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American Public University System

The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

History and Military Studies Programs

HIST303

The Middle Ages

3 Credit Hours

8 Week Term

Prerequisite(s): None but HIST300 recommended

The course materials, assignments, learning outcomes, and expectations in upper level (300-400) undergraduate courses assume that you have completed lower level (100-200) History courses to develop content knowledge and skills necessary for research, writing, and critical thinking.

Students who have not fulfilled these requirements or awarded transfer credit should strongly consider completing these requirements prior to registering for upper level courses.

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Instructor Information

Course Description

This course will cover the history of Europe from the 4th/5th century when the Roman Empire was ending to the middle of the 14th century when the new nations were fully defined. Starting with the fall of the Romans and the effect of that fall on Europe, the course will cover the arrival of the “barbarian” invaders, the reign of Charlemagne, the rise of separate, new European states such as France, England and Germany as well as the Church, the relations between these states and with the Byzantine Empire, the period of the Crusades, and the development of different government systems in the various European nations.

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Course Scope

Using a mixture of primary and secondary sources, we will investigate the full scope of European history and culture this term. From the fall of the Roman Empire through to the beginning of the Renaissance, various kinds of

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evidence, including literary and archaeological, can be used to reconstruct the development of the nation-states of Europe, their relationship with the Church, and the intellectual achievements of the age. The political, social, economic and religious development of several major European states (especially England, France, Germany and Italy) will be studied in order to arrive at an understanding of the bases for the modern European states.

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Course Objectives

Students should be able to:

- CO-1: Explain the effect of the fall of the Empire and the influences that Roman culture had on Europe
- CO-2: Elaborate on the effect of the “barbarian” invasions and the influences that these groups had on Europe
- CO-3: Discuss the reason(s) for the rise of the Carolingians
- CO-4: Define the effect of Charlemagne’s reign on European culture
- CO-5: Describe the developing relationship between civil and religious authority during the Middle Ages
- CO-6: Explain the development of Germany and France from former Carolingian territory
- CO-7: Elaborate on the development of England, especially after the Battle of Hastings in 1066
- CO-8: Analyze the role of the Church in the Middle Ages
- CO-9: Explain the reasons for tensions that developed between especially England, France and Germany during the Middle Ages
- CO-10: Discuss the causes and effects of the Crusades

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Course Delivery Method

This course delivery is via distance learning and enables students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. APUS ensures that the proper course materials and access to an online learning management system are available to you. Course materials and access to an online learning management system are available to each student.

In online courses, we construct knowledge not just by completing readings and assignments. An important part of the process is communicating with classmates and learning from what they have to say. As such, we need to share online conversations about ideas.

Direct interaction is a key feature of the educational experience. For that reason, it is important that you interact with fellow students and the course instructor during the course as specified in this syllabus. Additionally, you can contact the instructor during posted office hours.

You are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals we understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment please contact the faculty before the due date so you can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

All written assignments are due by the last day of each week and are posted in your student folder and must be submitted as an attachment through the assignment section. Returned assignments will appear in the same link.

All Forum postings occur in the Forum and specific due dates are in the Course Outline section of this syllabus.

All assignments are due as posted in the syllabus. I will accept late assignments with a penalty. Assignments 1 week late may be up to deducted 25 percent of the grade. Two weeks results in a deduction of up to 50

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percent. Anything later than that will receive a zero. There are exceptions to this policy, on a case-by-case basis, and generally deal with emergencies.

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Course Materials

Required Text:

- Cantor, Norman F. *The Civilization of the Middle Ages: A Completely Revised and Expanded Edition of Medieval History*. Harper Perennial, 1994.
- Jotischky, Andrew and Caroline Hull. *The Penguin Historical Atlas of the Medieval World*. Penguin, 2005.

Recommended References

- *The Chicago Manual of Style*, 15th ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003.
- Turabian, Kate L. *Manual for Writers of Term Papers*, 6th Edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996. *Purchase Optional*.
- Marius, Richard, and Melvin E. Page. *A Short Guide to Writing about History*, 6th ed. New York: Longman, 2007

Web-Based Readings

Please click on the “Online Library” button on the left side of the classroom for these and other references to supplement the course readings and provide reference material for the research paper.

