The History Practicum – Purpose and structure of the class

What is history? What is the difference between popular history and professional history? What skills and resources do historians need to do their work? This class is intended to introduce students to the basic goals of historical study and to the fundamental skills necessary for historical research, analysis, and writing.

This course examines the meaning and content of medieval history and imagery in western culture. What (and when!) do we mean when we talk about the middle ages? How does western society understand and use references to the 'medieval'? What does this history mean to us today and why is it compelling? We will consider primary documents from the middle ages, as well as contemporary historical writing, film, literature, and political discourse. The class content is intended as an introduction to significant themes in the historiography of the middle ages, not as a comprehensive survey. While exploring these, you will work to develop the practical skills necessary for succeeding in other history classes, completing the major, and conducting historical research.

Attendance policy and expectations

Students are expected to attend class regularly and arrive for lecture or section promptly. A heavy penalty will be imposed on students who arrive late for class. Attendance is mandatory for all sections. Unexcused absences will be penalized in the following manner: you will be permitted one absence in the lecture and one in the precept without penalty; every absence thereafter will lower your grade by one third.

Late work will not be accepted without penalty. Please make every effort to apprise the instructor of adverse circumstances that affect your ability to attend class or complete assignments on time. Official documentation is required to excuse an absence and to schedule make-up assignments. Unless otherwise noted, assignments will be collected at the end of the precept session for which they are assigned. Do not submit your work to via email – written work must be presented in hard-copy.
In writing papers, be certain to give proper credit whenever you use words, phrases, ideas, arguments, and conclusions drawn from someone else's work. Failure to give credit by quoting and/or footnoting is PLAGIARISM and will not be accepted in this class because it violates the University of Florida's honesty policy. Please review the policy at [www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial).

Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor during the semester if you have any individual concerns or issues that need to be discussed. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office ([www.dso.ufl.edu/drp](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp)). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

Please turn off your cell phones. If your cell phone rings or if you spend your time texting, you will be asked to leave the class and this will count as an unexcused absence.

**University of Florida GatorLink Email**: Class announcements will be sent out to your gatormail accounts via the classrolls mailing list. Check your GatorLink email account on a regular basis; you will be held responsible for all amendments to reading or writing assignments posted there. 'I don't check my GatorLink account' will not be considered a valid excuse for failure to complete an assignment or follow instructions.

**Online Course Evaluation Process**: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at [https://evaluations.ufl.edu](http://https://evaluations.ufl.edu). Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at [https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results](http://https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results).

**Class participation and attendance** 20%
- A = 100 - 93
- C = 74 - 71

**Research project/annotated bibliography** 25%
- A- = 92 - 90
- C- = 70 - 67

**Precept assignments 30% (see assignments)**
- B+ = 89 - 87
- D+ = 66 - 63

**First Midterm Exam 10%**
- B = 86 - 83
- D = 62 - 60

**Second Midterm Exam 15%**
- B- = 82 - 79
- D- = 59 – 56

- C+ = 78 – 75
- F = below 55

**Note**: A grade of C- is not a qualifying grade for major, minor, Gen Ed, or College Basic distribution credit. For further information on UF's Grading Policy, see: [https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx](http://https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx) and [http://www.isis.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html](http://http://www.isis.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html).
The following books are required for this course:

[https://www.amazon.com/Europe-High-Middle-Penguin-History/dp/0140166645/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1533940808&sr=8-1&keywords=europe+in+the+high+middle+ages+the+penguin+history+of+europe&dpID=51%252BEF8bGZ1L&preST=_SY291_BO1,204,203,200_QL40_&dpSrc=srch](https://www.amazon.com/Europe-High-Middle-Penguin-History/dp/0140166645/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1533940808&sr=8-1&keywords=europe+in+the+high+middle+ages+the+penguin+history+of+europe&dpID=51%252BEF8bGZ1L&preST=_SY291_BO1,204,203,200_QL40_&dpSrc=srch)


Week I – 21-23 August

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>W - Introduction</th>
<th>F - Periodization</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miri Rubin, “The Middle Ages” &lt;br&gt;Recommended: William A. Green “Periodization in European and World History”</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Week II – 26-30 August

