

History AS.100.265

Instructor: Nathan Daniels

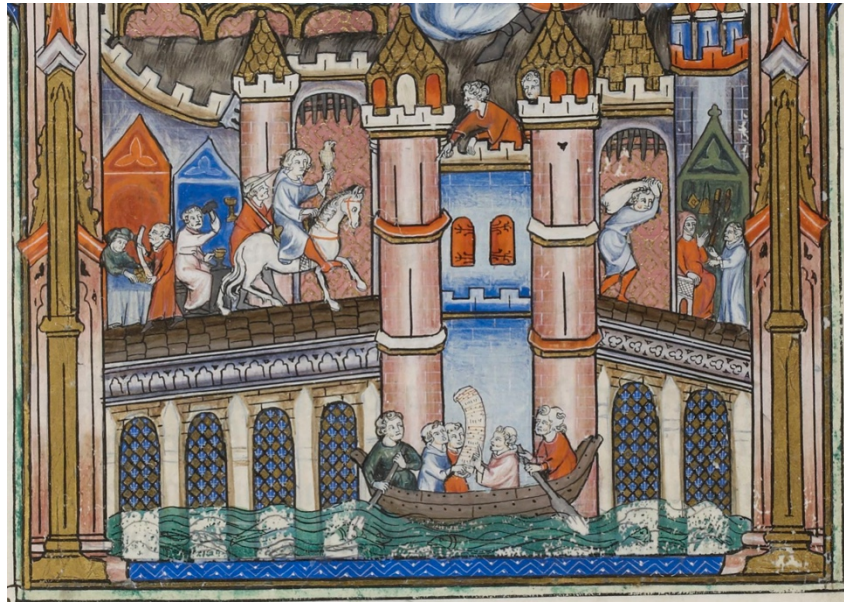
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Office Hours: T/Th 1:00-2:00pm, or by appointment

Spring 2017
T/Th 9:00-10:15am

The Medieval City



From *The Life of Saint Denis* (BNF, ms. fr. 2091, fol. 99r)

Course Description:

This course focuses on the development and growth of cities in western Europe during the Middle Ages. In it, you will consider the following questions: what constitutes a city in the medieval period? How were cities used and inhabited? In what ways did they shape medieval life? Though sometimes seemingly unusual, you will find many characteristics of medieval cities strikingly familiar, representing a foundation for broader urban development into the modern period. Through a combination of lectures, discussions, and readings of primary and secondary source documents, you will explore the origins, development, and functions of cities, the various uses of urban space, and the challenges that they posed to an ordered society.

Student Learning Objectives:

- Gain a command of the major themes and developments related to medieval cities, and demonstrate that knowledge through discussions, exams, and written assignments.
- Interpret and analyze primary source documents in their historical contexts, and apply secondary arguments in relation to those sources.
- Develop the skills necessary to produce original, source-based arguments about historical topics.

Readings:

All required course readings will be available on Blackboard and/or Electronic Reserve (ERes). Students looking for additional background reading may be interested in purchasing the following *optional* books, from which we will already be reading selections during the semester:

- Norman Pounds, *The Medieval City* (Westport, CN: Greenwood Press, 2005)
- Simone Roux, *Paris in the Middle Ages* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2009)
- John W. Baldwin, *The Scholastic Culture of the Middle Ages, 1000-1300* (Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press, 1971)

Course Requirements:

- *Participation:* 20%
- *Midterm Exam:* 20%
- *Final Exam:* 20%
- *Research Project Abstract:* 5%
- *Book Review (2-3p):* 10%
- *Research Project:* 25%

Class Policies:*Attendance and Participation*

Students are expected to attend each class session. Any planned or unavoidable absence should be related to me twenty-four hours in advance (excepting emergencies). Since every class session will involve discussion of the day's readings, students are expected to complete them in advance, bring copies to class, and participate in the discussions.

Late Assignments

Any work turned in late without prior permission will have its grade deducted by one-third for each day that it is late (e.g. an A- becomes a B+). Technology-related issues are not considered a valid excuse for extensions on assignments.

Technology in the Classroom

Laptop computers and tablets may be used in class for taking notes and any other work related to lectures or class discussions. Cell phone use in class is prohibited. Audio and video recordings of lectures and discussions are expressly forbidden without my prior permission. Students are expected to use computers and other devices responsibly and judiciously.