- [The British Academy Portal: Medieval Studies](#)
- [Decameron Web: Plague](#)
- [The End of Europe's Middle Ages](#)
- [European Middle Ages](#)
- [Feudal England: Historical Studies on the XIth and XIIth Centuries](#) (1895)/ Round
- [The Great Pestilence \(A.D. 1348-9\), Now Commonly Known as the Black Death](#) (1898) / Gasquet
- [A History of the Crusades](#)
- [The History of the Knights Templar](#) (1842) / Addison
- [The Internet Medieval Sourcebook](#)
- [Knights at Court: Courtliness, Chivalry, and Courtesy in from Ottonian Germany to the Italian Renaissance](#) (1991) / Scaglione
- [The Labyrinth: Resources for Medieval Studies](#)
- [Lectures in Medieval History](#)
- [Mediaeval Feudalism](#) (1942) / Stephenson
- [Medieval Life and the Hundred Years War](#)
- [Middle Ages.net](#)
- [The Online Books Page: Medieval Civilization](#)
- [The Online Books Page: Middle Ages](#)
- [Online Medieval Classical Library](#)
- [The Other Economy: Pastoral Husbandry on a Medieval Estate](#) (1989) / Biddick

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IMPORTANT NOTE: The Department of History and Military Studies requires conformity with the traditional [University of Chicago Style Manual and its Turabian offshoot](#). Citations will follow traditional footnote / endnote attribution. **Do not use parenthetical (APA / MLA) variations. Students in History and Military Studies classes cannot use Wikipedia or encyclopedias – this includes online encyclopedias.**

Recommended References:

The APUS Online Library, in the Tutorial & Student Studies Center provides a link to the *Chicago Style Manual – Online*. If you are majoring in History or Military History, then it is highly recommended that you purchase a bound version of this style manual because you will need to be required to follow this citation manual in all of your History, Military History and Military Studies courses.

Microsoft Word (if you do not have MS Word, please save all files as a Rich Text Format (.rtf). **NOTE - The classroom only supports .doc, .docx, and .rtf files.** Please visit Adobe for a free copy of [Adobe Reader](#).

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Evaluation Procedures

This course requires weekly readings. You will be required to analyze, reflect on and evaluate the various readings. All assignments will be due no later than midnight EST on the Sunday of that week. Late submissions will be penalized in accordance with the History program policy (see above and in the course materials section) unless alternative arrangements have been made with me beforehand. In addition, all papers should be spell-checked and double spaced in Times New Roman 12-point font. They must also have 1-inch margins - top, bottom, and sides. All written assignments should be uploaded into the student folder in the electronic classroom.

Here is the breakdown for how your grade will be calculated. For further details on the assignments, please see the “Assignment Descriptions” in Lesson 1.

Grade instruments	Points	Percent of final grade
Short Analysis Papers (2 x 10 points each)	20	20
Weekly Discussion Boards (4 x 7.5 points each)	30	30
Research paper	20	20
Research Paper Discussion Board	10	10
Final exam	20	20
TOTAL	100	100

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Grading Scale

Please see the [Student Handbook](#) (click here) to reference the University’s grading scale.

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Assignments:

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Assignment descriptions are located in the lessons in the classroom. Please read them thoroughly and direct any question you have about any assignment my way.

Course Outline

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic(s)</u>	<u>Learning Objective(s)</u>	<u>Reading(s)</u>	<u>Assignment(s)</u>
1	Late Antiquity, The Rise of Christianity The Coming of the Germans	Learn about the cultures that influenced Europe from the period before the fall of the Roman Empire. Understand the events that led to the fall of the Roman Empire and the impact of the Germanic invaders on European civilization.	Skim Cantor, chap. 1 Read Cantor, chaps. 2-3 Documents in the lesson 1.	Do all the readings. Post a biographical sketch of yourself. Begin considering a research topic.
2	Byzantium and Islam Monasticism and the Conversion of Europe The Rise of the Carolingians	Understand the impact of the Byzantine Empire and Islam on early medieval Europe. Understand the development of the Church in Rome and the Carolingian Dynasty in Europe	Read Cantor, chaps. 4-6 Documents in lesson 2.	Do all the readings. Post on Forum #2 Choose a paper topic about some aspect of medieval history or culture and submit for approval. Post paper topic on research paper discussion board.
3	Carolingian Administration The Rise of Feudalism Re-Urbanization	Understand the continuing development of the Church and society in Europe	Read Cantor, chaps. 7-9 Documents in lesson 3.	Do all the readings. Post an update to the Research Paper Discussion Board. Turn in Short Analysis

