

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

FACULTY OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Medieval Studies 1022

M.J. Toswell

DRAFT OUTLINE

2013-2014

Mondays 4:30-5:30, Wednesdays 4:30-6:30

University College Room 30

This foundation course will introduce civilization and thought in Europe and the Mediterranean between 400 and 1500, with emphasis on the medieval roots of many modern institutions and attitudes, including philosophy, technology, law, governance, courtly love and attitudes to women, warfare, art and archaeology, Christianity and Islam, literature, music and coinage. Antirequisite(s): Medieval Studies 1025F/G, 1026F/G 3 hours, 1.0 course

This course leads into the new Minor in Medieval Studies, described as follows on the Faculty of Arts and Humanities website:

Medieval Studies addresses Europe and to some extent North Africa and the Middle East from late Antiquity to the end of the Middle Ages (approximately 350 to 1500 C.E.).

Nearly twenty faculty members at Western specialize in the study of the Middle Ages, focusing on such questions as the origin of scholastic philosophy, the farce in France and the origins of modern drama, the development of Gregorian chant in the eleventh and twelfth centuries, Christine de Pisan, the Gothic cathedral and its later imitation, the legal history of late medieval England, the psalms in Anglo-Saxon England, exemplary literature in Spain, food in medieval Germany, heraldry in Anglo-Norman England, the reception of the story of El Cid in later Spain, Chaucer, fourteenth-century village life in rural England, and much more. Western's new program in Medieval Studies will, beginning with a Minor, offer students the chance to learn about the people, places and events from which developed the cultures of modern Europe, North American and to a large extent Australasia and parts of Asia.

The interdisciplinary *ad hoc* committee which has lobbied for the minor intends to build further in the coming years with a Major and perhaps an Honours Specialization.

Course Organization

In this its second year, the course still does not have a background and basic text, though it does this year have a few works that we will be reading in more detail. Once a week, to establish a clear sense of our progression through the Middle Ages, the teaching team will be posting summaries of the class discussion that will give students a sense of the significant points made during the course. These summaries will not be exhaustive, and you can expect to be asked questions on the mid-terms and final examinations that are not fully covered in the writeups, but they will offer you a clear guideline for your studying and learning.

The detailed syllabus will offer a set of websites for most classes, as well as an introductory paragraph or two situating the topic of the day. You should go through all of the websites and readings before the class, thinking about the material presented, taking notes as necessary, and engaging closely with the material. Classes will mostly be run as discussions, not lectures, although occasional mini-lectures will erupt. This means that your engagement with the material, and your willingness to discuss it in class, will be a significant feature of the course. You will not be sufficiently engaged with the course if you just come to class and take notes from the class discussion. At the same time, you should use your discretion; some of the websites are very full

and detailed, with more detail than is necessary for you at this level. Others are quite short clips, and still others are extended but user-friendly videos. Some effort has been made to provide different kinds of material each week, to appeal to different learning preferences.

We also have about four guests booked for the class, experts in their fields who will be able to provide more detailed analysis of some of the course material. These guests may provide additional suggestions for material you should consider before their classes; as a result, the course outline posted to the Sakai website will be the definitive version. Some of the classes towards the end of the course will probably also acquire more fleshing out during the Christmas break.

Course Evaluation

The final grade will be calculated as follows:

Mid-term 1	20%
Mid-term 2	20%
Final Examination	40%
Participation	10%
Short Paper	10%

Please note that the two mid-terms are scheduled for the classes on November 6 and February 5. University regulations apply in the event that you are unable to attend class on these days. The final examination in April will be scheduled by the registrar's office; it is your responsibility to determine the date and time of the examination, and to be present for it. The two mid-terms and the final examination will have short-answer and identification questions amounting to about 40% of the total, and essay questions whose value will be about 60% of the total. Sample mid-terms and final examinations will be posted as study aids.

Participation: This grade will be awarded for attendance (to the entire class meeting), for evidence of having completed the class preparation, and for good contributions to class discussions. Good contributions need not be lengthy or frequent; they should however be respectful of the class environment, engaged with the material, investigative in nature, and relevant to the issue currently under discussion.

Short Paper: Due on March 10, this paper will be a cogent argument for the inclusion in future iterations of the course of a figure, an issue, a moment in history, an approach, or an idea. In 750-1000 words, you will outline the relevance and importance of your suggested addition, and offer three sources that would be useful for study of this material. Your sources can be online, or they can be journals or books obtainable at Weldon Library. Your grade will take into account the relevance and significance of your proposed addition, the quality of the sources, and the intelligence and clarity with which you have argued for the addition and proven its importance.

Teaching Team

M.J. Toswell, University College 53

Office Hours: Mondays 10:30-11:30 and Wednesdays 10:30-11:30

tutorial assistant tba

Office Hours: tba

Course Syllabus

Sept 9	Introduction
Sept 11	Timeline of the Middle Ages, Major Events, Major Ideas Land, Climate and Geography
Sept 16	Late Antiquity, the dawn of the Middle Ages
Sept 18	The Fall of Rome, the Start of the Middle Ages 312 Constantine and the Battle of Milvian Bridge
Sept 23	Four case studies: I Francis of Assisi
Sept 25	Four case studies: II Harold Fairhair III Berenguela of Castile IV Empress Theodora, Episcopa Theodora
Sept 30	Early Christianity
Oct 2	Monastic Christianity
Oct 7	Ascetic Christianity
Oct 9	The rise of Islam
Oct 16	Umayyad Invasion of Spain Saffron, Spain and the <i>convivencia</i>
Oct 21	Material Culture in Anglo-Saxon England
Oct 23	The Staffordshire Hoard
Oct 28	Charlemagne
Oct 30	Hallowe'en and All Hallows Eve and All Saints Day
Nov 4	Review
Nov 6	Midterm
Nov 11	Education in Charlemagne's Reign
Nov 13	Liturgy of the early church
Nov 18	Medieval manuscripts
Nov 20	Workshop on medieval manuscripts
Nov 25	Guest lecturer on medieval manuscripts
Nov 27	Medieval battles: Tours, Stamford Bridge
Dec 2	Battle of Hastings

Dec 4	A Medieval Christmas
Jan 6	<i>Laxdæla Saga</i> : an Old Norse saga
Jan 8	<i>Laxdæla Saga</i>
Jan 13	The First Millennium
Jan 15	The Peace of God
Jan 20	The Crusades
Jan 22	Eleanor of Aquitaine, Richard II
Jan 27	Courtly love
Jan 29	Courtly life: The Knight, the Lady, the medieval banquet, the tournament
Feb 3	review
Feb 5	Mid-term 20%
Feb 10	Beroul, <i>Tristan</i>
Feb 12	<i>Tristan</i>
Feb 24	The Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries
Feb 26	Medieval food
Mar 3	Medieval music I
Mar 5	Medieval music II
Mar 10	Medieval clothing Short Paper due online
Mar 12	Medieval childhood
Mar 17	Universities: their founding, the rise of scholasticism, curriculum
Mar 19	Umberto Eco, <i>The Name of the Rose</i>
Mar 24	Eco, <i>Name of the Rose</i>
Mar 26	Medieval architecture
Mar 31	The end of the Middle Ages
Apr 2	Medievalism I
Apr 7	Medievalism II Review