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>M – Carolingian foundations</th>
<th>W – Law and society</th>
<th>F – Methods and practices of historical thinking – primary sources &lt;br&gt;Precept #1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/carl-missi1.asp">https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/carl-missi1.asp</a> &lt;br&gt;<a href="https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/carl-devillis.asp">https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/carl-devillis.asp</a> &lt;br&gt;Listen to: <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p003hydz">https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p003hydz</a> &lt;br&gt;Jordan, Chapter 1 &lt;br&gt;Sam Wineberg, “Historical Thinking and Other Unnatural Acts”</td>
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</table>

Week III – 2-8 September

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>M –Labor day, no class</th>
<th>W – The High Middle Ages: England as example &lt;br&gt;(social organization – why violence)</th>
<th>F – History in society and the university today</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Week IV – 9-13 September | M – French and German lands  
(manors, social organization) | W – Reading and interpreting secondary sources  
Precept #2 | F – Christendom and the Church – hierarchy and elites |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
|                          | Jordan Chapters 4-5  
https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/1084landjews.asp  
https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/fulbert1.asp  
https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/1028cnutfief.asp  
https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/atton1.asp  
https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/g7-dictpap.asp |                                                 |                                                 |
| Week V – 16-22 September | M – Christendom and the Church  
W – Reading and Interpreting secondary sources | F - The First Crusade and reconceptualization of Christendom |
|                          | Jordan, Chapters 6-7  
https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/1143clairvaux.asp  
https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/urban2-5vers.asp#guibert  
https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/1096jews-mainz.asp  
https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/cde-jlem.asp#gesta2  
Claster, Chapter 2.  
Gregorian chants;  
images of manuscripts |                                                 |
| Week VI – 23-27 September | M – The First Crusade and reconceptualization of Christendom  
W – Philosophy and learning  
Precept #3 | F - Reading first-hand accounts |
|                          | Jordan, Chapters 8-9  
https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/anselm.asp  
https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/1120abelard.asp  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=366&v=nuNfdHNTv9o |                                                 |                                                 |
| Week VII – 30 September - 4 October | M – Rosh ha-Shannah -No Class  
W – Library | F – Home coming - No Class |
|                          | - Use this week to catch up on reading and think about topics you might want to focus on for your research |
| Week VIII – 7-11 October | Yom Kippur – No Class  
The University | F - The individual – autobio |
|                          | Jordan, Chapters 10-11  
https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/abelard-sel.asp  
https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/heloise1.asp  
https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/nogent-auto.asp |                                                 |                                                 |
## Week IX – 14-18 October

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rising Royalty - France</th>
<th>Synthesizing material for exams</th>
<th>F – midterm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jordan, Chapter 12</td>
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## Week X – 21-25 October

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Innocent III and the Political Papacy</th>
<th>Redefining Christendom</th>
<th>F – Research Strategies Precept #4</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jordan, Chapter, 13</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/lat4-select.asp">https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/lat4-select.asp</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional canons from Lateran IV</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td><a href="https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/heresy1.asp">https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/heresy1.asp</a></td>
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## Week XI – 28 October – 1 November

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>England and the birth of Common Law</th>
<th>Theology and philosophy</th>
<th>F – Homecoming, No Class</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jordan, Chapter 14-15</td>
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<tr>
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<td><a href="https://www.bl.uk/collection-items/magna-carta-1216">https://www.bl.uk/collection-items/magna-carta-1216</a></td>
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## Week XII – 4-8 November

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Gothic Turn</th>
<th>Chivalric Romance</th>
<th>Using fiction as historical evidence Precept #5</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jordan, Chapter 17-18</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/sugar.asp">https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/sugar.asp</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.vam.ac.uk/content/articles/g/gothic-architecture/">http://www.vam.ac.uk/content/articles/g/gothic-architecture/</a></td>
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## Week XIII – 11-15 November
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading/Resource</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>M Veterans’ day – no class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Christian Spain – Conquest and expansion</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>F Material Culture and History</td>
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Week XIV – 18-22 November

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading/Resource</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>The 14th century: plague, famine</td>
<td>Precept #6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>The 14th century: war and crisis in the church</td>
<td>Crisis in the church</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jordan, Chapter 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jordan, Chapters 20-21</td>
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Week XV – 26-30 November

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading/Resource</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Thanksgiving</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Thanksgiving</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jordan, Chapter 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jordan, Chapters 20-21</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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Week XIV – 2-4 December

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading/Resource</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>Conclusion – annotated bibliographies are due at the beginning of class</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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