIMER***

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings, changes in classroom protocols, and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email.

This includes on-campus scheduling during the semester, mid-terms, and final examination schedules. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

### ***ILLNESS***

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g., final exam or major assignment).

### ***COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS***

For information on current safety protocols, follow these links:

- <https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campus/how-u-of-g-is-preparing-for-your-safe-return/>
- <https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campus/spaces/#ClassroomSpaces>

Please note, these guidelines may be updated as required in response to evolving University, Public Health, or government directives