

History W106

Dr. [Ruth Karras \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras)

Spring 1998

T–Th 10:10–11:30

AC 28

### **MEDIEVAL EUROPE [Course**

Requirements]([http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Course requirements](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Course%20requirements))

[Office Hours]([http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Office Hours](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Office%20Hours))

[Required Reading]([http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Required Reading](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Required%20Reading))

[Introductory \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Introductory\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Introductory)

[Europe in a Wider

Context]([http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Europe in a Wider Context](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Europe%20in%20a%20Wider%20Context))

[Monastic life]([http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Monastic Life](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Monastic%20Life))

[Peasant life]([http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Peasant Life](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Peasant%20Life))

[Urban Life]([http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Urban Life](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Urban%20Life))

[Aristocratic

life]([http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Aristocratic life](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Aristocratic%20life))

[Lay religion]([http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Lay Religion](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Lay%20Religion))

[Marriage \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Marriage\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#Marriage)

[War, Famine, Pestilence,

Etc]([http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#War, Famine, Pestilence](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/w106s98.htm#War,%20Famine,%20Pestilence)).

Western Europe from the twelfth through fifteenth centuries, an era of great change, social, economic, political, and cultural. This course will focus on several issues in medieval European history: the way medieval Europe was itself a multicultural society, merging together a variety of cultural currents, and the ways in which medieval culture was ancestral to our own vs. the ways in which it was alien from our own. We will approach these issues by reading texts that were written by people at the time, so that students will be able to construct their own ideas about what the world of the Middle Ages was like.

The course will not be moving chronologically but rather thematically, as indicated by the syllabus. The first three classes will be devoted to a chronological overview.

### ***Course Requirements***

Two take-home exams (midterm and final), 15% of grade each. The purpose of the exams is to check on the students understanding of the content of the course and the students ability to analyze and integrate the material assigned.

Exams will consist of passages from texts the students have not seen before (the texts will be identified for you), which you will then discuss in the context of what we have discussed in class.

One paper of ca. 2500–3000 words, 40% of grade. This paper is to construct a historical argument based on primary sources. I will distribute [suggestions for topics \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/Topics.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/Topics.htm) and/or help you come up with your own. The purpose is to give the student an opportunity to be a historian, framing a historical question to ask and answer by using specific sources. Materials for this paper will be due at several stages: a topic with bibliography, an outline, a sample section of the paper, a draft of the full paper, and a final version. The paper grade is based on the quality of the final version. All items are due **at the beginning of class** on their due dates. The final grade on the paper will be reduced by one point on a 100–point scale for every day the bibliography, outline, or sample section is late, and by two points for every day the draft or final paper is late.

E-mail discussion, 15% of grade. The purpose of this requirement is to accustom students to frequent informal writing, to promote discussion of the class topics outside of class, and to give me feedback on how students have understood the course material. All students are required to participate in this discussion (via listserv) at least once a week.

Class participation, 10% of grade. This includes any in–class writing assignments. Attendance is required. Class participation requires you to be present in spirit as well as in body, having done the reading and prepared to talk about it. Repeated absence may result in a failing grade for the course, at my sole discretion, regardless of grades on other work.

No extensions or incompletes except in case of serious, documented illness or family emergency.

In case of bad weather phone 204–4858; if class is canceled there will be a voicemail message saying so.

--

### ***Office Hours***

Dr. Karrass office is Gladfelter 919. The phone number is 1–4858; a message can be left on voicemail at any time. Office hours are Tuesday and Thursday 9:00–10:00 or by appointment. Dr. Karras can also be reached by [E-mail \(mailto:rkarras@nimbus.ocis.temple.edu\)](mailto:rkarras@nimbus.ocis.temple.edu)

### ***Required Reading***

The following books are available from the Bookstore: C. Warren Hollister, *Medieval Europe: A Short History*, 7th Edition  
Patrick Geary, *Readings in Medieval History*, vol. 2. A course packs containing other assigned readings are available for purchase from Docu-Care, 900 N. Broad Street. The rest of the readings are from a site on the World Wide Web, the *Internet Medieval Sourcebook* at the ORB site (On-Line Resource Book for Medieval Studies).

CP=course pack; IMS=Internet Medieval Sourcebook

## ***Schedule of Readings and Assignments***

### ***I. Introductory***

- [20 January \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/M12098.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/M12098.htm): First class, no reading assignment
- [22 January: \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/M12298.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/M12298.htm) Hollister, chs. 9–12
- [27 January \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m12798.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m12798.htm): Hollister, chs. 13–16

### ***II. Europe in a Wider Context***

- [29 January \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m21997.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m21997.htm): Crusade and Reconquista: Geary, 70–104, and documents on Reconquest of Valencia, 209–15 (CP).
- [3 February: \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/M2398.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/M2398.htm) Travel Accounts: [John Mandeville \(http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/mandeville.html\)](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/mandeville.html); [Marco Polo \(http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/polo-kinsay.html\)](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/polo-kinsay.html); Christopher Columbus, "A Letter Concerning Recently Discovered Islands," 467–73

### ***III. Monastic Life***

- [5 February \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m12997.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m12997.htm): An Oblate: Guibert of Nogent, Geary 25–49.
- [10 February \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m22497.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m22497.htm): A Theologian: St. Bernard, Geary 15–24.
- [12 February \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m21298.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m21298.htm): A Builder: [Suger \(http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/sugar.html\)](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/sugar.html)