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	and Economic Revival			Paper #1
4	Conflict between Church and State The Norman Conquest The Crusades	Understand the impact of the growth of papal power on Europe Understand the impact of the Norman conquest of England and the development of that monarchy Understand the reasons for the Crusades and their main events	Read Cantor, chaps. 10-13 Documents in lesson 4.	Do all the readings. Post on Forum #3. Post preliminary bibliography on Research Paper Discussion Board
5	Reason vs. Mysticism in the Middle Ages	Understand the causes and effects of intellectual growth in Europe Understand the development of religious thought in Europe	Read Cantor, chaps. 14-16 Documents in lesson 5.	Do all the readings. Turn in Short Analysis Paper #2 Post an update to the Research Paper Discussion Board.
6	Politics and Religion in the High Middle Ages	Understand the further development of state and church power and influence in medieval Europe	Read Cantor, chaps. 17-18 Documents in lesson 6.	Do all the readings. Post on Forum #4 Post thesis statement and rough outline on Research Paper Discussion Board.
7	Reason and the Rule of Law in the 13 th Century The Calamitous 14 th Century, Part 1	Understand the development of scholastic theology and limited monarchy in England Understand the forces leading to the dissolution of medieval culture in the 1300s.	Read Cantor, chaps. 19-20 Documents in lesson 7.	Do all the readings. Complete and submit Research Paper.
8	The Calamitous 14 th Century, Part 2	Understand how medieval civilization gives	Read Cantor, chaps. 21 Documents in lesson	Do all the readings. Post on Forum #5

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		rise to the Renaissance	8.	Complete final exam!
		Show your understanding of the material covered so far by answering an essay question that you will choose from a list		

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Policies

Please see the [Student Handbook](#) to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

- [Drop/Withdrawal Policy](#)
- [Plagiarism Policy](#)
- [Extension Process and Policy](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)

WRITING EXPECTATIONS

All written submissions should be submitted in a font and page set-up that is readable and neat. The format is described below.

- Typewritten in double-spaced format with a readable style and font and submitted inside the electronic classroom (unless classroom access is not possible and other arrangements have been approved by the professor).
- 12-point font or Times New Roman styles.
- Page margins Top, Bottom, Left Side and Right Side = 1 inch, with reasonable accommodation being made for special situations and online submission variances.

CITATION AND REFERENCE STYLE

Assignments completed in a narrative essay or composition format must follow the Chicago Manual of Style guidelines. The APUS Online Library, in the Tutorial & Student Studies Center provides a link to the *Chicago Style Manual – Online*. If you are majoring in History or Military History, then it is highly recommended that you purchase a bound version of this style manual because you will need to be required to follow this citation manual in all of your History, Military History and Military Studies courses.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals I understand you must manage

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competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

NETIQUETTE

Online universities promote the advance of knowledge through positive and constructive debate--both inside and outside the classroom. Discussions on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and "flaming." Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting--basic academic rules of good behavior and proper "Netiquette" must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the fun and excitement of learning that does not include descent to personal attacks, or student attempts to stifle the discussion of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Educator classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.
- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and--especially--satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add "emoticons" to help alert your readers: ;-), :) , ☺

DISCLAIMER STATEMENT

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

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Academic Services

ONLINE LIBRARY RESEARCH CENTER & LEARNING RESOURCES

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to librarian@apus.edu.

- **Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:** The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- **Electronic Books:** You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- **Electronic Journals:** The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- **Smarthinking:** Students have access to ten free hours of tutoring service per year through [Smarthinking](#). Tutoring is available in the following subjects: math (basic math through advanced calculus), science (biology, chemistry, and physics), accounting, statistics, economics, Spanish, writing, grammar, and more. Additional information is located in the Online Library. From the Online Library home page, click on either the "Writing Center" or "Tutoring Center" and then click "Smarthinking." All login information is available.

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Selected Bibliography

The Cantor text has a very complete bibliography starting on p. 569.

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