

HISTORY 127: FOUNDATIONS OF MEDIEVAL FRANCE Fall Term, 2017

RW Kaeuper, RR Library 441, Richard.Kaeuper@Rochester.edu, 5-7878

Goals: to introduce historical inquiry, explore basic types of historical evidence, improve analysis both spoken and written. Also to learn something about the Middle Ages in France, with a focus on the "long 12thC" (c. 1050-c.1223)!

Requirements: (1) regular attendance and contributions to discussion based on analytical reading; (2) an essay (written outside of class) of roughly 1500 words on any TWO of the four units after Introduction (due in class on dates noted below); (3) a final, comprehensive paper based on broad themes of the course. Topics for all written work will be suggested; you may choose another topic with permission of instructor. If you write essays on more than two units, the least successful will not be counted toward grade. (4) Honesty: doing your own work and citing all sources used.

Reading should be completed FOR THE DAY OF CLASS ON WHICH IT IS LISTED. Any reading not in bookstore (or purchased online) will be on e-reserve via interactive syllabus Blackboard.

Evaluation of your work will be based on the three essays (30% each), attendance and participation (10%).

NB: I have replaced traditional office hours with a willingness to meet at times arranged by email.

NB, also: Individual tutorial meetings are a feature of this course. I offer to meet with you when essays are being written (or at any other time). Sign-ups to meet are especially encouraged before essays are written.

INTRODUCTORY

30 August: Approaching study of History and the Middle Ages in France

4 September: "France" before the Capetian Revival

J.R. Strayer, "What were the Middle Ages?" from his [Wesier n Europe D127 .S9lw](#)
Cook and Herzman, [The Medieval World View. 5-89, 181-231. CB35l .C58 2012](#)
[then begin reading "Self and Society" for 11 Sept meetings!]

UNIT I: Foundations in Piety and Order

6 Sept September: A religious worldview

[discussion based on readings provided in class]

11 September: An idiosyncratic view through the eyes of Abbot Guibert

John Benton, ed., Selfand Society in Medieval France [SPECIFY PP!!] DC83 .G833 1984

"Peter Abelard," WikiQedia article.

13 September: Intellectual order. Early Humanism?

Marcus Bull, France in the Central Middle Ages, 134-67. DC61.F58 2002

RW Southern. "Medieval Humanism", in his Medieval Humanism (an intense article requiring two readings) CB353 .S65

18 September: concluding discussion above

20 September: Individual Discussions on Unit I essays

25 September: Unit I ESSAY DUE: discussion of topic

[Keep reading ahead!]

UNITII: Foundations of a Capetian Kingdom

27 September: The cross-Channel perspective [informal class lecture, plus discussion]

Geoffrey Koziol in Bull. France...Central Middle Ages, 43-77.

2 October: Work of 12thC Capetians seen through Abbot Suger & "Reynard the Fox"

Cusimano and Moorhead, ed, tr., (Suger). Deeds of Louis the Fat DC88.5 .S813 1992

Patricia Terry, ed., tr., Reynard the Fox PQ1508.E5T47 1983

4 October: Capetian Apogee: Philip Augustus, Philip the Fair?

John Baldwin, Paris in 1200, 94-127. [Blackboard] DC725 .B35 2010

Linda Patterson. in Bull, France...Central Middle Ages, 102-34.

EAR Brown. "Philip the Fair of France." in Nakashian and Franke, eds., Prowess Piety. and Public Order in the Middle Ages. pp 237-265.

9 October: Individual Meetings on Unit II essays

11 October: Unit II Essay DUE: discussion of topic

[Fall Break]

UNIT III: Foundations of French Chivalry and Chivalric Literature

18 October: French Chivalry

RW Kaeuper "The Societal Meaning of Chivalry in Romance: Northwest Europe," in Cambridge Companion to Medieval Romance, ed. Krueger, 296-315. CR4529.F8 P3 1969

[then begin on "Song of Roland"]

23 October: Beginning Discussion of "Song of Roland"

Golden, tr, "Song of Roland" PQ1521.E5 G6

25 October: Concluding Discussion of "Song of Roland"

30 October: From Epic to Romance: Beginning discussion

Ruth Cline, tr., Yvain. the Knight with the Lion

RW Southern, "From Epic to Romance" from his Making of the Middle Ages CB351 .S72m \

1 November: from Epic to Romance: Concluding discussion

6 November: Can we recover a female voice 1

Read some stories from Marie de France in Hanning and Ferante, The Lais of Marie de France. At minimum, read "Milun" and "Châtivel."

8 November: Individual Meetings on Unit III Essays

13 November: Unit III Essay Due: Discussion of topic

UNIT IV: Creation and Spread of Gothic Architecture--A Cultural Pattern?

15 November: Approach to Medieval architecture as historical evidence

(YVe will begin with images of castle building, as convenient example)

As intro: read Wikipedia articles on Romanesque and Gothic architecture

Begin first reading of Panofsky, Gothic Architecture and Scholasticism [a demanding book, requiring careful reading] NA2563 .PI9g 1960

20 November: Romanesque and Emerging Gothic: Abbot Suger's work

[Continue reading-or rereading-- Panofsky, Gothic Architecture)

(Seclections from) Gerda and Erwin Panofsky, ed, tr., Abbot Suger on the Abbey Church of St-Denis.

[Thanksgiving Recess]

27 Noveember: French High Gothic Church Architecture and its influence

29 November: Gothic Architecture and Scholasticism

Concluding discussion of Panofsky, Gothic Architecture and Scholasticism

4 December: Individual discussions on topic of architecture

6 December: Essay on Unit IV Due: discussion of topic for this unit

11 December: review

NB: FINAL ESSAY for course DUE: DECEMBER 20

Books (available in UR Bookstore):

John Benton, Self and Society in Medieval France

Richard Cusimano and John Moorhead, Deeds of Louis the Fat

Frederick Goldin, tr., Song of Roland

Ruth Harwood Cline, tr., Yvain, the Knight with the Lion

Erwin Panofsky, Gothic Architecture and Scholasticism