Students with Disabilities

Any student with disabilities or special needs should contact me immediately to arrange appropriate accommodations for the course in coordination with the Office of Student Disability Services. Please contact Dr. Brent Mosser in 385 Garland, (410) 516-4720, or at studentdisabilityservices@jhu.edu for more information.

Academic Ethics

It should go without saying that plagiarism or cheating on written work and exams will not be tolerated. The *Academic Ethics Guide for Undergraduates* briefly defines plagiarism as “representing someone else’s information, ideas or words as your own by failing to acknowledge the source”—whether intentionally or not. The library has excellent resources for help with citations: <http://guides.library.jhu.edu/citing>. Please see me if you need further guidance regarding citations or have related concerns.

I will report any work I consider to be the product of plagiarism and/or cheating to the JHU Academic Ethics Board. I reserve the right to submit student work to Turnitin.com. Johns Hopkins University takes academic integrity very seriously, and does not tolerate plagiarism or cheating in any form. Additional information on the JHU Ethics Board can be found at: http://www.jhu.edu/design/oliver/academic_manual/ethics.html.

Class Schedule:

Part I: Decline and Revival

Week 1 – Introduction & Ancient Origins

1/31 – Course Introduction / What is a City?

2/2 – Greek and Roman Cities

Charles Rose, “Troy and the Historical Imagination,” *The Classical World* 91, no. 5 (1998), 405-413

Strabo, *Geography*, V.iii

Pliny the Elder, *Natural History*, III.v.66-67; XXXVI.xxiv.101-110; XXXVI.xxiv.121-123

Week 2 – Western Decline and Eastern Revival

2/7 – Roman Decline

St. Jerome, “Letter CXXIII to Agruchia, 16-17” (Maryanne Kowaleski, ed., *Medieval Towns: A Reader* (2008), no. 4)

Gregory of Tours, *History of the Franks*, III.19 (Kowaleski, no. 5)

“Toll Exemptions in French Towns” (Kowaleski, no. 6)

From *The Annals of St. Bertin*, *The Wars of Count Odo*, and *The Chronicle of St. Denis*

2/9 – A New Rome: Byzantium and Constantinople

Sozomen, *Ecclesiastical History*, II.3

Procopius, *Buildings*, I.1

Procopius, *History of the Wars*, I.xxiv

Week 3 – The Middle East and the Revival of the West

2/14 – The Islamic Golden Age: Cairo and Baghdad (Guest Lecture: Jennifer Grayson)

Al-Khatib al-Baghdadi, *History of Baghdad* in Jacob Lassner, trans., *The Topography of Baghdad in the Early Middle Ages* (1970) (Chs. 1-3, 7-8, 12)

Hugh Kennedy, *The Feeding of the Five Hundred Thousand: Cities and Agriculture in Early Islamic Mesopotamia*, Iraq 73 (2011): 177-199

2/16 – The Growth of Cities, Merchants, and Trade

Henri Pirenne, *The Medieval City*, 77-106

Roger of Wendover, *Flowers of History* (On the Regulation of Weights and Measures)

Frederick I Barbarossa, Grant of Two Fairs at Aachen, 1166

Matthew Paris, *Historia Anglorum*, Grant of a New Fair at Westminster, 1248

Week 4 – Governing a Medieval City: Charters, Rights, and Privileges

2/21 – Aristocracy, Royalty, and Ecclesiastical Administration

Declaration of the Powers of the Count of Toul over the City of Toul, 1069

The Laws of Edward the Confessor, The Liberties of London, c. 1120

Henry II, Charter Granted to the Men of Rouen, 1153

2/23 – The Italian City-States

Giovanni Villani, *Florentine Chronicle* (selections)

Week 5a – Fighting for the City

2/28 – Urban Conflict

Galbert of Bruges, *The Murder of Charles the Good* (selections)

Part II: Urban Space

Week 5b – Exploring the City

3/2 – City Types and Layout

Norman Pound, “Chapter 2: The Urban Plan: Streets and Structures” in *The Medieval City* (2005), 21-53

Guillot de Paris, *Le Dit des rues de Paris*

William FitzStephen, *Description of the City of London*

Research Project Abstract Due

Week 6 – Building and Crafting in the City

3/7 – Urban Infrastructure

London Assize of Nuisance (selections)

