Welcome to the class! This course encompasses European history from 1000 to 1400. The course will examine the structure of society and its political and economic organization in the High Middle Ages. Readings provide a basis for the study of feudalism, agrarian life, and the rise of the towns; religious developments and conflicts; church-state relationships; the Crusades; the rise of feudal monarchies; and cultural achievements.

**Learning Outcomes**

After taking this course, students will be able to:

- read critically and interpret primary sources
- interpret history using both primary sources and modern authors
- communicate historical knowledge and interpretation in written form
- demonstrate an understanding of historical methods (i.e. students will be able to think like a historian)

**Breakdown of Grades**

- Midterm 25%
- Writing Assignments (2 Total) 30% (15% x 2)
- Final Exam 25%
- Participation and Classwork 20%

**Grade Scale**

- 90-100 A
- 87-89 B+
- 80 - 86 B
- 77 - 79 C+
- 70 - 76 C
- 60 - 69 D
- 59 or less F

**Readings**

We will be covering hundreds of years of history over the course of the semester, so it is necessary that you keep up with the readings.

There are three required texts for the course:

- *Europe in the High Middle Ages* by William Chester Jordan
- *The Book of Margery Kempe*, edited by Barry Windeatt
You are also required to read both primary and secondary source documents found online. The exact title of each document and its web link is listed below. These readings are also posted on Canvas. Each student is responsible for obtaining the documents off of Canvas.

**Midterm and Final Exams**
There will be two exams in this course – a midterm and final (non-cumulative). You will be given important terms and questions prior to each exam to help you prepare. Makeup exams will **NOT** be given unless there is a good reason for missing the exam.

**Short Writing Assignments**
You will be writing two short assignments during the course of the semester containing at least 1,000 words (at least 4 pages). The instructions for these assignments are found in Canvas.

If you would like extra assistance on these assignments, I encourage you to visit the Writing Center in Conklin 126. For more information on the Writing Center, check out this link: [https://sasn.rutgers.edu/student-support/tutoring-academic-support/writing-center](https://sasn.rutgers.edu/student-support/tutoring-academic-support/writing-center)

**Participation and Classwork**
Class participation makes up an important part of your overall grade. I will be devoting a certain portion of every class period to discussion. I will be grading your participation during that time. Moreover, you will have various in-class informal writing assignments to complete, such as reflections and response papers, that will be collected during class.

**Attendance Policy**
Attendance is required. There will be no make-up opportunities for missed classes.

*Excused vs. Unexcused absences:* The Rutgers-Newark Undergraduate catalog states: “The recognized grounds for absence are illness requiring medical attention, curricular or extracurricular activities approved by the faculty, personal obligations claimed by the student and recognized as valid, recognized religious holidays, and severe inclement weather causing dangerous traveling conditions.” If you plan to claim a religious holiday as an excused absence, you must inform me of this fact within the first two weeks of class.

I will take attendance at the beginning of every class. If you arrive late, after I have taken attendance, I will give you half credit for being in class. This means that two late arrivals will count as one unexcused absence. Leaving early without prior permission will count as an unexcused absence.

Please keep in mind that this course meets once a week, so each class meeting is actually the equivalent of two classes. After two unexcused absences, your overall course grade will be lowered by a partial grade (from B+ to B, for example) for every further unexcused absence. With four absences, the stakes change: Any student who misses four or more sessions through any combination of excused and unexcused absences will have missed more than a quarter of the class time and will not earn credit in this class. Such students should withdraw from the course to avoid an F.

**Academic Integrity/Behavior**
Rutgers expects and requires all its students to act with honesty and integrity and respect the rights of others in carrying out all academic assignments. Plagiarism is a serious and punishable offense and will not be tolerated. Cases of plagiarism will immediately be sent to the appropriate college dean for review. You are responsible for familiarizing yourself with Rutgers policy on plagiarism at [http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/) for more information.
All students are required to sign the Rutgers Honor Code Pledge. To receive credit, every assignment must have your signature under the following phrase: “On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this assignment.”