### ***IV. Peasant life***

- [17 February \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m4297.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m4297.htm): Freedom and Unfreedom: documents from [Catalonia \(http://kuhttp.cc.ukans.edu/kansas/aarhms/vic.htm\)](http://kuhttp.cc.ukans.edu/kansas/aarhms/vic.htm), [England \(http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/manumission.html\)](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/manumission.html), and Germany (CP)
- [19 February \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m21998.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m21998.htm): Documents on Peasants Revolt, 155–198 (CP)

## **PAPER TOPIC/BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE**

### ***V. Urban Life***

- [24 February \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m22498.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m22498.htm): Guilds and Work: [Garment Cutters of Stendal \(http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/stendal-guild1231.html\)](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/stendal-guild1231.html) (IMS); Commercial Documents from London, 201–08 (CP)
- [26 February \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m22698.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m22698.htm): Ritual and Social Regulation: [Jacques de Vitry on Student Life in Paris \(http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/vitry1.html\)](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/vitry1.html), Brothel Regulations from London (CP), Documents on Muslims and Christians in Valencia, 338–42 (CP)
- [3 March \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m31797.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m31797.htm): Jews in the Medieval Town: [Thomas of Monmouth](#)

(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1173williamnorwich.html>) on William of Norwich, *Siete Partidas* (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/jews-sietepart.html>)

- **5 March** (<http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m3598.htm>): Commerce and Wealth in Late Medieval Italy: Diary of Gregorio Dati, Geary 451–66, and Florentine *Catasto*, Geary 436–50.

#### **PAPER OUTLINE DUE**

#### *VI. Aristocratic life*

- **17 March** (<http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m31798.htm>): Representations of Aristocratic Life: Excerpts from Song of Roland, 7–10 (CP), Gottfried of Strassburg's *Tristan and Iseult*, 150–59 (CP); Thomas Malory, *Death of Arthur*, 130–36 (CP); Marie de France, *La ustin*, 20–22 (CP); Chretien de Troyes, *Erec and Enide*, 23–25 (CP)
- **19 March** (<http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m31998.htm>): Relations Between Lords and Vassals: Hugh of Lusignan, Geary 51–56, Galbert of Bruges, Geary 57–69, and Magna Carta, Geary 408–420.

#### **TAKE-HOME MIDTERM DISTRIBUTED**

- **24 March**: (<http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/Aqinfilm.htm>) Warfare: Froissart, *Chronicles*, in Geary, 364–88

#### **TAKE-HOME MIDTERM DUE**

- **26 March** (<http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m32698.htm>): The Aristocratic Household: Christine de Pisan, *Treasure of the City of Ladies*, 109–41 \_\_ (CP)

#### **SAMPLE SECTION OF PAPER DUE**

#### *VII. Lay Religion*

- **31 March** (<http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m33198.htm>): Popular Piety: Stories of the Virgin Mary (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/tales-virgin.html>) and of the Devil (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/tales-devil.html>); Stories of the Eucharist, 89–95 (CP)
- **2 April** (<http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m4298.htm>): Heresy: Inquisition Records of Jacques Fournier, Geary 185–204, and Confession of Peter Waldo (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/waldo1.html>)
- **7 April** (<http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m4798.htm>): Jewish Piety: Ethical Wills (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/jewish-wills.html>)
- **9 April** (<http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m4998.htm>): Pilgrimages and Visions: Margery Kempe, Geary 227–59.

#### **DRAFT PAPER DUE**

#### *VIII. Marriage*

- **14 April** (<http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m41498.htm>): Marriage Law: Gratian, *Decretum*, Bk 4 Case 29, 31, 32, Gregory IX, *Decretals*, Bk 5, Titles 129–32, and English Marriage cases (pp. 26–29, 37–62, 129–32, 183–86, 191–92) (CP); Rashi (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1105rashi.html>) on Jewish marriage cases; Muslim marriage cases from Granada, 323–26 (CP).

- [16 April \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m41698.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m41698.htm): Two Marriages: Abelard, *Story of my Adversities*, 11–40 (CP), and story of [Thomas of Elderfield \(http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/wulftrans.html\)](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/wulftrans.html)
- [21 April \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m42198.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m42198.htm): Attitudes to Marriage: *A French Fabliau: The Peasant Doctor*, 282–87 (CP), Jaume Roig, *Spill* (<http://gopher.humnet.ucla.edu/santiago/roigsant.html>) , and sermons of [St. Bernardino of Siena \(http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/bernardino-2sermons.html\)](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/bernardino-2sermons.html)

#### IX. War, Famine, Pestilence, etc.

- [23 April \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m42398.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m42398.htm): The Black Death: Boccaccio, *Decameron* (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/boccaccio2.html>) ; Henry Knighton, 385–88 (CP);

#### FINAL PAPER DUE

- [28 April \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m42898.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m42898.htm): Joan of Arc: Trial of Joan of Arc, 315–17 (CP); [Johannes Nider \(http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/nider-stjoan1.html\)](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/nider-stjoan1.html) on Joan of Arc; Christine de Pisan on Joan of Arc, 434–49 (CP)
- [30 April \(http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m5597.htm\)](http://nimbus.ocis.temple.edu/~rkarras/m5597.htm) Witchcraft: [Malleus Maleficarum and other documents \(http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/witches1.html\)](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/witches1.html)

**TAKE-HOME FINAL** distributed at last class, due Tuesday, 12 May, 10:30 a.m. in 919 Gladfelter Hall (but it would make my life a lot easier if you turn it in earlier!)