Construction of a Sewer in Cambridge, 1294

3/9 – Craft Guilds

Guild Regulations of the Parisian Silk Fabric Makers

Guild Regulations of the Parisian Minstrels

Guild Regulations of the Shearers of Arras

Grant of a Guild to the Oxford Cordwainers

Jacques le Goff, “Merchant’s Time and Church’s Time in the Middle Ages” in *Time, Work, and Culture in the Middle Ages* (1980), 29-42

Week 7 – Living in the City

3/14 – Urban Domestic Life

Simone Roux, “Ch. 9: Lifestyles” in *Paris in the Middle Ages*, 163-193

Olivia R. Constable, ed. *Medieval Iberia*, “Documents from the Crown of Aragon,” 238-249

3/16 – ***MIDTERM EXAM***

Week 8 – No Class

3/21 & 3/23 – Spring Break

Week 9 – Cities as Intellectual Spaces

3/28 – From Cathedral Schools to Universities

Matthew Paris, *Chronica majora* (Excerpt on the Paris Riots)

Letters of Pope Gregory IX to the Masters and Students of Paris

John W. Baldwin, “Ch. 3: Schools and Universities” in *The Scholastic Culture of the Middle Ages, 1000-1300* (1971), 35-57

3/30 – Scholastic Culture and the Liberal Arts

Abelard, *Historia calamitatum* (The History of My Calamities)

Abelard, *Sic et non* (selections)

Thomas Aquinas, *Summa theologica* (selections)

Week 10 – Cities as Cultural Spaces I: Art and Architecture

4/4 – From Romanesque to Gothic: Building Cathedrals

Abbot Suger, “On what was done under his administration,” and “The other little book on the consecration of the church of St. Denis,” in Erwin Panofsky, trans., *Abbot Suger on the Abbey Church of St.-Denis and its art treasures* (1979)

4/6 – Manuscript Culture

Visit to Special Collections

Book Review Due

Week 11 – Cities as Cultural Spaces II: Literature and Music

4/11 – Imagining the City

Christine de Pizan, *The Book of the City of Ladies* in Renate Blumenfeld-Kosinski, ed.,
The Selected Writings of Christine de Pizan, 116-155

4/13 – Urban Music

Leonin, *Ave maria fons letitiae*

Philippe de Vitry, *Tuba sacre fidei / In arboris empro prospere / Virgo sum*

Guillaume de Machaut, *Douce dame jolie*

Guillaume de Machaut, *Messe de nostre dame*, “Gloria”

Carmina Burana, *In taberna quando sumus*

Part III: Order and Disorder

Week 12 – Urban Forms of Piety and Spirituality

4/18 – The Mendicant Orders

The Rule of St. Francis

The Rule of St. Clare

4/20 – Heretics, Cathars, and the Medieval Inquisition

Fourth Lateran Council, Canon 63 (*On Heretics*)

Bernardo Gui, *Inquisitorial Technique*

Jacques Fournier, *Inquisition Record*, Selected Confessions

Week 13 – On the Margins of Society

4/25 – Criminals, Prostitutes, and the Urban Poor

Louis Tanon, ed, *Registre criminel de la justice de St. Martin des Champs à Paris au
XVIe siècle* [excerpts in translation]

Ruth Mazo Karras, “The Regulation of Brothels in Later Medieval England,” *Signs* 14
(1989): 399-433.

4/27 – Jews in Medieval Cities: Exploitation and Expulsion

Rigord, *Gesta Philippi Augusti* (The Deeds of Phillip Augustus) [excerpt]

Pope Innocent III, *Sicut Judeis* [excerpt]

Fourth Lateran Council, Canons 67-70

Thomas of Monmouth, *The Life and Miracles of St. William of Norwich* [excerpt]

Week 14 – Cities in Crisis: The “Calamitous” Fourteenth Century

5/2 – Revolt and Civil Unrest

Jean Froissart, *Chronicles* (Penguin, 1978), 146-161; 211-230

Barbara Tuchman, *A Distant Mirror: The Calamitous 14th Century*, Chapter 7

5/4 – The Black Death

Boccaccio, *Decameron*, Prologue and Introduction to the First Day

Tuchman, *A Distant Mirror*, Chapter 5

Stephanie Haensch, et al., “Distinct Clones of *Yersinia pestis* Caused the Black Death”

PLoS Pathogens 6, no. 10 (2010): 1-8

5/9 – ***RESEARCH PAPER DUE***

TBD – ***FINAL EXAM***