**Accommodation and Support Statement**

Rutgers University Newark (RU-N) is committed to the creation of an inclusive and safe learning environment for all students and the University as a whole. RU-N has identified the following resources to further the mission of access and support:

**For Individuals with Disabilities:** The Office of Disability Services (ODS) is responsible for the determination of appropriate accommodations for students who encounter barriers due to disability. Once a student has completed the ODS process (registration, initial appointment, and submitted documentation) and reasonable accommodations are determined to be necessary and appropriate, a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) will be provided. The LOA must be given to each course instructor by the student and followed up with a discussion. This should be done as early in the semester as possible as accommodations are not retroactive. More information can be found at [ods.rutgers.edu](http://ods.rutgers.edu). Contact ODS at (973)353-5375 or via email at ods@newark.rutgers.edu.

**For Individuals who are Pregnant:** The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance is available to assist with any concerns or potential accommodations related to pregnancy. Students may contact the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance at (973) 353-1906 or via email at TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu.

**For Absence Verification:** The Office of the Dean of Students can provide assistance for absences related to religious observance, emergency or unavoidable conflict (e.g., illness, personal or family emergency, etc.). Students should refer to University Policy 10.2.7 for information about expectations and responsibilities. The Office of the Dean of Students can be contacted by calling (973) 353-5063 or emailing deanofstudents@newark.rutgers.edu.

**For Individuals with temporary conditions/injuries:** The Office of the Dean of Students can assist students who are experiencing a temporary condition or injury (e.g., broken or sprained limbs, concussions, or recovery from surgery). Students experiencing a temporary condition or injury should submit a request using the following link: [https://temporaryconditions.rutgers.edu](https://temporaryconditions.rutgers.edu).

**For English as a Second Language (ESL):** The Program in American Language Studies (PALS) can support students experiencing difficulty in courses due to English as a Second Language (ESL) and can be reached by emailing PALS@newark.rutgers.edu to discuss potential supports.

**For Gender or Sex-Based Discrimination or Harassment:** The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance can assist students who are experiencing any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking. Students can report an incident to the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance by calling (973) 353-1906 or emailing TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu. Incidents may also be reported by using the following link: tinyurl.com/RUNReportingForm. For more information, students should refer to the University’s Student Policy Prohibiting Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence, Relationship Violence, Stalking and Related Misconduct located at [http://compliance.rutgers.edu/title-ix/about-title-ix/title-ix-policies/](http://compliance.rutgers.edu/title-ix/about-title-ix/title-ix-policies/).

**For support related to interpersonal violence:** The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance can provide any student with confidential support. The office is a confidential resource and does not have an obligation to report information to the University’s Title IX Coordinator. Students can contact the office
by calling (973) 353-1918 or emailing run.vpva@rutgers.edu. There is also a confidential text-based line available to students; students can text (973) 339-0734 for support.

**For Crisis and Concerns:** The Campus Awareness Response and Education (CARE) Team works with students in crisis to develop a support plan to address personal situations that might impact their academic performance. Students, faculty and staff may contact the CARE Team by using the following link: tinyurl.com/RUNCARE or emailing careteam@rutgers.edu.

**For Stress, Worry, or Concerns about Well-being:** The Counseling Center has confidential therapists available to support students. Students should reach out to the Counseling Center to schedule an appointment: counseling@newark.rutgers.edu or (973) 353-5805. If you are not quite ready to make an appointment with a therapist but are interested in self-help, check out *TAO at Rutgers-Newark* for an easy, web-based approach to self-care and support: https://tinyurl.com/RUN-TAO.

For emergencies, call 911 or contact Rutgers University Police Department (RUPD) by calling (973) 353-5111.

**Technology Resources for Students:** https://mytech.newark.rutgers.edu/tlp

**Contact information for OIT-Newark Help Desk:** https://mytech.newark.rutgers.edu/techsupport

**Schedule of Topics and Readings**

**January 23**  
Introduction to the class  
Review of the early medieval period

**January 30**  
Feudal Europe and the Rise of Towns  
**Readings:** Jordan, “Northmen, Celts and the Anglo-Saxons”, “Francia/France” and Central Europe https://courses.lumenlearning.com/boundless-worldhistory/chapter/medieval-life/ (Read the sections entitled “Feudalism” and “The Manor System”)  
On Laborers: https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/1000workers.asp  
Grant of Freedom to a Betrothed Serf http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/1059serfs2.asp  
Accounts of Medieval Fairs & Markets, 998-1250  
http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/1250medfairs.asp

