EUROPE IN 1215: Three Approaches via Law, the Laity, and Literature, Fall 2011
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(Librarian who could be of much assistance: Alan Unsworth: aunsworth@library.rochester.edu and 5-9298)

UNIT I: MAGNA CARTA and Governance

II (1)—Expectations of Law and Government: Cooperation and Tensions—“prince et pays”

Common Reading:

Patricia Terry, ed., tr., Reynard the Fox
JC Holt, Magna Carta (1992), 1-122


Reports:

--E. Kantorowicz, “Kingship Under the Impact of Scientific Jurisprudence”
--Raoul Van Caenegem, The Birth of Common Law on the unique nature of Common Law;
--W.L. Warren on Henry II and common law, using his biography of Henry

--{RWK}Geoffrey of Monmouth, History of the Kings of Britain—view of law and Kingship under Plantagenets
--{RWK}Chanson de geste: French views on law and kingship

II (2) The Great Charter—Law, Sovereignty and Control

Common Reading:

J.C. Holt, Magna Carta, 123-405
Essays by Given-Wilson and Payling in Jones, ed, Short History of Parliament, i.e. pp 16-29 and 75-86.
RW Kaeuper, “Questioning Constitutionalism,” (typescript of conference paper
from UR conference on constitutionalism, 2009).

Reports:

[The general reading will prove sufficient!]

Topics for Seminar Meetings:

Introductory Meeting: Broad Setting for 1215 Events

UNIT II: FOURTH LATERAN COUNCIL and Church Reform

I (1)--Gregorian Reform and Lay Piety: Clerical Ordo, Papal Leadership, Lay Expectations

Common Reading:

MD Chenu, Nature, Man and Society in the 12th Century, 202-239,

Optional, additional reading:

Reports:

--Reform and Law: John Gilchrist, Collection in 74 Titles
--H. Berman, Papal Revolution on “papal revolution” and Western Legal tradition
-- Possible link with heresy: R. Moore, The Origins of European Dissent
   plus R.W. Southern, Western Society and the Church, 300-358 and
   Vauchez, 231-271}[Or Moore’s article on Origins of heresy] [ OR
   Malcolm Lambert book]

I (2) The Lateran Council: Elaborating a Lay Theology as a Second Phase of Reform

Common Reading:

Article on Innocent III in *Dictionary of the Middle Ages*, vol 6 (SC Ferruolo)
Alexander Murray, “Confession as an Historical Source” and “Confession Before 1215”


Reports:


--John Baldwin, *Masters, Princes and Merchants*, part I,
--John Baldwin, *ibid*, part III
--John Baldwin, *ibid*, parts IV, V

**UNIT III: VULGATE CYCLE OF ARTHURIAN ROMANCE**

***III (1)-The Romance Tradition as the Historian’s Evidence***

[In Unit III there will be ONE set of common readings and reports, with the conversation beginning on the first day of this section and continuing on the second in the week following.]

**Common Reading:**

Norris Lacy, gen. ed., *Lancelot-Grail* (5 vols., 1993-96); ‘swim’ in a volume or two; read at least II, pp 1-61, IV, pp 72-74

Reports: [see below: III (2)]

***III (2)- Vulgate Cycle Themes: Chivalry, Love, Piety, in Tension***
Common Reading: [See above: III (1)]

Reports:

--Balain and Galahad: two figures for knighthood?
--Lancelot, Guenevere, Arthur, (and God)
--Why the Quest of the Holy Grail?

[NB: these are topics rather than set sources. I will consult with those reporting]

MEETINGS AFTER UNIT III: Individual meetings on research, possible group progress reports, and two final seminars devoted to your presentation of research questions and findings. These seminar meeting to report research findings fall on 1 and 8 December.