Course Syllabus

Edit

I. Basic Information

Course: GET 3200 Medieval Literary Culture cross-listed with MEM 3300-- "Castles and Cloisters: An Introduction to Medieval Communities"

Instructor:

Will Hasty <hasty@ufl.edu>

II.Description.

In this online course you will learn how monasteries and castles serve as the hubs of cultural developments in the medieval period. You will become familiar with different fundamental ways in which people "organize" and " orient" themselves (and the people, spaces, and things around them) both in relation to the perceived permanence of the heavenly afterlife, and also in relation to the changeable, transitory, "perishable goods" of spatio-temporal life in this world. While we observe that culture in the Middle Ages (as opposed to the [early] modern period) still operates according to *communal* cultural parameters, according to which the individual self is not yet in a position to claim experiences and things *for itself alone*, we observe innovative new *absolute dispositions of self*, first in the absolute dedication of self to God that is the foremost characteristic of Christian monastic culture, then in the new and different kinds of absolute dedications of self that one observes in courtly-chivalric culture, for example in adventure and love as depicted in court poetry. In readings and course assignments, you will observe how such cultural developments play out in religion, art, architecture, poetry, music, and other ways in which people organize their lives in the medieval period.

. . .

II. Due Dates of Assignments.

Module #	Module material opens	Discussion Posts and Timeline Post Confirmations are Due	Discussion As
Module 1	Monday, August 22, 12:05 am	Friday, August 31, 10:00 pm	Sunday, S
Module 2	Monday, September 3, 12:05 am	Friday, September 7, 10:00 pm	Sunday, S
Module 3	Monday, September 10, 12:05 am	Friday, September 14, 10:00 pm	Sunday, S

Module			
Module 4	Monday, September 17, 12:05 am	Friday, September 21, 10:00 pm	Sunday, S
Module 5*	Monday, September 24, 12:05 am	Friday, September 28, 10:00 pm	Sunday, Sep
Module 6	Monday, October 1, 12:05 am	Friday, October 5, 10:00 pm	Sunday,
Module 7	Monday, October 8, 12:05 am	Friday, October 12, 10:00 pm	Sunday,
Module 8	Monday, October 15, 12:05 am	Friday, October 19, 10:00 pm	Sunday,
Module 9	Monday, October 22, 12:05 am	Friday, October 26, 10:00 pm	Sunday,
Module 10**	Monday, October 29, 12:05	Friday, November 2, 10:00 pm (*Note this is Homecoming; you may want to get this work done sooner)	Sunday, N
Module 11	Monday, November 5, 12:05 am	Friday, November 9, 10:00 pm (Homecoming)	Sunday, N
Module 12	Monday, November 12, 12:05 am	Friday, November 16, 10:00 pm	Sunday, N
Module 13	Monday, November 19, April 9, 12:05 am	Friday, November 30, 10:00 pm	Sunday,
Module 14***	Monday, December 3, 12:05 am	deadlines vary - see module	deadlin

Discussions are due Fridays by 10:00 pm. Discussions posted between Friday 10:00 and Sunday 11:59 are late and will receive only half credit at best. No discussions will be considered after the Sunday deadline.Comments are due by the Sunday deadline.

All other assessments and quizzes (i.e. questions on the readings, videos, the "Virtual Visits," etc.) are due by Sunday 11:59.

If you need walk-in help from the UF Computing Helpdesk (392-HELP) with hardware, software, or any e-learning interface issues, make sure you take care of this in a timely way during the work week so that you will be able to submit by the Friday due date. You can receive help by phone from the UF Computing Helpdesk 24/7.

* Test #1 will be available from Friday, Sept. 28, 12:05 am to Sunday, September 30, 11:59 pm.

**Test #2 will be available from Thursday, November 1, to Sunday, November 4, 11:59 pm.

*** Test #3 will be available to take between Monday, December 3, to Friday, December 7, 11:59 pm.

III. Texts.

1. C.H. Lawrence, *Medieval Monasticism: Forms of Religious Life in Western Europe in the Middle Ages.* 3rd edition (London: Longman, 2001).

2. Joseph and Frances Gies, *Life in a medieval Castle* (New York: Harper and Row, 1974).

3. Hartmann von Aue, *Arthurian Romances, Tales, and Lyric Poetry* (University Park: Pennsyvania State University Press, 2001)

4. Wolfram von Eschenbach, *Parzival*, trans. A.T. Hatto (New York: Penguin Classics, 1980)

4. St. Augustine, *Christian Doctrine* (*de doctrina christiana*) (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.
5. Boethius, *The consolation of Philosophy* (selections) (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.
6. The Rule of St. Benedict (excerpts) (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.
7. *Life of St. Antony (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.*
 (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.
8. Bernard of Clairvaux, Liber ad milites Templi (On the New Knighthood).
 (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.
9. Hildegard von Bingen, selected letters from her correspondence to famous contemporaries (use VPN server if attempting to access from off campus). (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

10. Occasionally you will be referred to other texts, videos, musical pieces, etc. in the course modules.

. . .