**February 6**  
Church Reform, Investiture Controversy and Expansion of Christianity to the East  
**Readings:** Jordan, “Mediterranean Europe,” “Christendom in the Year 1000” and “The Investiture Controversy”  
Gregory VII: Dictatus Papae https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/g7-dictpap.asp  
Gregory VII: Lay Investitures Forbidden https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/g7-reform2.asp  
Chronicle of Nestor: Conversion of Russia  
https://www2.stetson.edu/~psteeves/classes/russianprimarychronicle.html  
Chronicle of the Hungarians: Conversion of the Magyars  
http://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/hce4.i.ii.xxxi.html

**February 13**  
Crusades  
**Readings:** Jordan, “The First Crusade”  
Truce of God - Bishopric of Terouanne https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/t-of-god.asp  
Urban II's Speech at Clermont https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/urban2-5vers.asp#urban
February 20

First Writing Assignment Due on Guibert of Nogent

Readings: Jordan, “Social Structures” and “The Pontificate of Pope Innocent III and the Fourth Lateran Council”

Lateran IV: Select Canons https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/lat4-select.asp
Tales of the Virgin https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/tales-virgin.asp
Ademar of Chabannes: The Discovery of the Head of John the Baptist https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/1016ademar-headofjohnbaptist-thead.asp

February 27

Growing Power of Monarchies

Readings: Jordan, “Political Power and Its Contexts I” and “Political Power and Its Contexts II”

Abbot Suger: Life of Louis VI http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/sugar2.asp
St. Louis’ Advice to his Son http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/stlouis1.asp

March 6

Midterm

March 13

Spring Break!

March 20

Rise of Medieval Universities and Scholasticism

Readings: Jordan, “The World of Learning”

The Life and Works of Hildegard of Bingen http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/med/hildegarde.asp

March 27

Medieval Art, Architecture and Pilgrims


Church and Reliquary of Sainte- Foy, France
Medieval View of Love http://academic.brooklyn.cuny.edu/english/melani/cs6/love.html

April 3

Courtly Love, Medieval Gender and Sexuality

Readings: Jordan, “Cultural Innovations of the Twelfth Century”

The Praiseworthy Continence of Louis VII https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/hyams-louisvii.asp
The Questioning of John Rykener, A Male Cross-Dressing Prostitute, 1395 https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/1395rykener.asp

April 10

Second Writing Assignment Due on Margery Kempe

Readings: Jordan, “The Kingdoms of the North,” “Baltic and Central Europe” and “Southern Europe”

Centralization of Monarchies in the Thirteenth Centuries
Salimbene: On Frederick II https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/salimbene1.asp
Emperor Frankenstein: The Truth Behind Frederick II of Sicily’s Sadistic Science Experiments https://www.historyanswers.co.uk/kings-queens/emperor-frankenstein-the-truth-behind-frederick-ii-of-sicily-s-sadistic-science-experiments/

April 17  Easter –No class

April 24  The Disastrous Fourteenth Century: Hunger, Plague and Rebellion
Readings: Jordan “Famine and Plague” and “Political and Social Violence”
Marchione di Coppo Stefani, The Florentine Chronicle
http://www2.iath.virginia.edu/osheim/marchione.html
The Flagellants Attempt to Repel the Black Death, 1349
http://www.eyewitnessstohistory.com/flagellants.htm
Anonimalle Chronicle: English Peasants’ Revolt 1381
https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/anon1381.asp
A Strange Case of Dancing Mania Struck Germany Six Centuries Ago Today

May 1  Papacy in Crisis and Growth of Mysticism
Readings: Jordan, “The Church in Crisis”
Boniface VIII, Clericis Laicos, 1296 https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/b8-clericos.asp
Hadewijch's Vision #9 Queen Reason
http://www2.kenyon.edu/Depts/Religion/Fac/Suydam/Reln329/Queenreason.htm
Dialog of Catherine of Siena  http://www.ccel.org/ccel/catherine/dialog.iv.iv.xxv.html
Thomas a Kempis Imitation of Christ (Book I, chapters 1-3)
http://www.ccel.org/ccel/kempis/imitation.ONE.html
Bernard Gui: Inquisitorial Technique https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/heresy2.asp

May 8  Final Exam

***Note: The schedule in the syllabus may change due to extenuating circumstances***