IV. Assignments.

1. <u>Three Tests.</u> The three timed tests are the most challenging tasks in this course. You will do best if you familiarize yourself with the module materials as closely as possible. You will respond to questions in a 60-minute period, with an additional 30 minute review period allowed (i.e. total of 90 minutes), so you will need to make sure you feel in command of the material when you start your test. There will be short answer type questions in which you briefly discuss the significance of passages from the literary texts. There will be true-false, multiple-choice and multiple answer type questions about the content of my module lectures. I will randomly draw some questions from those on the books by Lawrence (*Medieval Monasticism*) and Gies (*Life in a Medieval Castle*) -- these are the questions you have already seen and to which you have already responded, so it should be relatively easy to prepare for this part of the test.

2. [Midterm Project](#) and [Final Project.](#) Together with your Group members, you will complete collaboratively a midterm and a final project. Links in the course modules to the Midterm and Final Project provide additional information.

3. <u>Discussions and Comments.</u> Most modules have discussion prompts, which ask you to think both critically and creatively about the texts you are reading and other topics of interest in this course. **You will be graded both for the quality of your thinking and for the quality of your writing**, so might want to consider beginning the textual part of your discussions (and possibly even your comments) in a Word document and working on it there as a draft until you are sure it is ready to submit in the course. You will also be graded for completeness, so make sure you have addressed all parts of the discussion prompt and, as necessary, provided any illustrative visual material (i.e. such as pictures). In most cases you should be able to respond to discussion prompts with about 1-2 typescript pages of text (ca. 300-500 words), which of course should be <u>your own writing</u>. Try to not to go too far over 500 words. All of the aforementioned applies, though to a lesser degree (because they will be briefer), to the comments that you will make on one of your peer's Discussions. Comments have no word-limits, but make sure your comments are <u>substantive</u>, i.e. that you are not merely parroting something in the discussion, but that you are thinking some aspect of the discussion through and showing that you are able to understand and appreciate the implications and add a new perspective, however subtle it might be. **You will not automatically receive full points merely for the submission of discussion and comments; only very good ones will receive full points.** Consult the Discussion and Comment Rubric for details on the grading of Discussions and Comments.

4. <u>Questions on the main secondary Texts: Lawrence's *Medieval Monasticism* and Gies' *Life in a Medieval Castle*</u>

For each reading assignments in these texts (which are indicated in the "to do" lists in the individual modules) you will answer a number of graded content questions. If you do the reading carefully, you should not have much difficulty answering all of these questions correctly. Some questions in the three Tests will be drawn randomly from these study questions, so if you are familiar with these questions and their answers, you will be well prepared for this part of the tests.

5. <u>Virtual Visits.</u> As part of the course you will take "Virtual Visits" to individual sites of interest in this course, particularly sites connected to monasteries and castles. The aim of these visits is to provide some immediate impressions of the sights and sounds associated with these important historical buildings and their frequently bucolic settings. You should find the questions associated with the Virtual Visits quite straightforward.

6. <u>Video material and questions.</u> This course employs some additional video material to complement and embellish the module topics. Students are responsible for watching the videos carefully, and then responding as necessary to any associated questions or tasks. Figures, events, artistic works, etc. that you see in the videos would be entirely appropriate material to use for your MyHistro Timeline posts, by the way.

7. <u>Timeline entries and posts in MyHistro, and final Timeline synthesis paper</u>: <u>Click here for information.</u>

<u>Accessibility score: Low Click to improve</u>

<u>V. Grade percentages.</u>

Tests= 25%

Projects= 20% (10% each for Midterm and Final Project)

Comments/Discussions= 30%

Questions on readings in Lawrence and Gies/Virtual Visits/Questions on Videos= 15%

Timeline entries, posts, and final synthesis paper= 10%

. . .

<u>VI. Grading Scale.</u>

A   93
A- 90
B+ 87
B   83
B- 80
C+ 77
C   73
C- 70
etc.

Course Summary:

Date	Details
Sun Feb 25, 2018	[Midterm Group Project - Submit here](#)
Fri Aug 31, 2018	[Module 1 Discussion](#)
Sun Sep 2, 2018	[Lawrence, chapter 1](#)
	[Visit: An Ancient Fortification and Temple: Hadrian's Wall and the Pantheon](#)
Fri Sep 7, 2018	[Module 2 Discussion](#)
	[Module 2 Timeline Post Confirmation](#)
Sun Sep 9, 2018	[Lawrence, chapter 2](#)
	[Patterns of Monastic Life](#)
Fri Sep 14, 2018	[Module 3 Discussion](#)
	[Module 3 Timeline Post Confirmation](#)
Sun Sep 16, 2018	[Lawrence, chapter 3](#)
	[Lawrence, chapter 4](#)
	[The Rule](#)
	[Visit: Lindisfarne and Holy Island -- Northumbria](#)
Fri Sep 21, 2018	[Module 4 Discussion](#)
	[Module 4 Timeline Post Confirmation](#)
Sun Sep 23, 2018	[Lawrence, chapter 5](#)
	[Lawrence, chapter 6](#)
	[Visit: Cluny Abbey -- Burgundy](#)

Date	Details
Fri Sep 28, 2018	[Module 5 Discussion](#)
Sun Sep 30, 2018	[Lawrence, chapter 8](#)
	[Lawrence, chapter 9](#)
	[Test 1](#)
	[Visit: Fontenay Abbey -- Burgundy](#)
	[Visit: Tintern Abbey -- Wales](#)
Fri Oct 5, 2018	[Module 6 Discussion](#)
	[Module 6 Timeline Post Confirmation](#)
Sun Oct 7, 2018	[Lawrence, chapter 11](#)
	[Lawrence, chapter 12](#)
	[Medieval Music](#)
	[Terry Jones "Medieval Lives" : The Monk](#)
	[Visit: Sinagoga de Samuel Halevi Abulafia -- Toledo](#)
	[Visit: The Mesquita -- Córdoba](#)
Fri Oct 12, 2018	[Module 7 Timeline Post Confirmation](#)
Sun Oct 14, 2018	[Gies, chapter 1](#)
	[Lawrence, chapter 13](#)
	[Lawrence, chapter 14](#)
	[Lay of Hildebrand](#)
	[Terry Jones "Medieval Lives" : The Knight](#)
	[Visit: Chepstow Castle -- Wales](#)
Fri Oct 19, 2018	[Module 8 Discussion](#)

Date	Details
	Module 8 Timeline Post Confirmation
Sun Oct 21, 2018	Gies, chapter 2
	Gies, chapter 3
	Patterns of Chivalric Life
Fri Oct 26, 2018	Module 9 Discussion
	Module 9 Timeline Post Confirmation
Sun Oct 28, 2018	Gies, chapter 4
	Gies, chapter 6
	Terry Jones "Medieval Lives" : The Damsel
	Visit: Beaumaris Castle -- Angelsey, Wales
Fri Nov 2, 2018	Module 10 Discussion
Sun Nov 4, 2018	Gies, chapter 7
	Gies, chapter 8
	Test 2
	Visit: Castel Sant' Angelo -- Rome
Fri Nov 9, 2018	Module 11 Discussion
	Module 11 Timeline Post Confirmation
Sun Nov 11, 2018	Gies, chapter 9
	Terry Jones "Medieval Lives": The Peasant
Fri Nov 16, 2018	Module 12 Discussion
	Module 12 Timeline Post Confirmation

Date	Details
Sun Nov 18, 2018	Gies, chapter 10
	Visit: Alcazaba of Almería -- Almería
	Visit: Alhambra -- Granada
Fri Nov 30, 2018	Module 13 Discussion
	Module 13 Timeline Post Confirmation
Sun Dec 2, 2018	Terry Jones "Medieval Lives" : The Minstrel
	Visit: Wildenburg -- Odenwald
Mon Dec 3, 2018	Module 14 Timeline Post Confirmation
Wed Dec 5, 2018	Module 14 Discussion
	Gies, chapter 12
	Visit: Castillo de San Marcos -- Florida
Fri Dec 7, 2018	Final Group Project - Submit here
	Individual MyHistro Time Line Synthesis Discussion
	Test 3
	Courtly-Chivalric Group Timeline
	Love Lyrics Passages
	Module #9
	Module 1 lecture questions
	Module 10 Discussion Commentary
	Module 11 Discussion Commentary
	Module 12 Discussion Commentary
	Module 13 Discussion Commentary

Date	Details
	[Module 14 Discussion Commentary](#)
	[Module 2 Discussion Commentary](#)
	[Module 2 lecture questions](#)
	[Module 3 Discussion Commentary](#)
	[Module 3 lecture questions](#)
	[Module 4 Discussion Commentary](#)
	[Module 4 lecture questions](#)
	[Module 5 Discussion Commentary](#)
	[Module 5 lecture questions](#)
	[Module 6 Discussion Commentary](#)
	[Module 6 lecture questions](#)
	[Module 7 lecture questions](#)
	[Module 8 Discussion Commentary](#)
	[Module 8 lecture questions](#)
	[Module 9 Discussion Commentary](#)
	[Monastic Group Timeline](#)
	[Read Texts by Bernard of Clairvaux and Hildegard von Bingen](#)
	[Visit: Burg Trifels -- Pfälzer Wald-Forest of the Palatinate](#)

Prev monthNext monthAugust 2018

Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29Previous month	30Previous month	31Previous month	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24Today	25
26	27	28	29	30	31Click to view event details	1Next month

Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2Next monthClick to view event details	3Next month	4Next month	5Next month	6Next month	7Next monthClick to view event details	8Next month

Assignments are weighted by group: