

“The Age of the Crusades”
 MW 2:30-3:45pm
 219 McBryde

Scholar:
 Podcasts:

mgabriele@vt.edu
 540-231-2293
 342 Lane Hall
<http://scholar.vt.edu/>
<http://itunes.edtech.vt.edu/>

Description

In the year 1096, more than 100,000 people walked more than 2,000 miles from their homes in Europe to Jerusalem. Many of them had never left their villages before and yet were inspired to make what they knew to have been a dangerous journey and kill a people that they had never met, and likely barely heard of. This is commonly taken to be the beginning of “the Crusades.” Many of these expeditions went to Jerusalem but many went elsewhere too – to the Baltic Sea, to Spain, to Italy, to what’s now Southern France. They went to fight Muslims, Jews, heretics, polytheists, and even their fellow Christians. So, given this scope, what were the Crusades, really? This course will tackle this very difficult situation head-on. We will take a fundamentally interdisciplinary approach and alternate reading primary and secondary sources as we seek out an answer.

Course requirements include attendance, participation in discussion, short weekly assignments, a plagiarism quiz, a midterm, a library assignment/ annotated bibliography, and a final paper. Previous experience in HUM 1214 helpful but not required.

Office Hours

MW 3:45-4:30pm
 342 Lane Hall (Bay 4, 3rd Floor)

If you can’t make this time, just get in touch so we can work something out. I check my email regularly, and can always be reached after class to set up an appointment.

ADA Statement

If you have a university-sanctioned condition that requires my special attention, please come to my office hours or email me to set up an appointment.

Course Etiquette: Classroom & Email

Classroom:

- You may eat and drink in class, so long as it isn’t a distraction to others. You will win brownie points for bringing me coffee.
- You should plan on talking – asking questions, responding to prompts, etc. – in this class. Feel free to disagree with anything either your classmates or I say, but be respectful in your tone.
- Please be sure to turn off all cell phones, PDAs, iPods, etc. before class begins. Also, feel free to use your computer to take notes but please mute the volume. What you do with VT’s wireless network is up to you. You’re all adults and I trust that you’ll make intelligent choices.
- Be aware, however, that if I determine that your actions are becoming a distraction to your fellow students – for any reason – I will ask you to leave the classroom.

Email:

- Email is an essential component of this course and one of the primary means by which I’ll communicate with you during the semester. Email, however, is not IM, nor is it Facebook. It’s a more formal communication that you will undoubtedly use in your professional life both throughout the rest of our time at VT and in your future workplace.
- Until the end of the semester, I’m not your Dad. I’m not your friend. I’m not your boyfriend. Until the end of the semester, I’m essentially your boss. To that end, be sure the message you’re composing is appropriate to the person receiving it (in this case, me).
- If you have any questions, please ask me or take a look at David Shipley and Will Schwalbe’s *Send: The Essential Guide to Email for Office and Home* (with website -- <http://www.thinkbeforeyousend.com/>) or the briefer review article http://www.salon.com/books/feature/2007/07/13/email_etiquette/.

Class Format

Each Mon. will be a lecture that, in addition to the readings assigned for that day, will give you some background on the subject we're covering for that week. Each Wed., in small groups, we will be discussing primary (ie – written in the Middle Ages) documents that you've read for the day and some problems/ questions that these documents raise.

Both parts of the class (lecture and discussion) are **testable** and all 3 parts of the course – lecture, discussion, and all readings – will help you with all graded aspects of the course. See the section on “Grading/ Requirements” below.

VT Honor System and Academic Research

Academic dishonesty (defined as cheating, plagiarism, and falsification) is taken very seriously in this class. Please refer to <http://www.honorsystem.vt.edu/> for a fuller statement of the Honor Code, as well as the Undergraduate Honor System Constitution. Also, consult this online web test for plagiarism at <http://education.indiana.edu/~frick/plagiarism/>.

You may, of course, study together. But everything you turn in should be a product of **your own** understanding and analysis of the material. Be aware that certain sources of information (such as non-academic websites – like SparkNotes.com or Enotes.com – and encyclopedias – like Wikipedia) are **inappropriate** to use for academic research. Also, material you get from other sources **must be cited/ referenced properly**, using MLA or Turabian/ Chicago style.

- Joseph Gibaldi, *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (New York, 2003)
 - basics also at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/> and <http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/MLAstyle.pdf>
- Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* (Chicago, 1967).
 - basics also at <http://www.libs.uga.edu/ref/turabian.html> and <http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Chicago-Turabianstyle.pdf>

If you ever have any questions about any of this, please **ASK ME**. I bite only rarely.

Grading/ Requirements

The grading breakdown is as follows: group participation & weekly assignments (10%), plagiarism quiz (1%), a midterm (25%), a library assignment/ annotated bibliography (20%), and final paper (35%). **Everything you turn in must be proofread.**

*****Items will be considered “late” if not received by 3:45pm on the day in which they are due.*****

*****I will not accept ANY late assignments without a written, university-recognized excuse.*****

- Attendance, Discussion, Group Work – This portion of your final grade (10%) will be based on your individual contributions to classroom discussion, both during lecture and during small group work. This **does not mean** having the “right” answer all the time. It **does mean** coming prepared each week and having something to say, whether posing a question that's been bugging you or a offering your interpretation of the text.
 - **Please note that missing 6 or more class meetings without an university-approved excuse means that you'll automatically FAIL this course.**
 - Here's how it'll work:
 - Mon. – In the relevant podcast (see below), I'll pose a study question (or 2 or 3) for the reading for Wed. **Type your answers** to those questions while doing the reading and turn them in via Scholar (in the “Tests & Quizzes” section) before you come to class on Wed.
 - Wed. – At the beginning of the year, we will divide the class into 5 groups. Get to know the people in your group, since you'll be working with them for the rest of the semester.
 - **BEFORE YOU DO THE READINGS FOR EACH WED.**, listen to the podcast for that day's readings. Access them on iTunes U at <http://itunes.edtech.vt.edu/> (look for HUM 1214), and download them individually or subscribe via iTunes.

- Check the syllabus to be sure you're listening to the correct podcast.
 - See below in the "podcasts" section for more information.
- Every Wed., we'll immediately break into these groups for discussion. That meeting will go as follows:
 - 20 mins.
 - Select a notetaker for the day, and start discussion based on the questions from the podcast. **Everyone** should take notes but the notetaker will be responsible for recording the general outlines of what's said, including any conclusions you all reach, any disagreements you have, any other questions that are raised, etc. **The notetaker should not be the same person in consecutive weeks!**
 - 45 mins.
 - All together, the entire class will discuss the podcast's questions (and any others).
 - 5 mins.
 - Back in your small group, reassess your personal and your group's conclusions. The notetaker should record this discussion. At the end of class, each group member must sign the notetaker's notes, which will be turned in to me.
- Your grade will be a "X-," "X," or "X+," depending on the thoughtfulness of your answer to the study question and your participation in discussion.
 - **Roughly**, X- = 1pt., X = 1.5 pts., and X+ = 2 pts. (Missing an assignment = 0 pts.)
- **AGAIN, YOU WILL TURN THESE IN ELECTRONICALLY, VIA SCHOLAR.**
 - You cannot re-do the assignments, since they are tied to your attendance. There may be opportunities for extra credit during the course of the semester to make up some points though.
- Plagiarism Quiz – A handout will be provided with details. You will only receive credit for this assignment if you turn it in on time. If you miss the due date for some reason, you **MUST** still turn it in. Although this is only worth 1% of your final grade, successful completion of this assignment is **ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL** to passing this class.
 - **YOU WILL TURN THIS IN AS A HARD COPY, IN PERSON.**
- Midterm – This exercise is intended to gauge your comprehension of the material to the midpoint of the course. It will comprise some textual analysis and synthetic essay questions. We'll talk more about this in class.
- Library Assignment/ Annotated Bibliography – For 20% of your final grade, you'll be required to construct a substantial annotated bibliography using the resources available at Newman library. A handout will be provided with more information.
 - **YOU WILL TURN THIS IN ELECTRONICALLY, VIA SCHOLAR.**
- Final Paper – This paper will show what you've learned and how you can take a complex problem and deal with it thoughtfully. The paper must be 10 pages long and will consist of a sustained historical analysis of primary and secondary sources. You'll turn this in electronically via your drop box on Scholar. We will talk more about the paper assignment in class.
 - I highly recommend: William Strunk, Jr., and E.B. White, *The Elements of Style*, 4th edition (New York, 2000). ISBN: 020530902X
 - If you've never seen or heard of this book before, read it. It's one of the most effective and useful guides to writing every published.
 - **YOU WILL TURN THIS IN ELECTRONICALLY, VIA SCHOLAR.**

Grade Breakdown

Grading will follow this schedule:

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|----|-------|
| A | > 93 |
| A- | 90-93 |
| B+ | 87-89 |
| B | 84-86 |
| B- | 80-83 |
| C+ | 77-79 |
| C | 74-76 |
| C- | 70-73 |
| D | 65-69 |
| F | < 65 |

Readings

Things to buy from Bookstore, BN.com, Amazon.com, etc. Everything our library owns is on 4-hour reserve.

- Christopher Tyerman, *God's War* (Harvard UP, 2009). ISBN: 0674030702
- Robert the Monk, *History of the First Crusade*, trans. Carol Sweetenham (Ashgate, 2006). ISBN: 9780754658627
- Robert of Clari, *Conquest of Constantinople*, trans. Edgar Holmes Macneal (Columbia UP, 2005). ISBN: 9780231136693

On-Line Texts (Scholar.VT.edu):

- Many of the readings for this course are available online, via Scholar (<http://scholar.vt.edu/>). Take a moment to look Scholar over. It's very similar to Blackboard but not the same.
 - The appropriate PDFs for each week are in the "Resources" section of Scholar, then in the folder entitled "Weekly Readings," then in folders labeled by the relevant week of the course.

Podcasts (iTunes U)

- Via iTunes U, there is extra content (in the form of podcasts) available online. The main url is <http://itunes.edtech.vt.edu/> (link on Scholar as well) and you'll need iTunes (free – <http://www.apple.com/itunes/download/>) in order to access the site. Look for "HUM 3014."
 - If we're reading primary sources for the week, you should listen to each short podcast before beginning your readings. It's background information that will help you contextualize the readings and help with discussion for that day.

Schedule of Lectures & Readings

WARNING: Some of the material covered in this course will be "R-rated." There will be violence, sex, and bad language (but only in the readings, I hope). We are, however, dealing with a period both familiar and foreign and it is our task to try to understand these people on their terms.

If you become uncomfortable with one of the readings, please see me ASAP.

YOU MUST BRING YOUR READINGS TO CLASS EVERY DISCUSSION DAY!**Week 1**

Wed. 1/18

Introduction

Introduction – Syllabus

Some Thoughts on the Middle Ages & our Sources

Week 2

Mon. 1/23

Early Christianity & Violence

Biblical Underpinnings

DISCUSS PLAGIARISM ASSIGNMENT

Scholar

Cook & Herzman, *Medieval World View*, pp. 4-22

- Wed. 1/25 *The Apologists/ Fathers/ Monasticism*
Scholar
Gaddis, *No Crime for Those Who Have Christ*, pp. 151-207.
- Week 3**
Mon. 1/30 **The Carolingian Dream**
The Apex of Power
PLAGIARISM ASSIGNMENT DUE
Scholar
De Jong, “Charlemagne’s Church,” pp. 103-31
Garrison, “Franks as the New Israel?” pp. 114-61
- Wed. 2/1 *A Lament and Collapse*
1ST GROUP WORK – 1ST PODCAST
Scholar
Nithard, *Histories*, pp. 129-56, 165-74
Florus of Lyon, *Lament on the Division of the Empire*, pp. 265-73
- Week 4**
Mon. 2/6 **The Critical 11th Century**
A lawless, violent time (or not so much)
Scholar
Koziol, “Political Culture,” pp. 43-76
Cushing, “The Peace of God,” pp. 39-52
- Wed. 2/8 *To fight or not to fight?*
GROUP WORK
Scholar
Odo of Cluny, *Life of Gerald of Aurillac*, pp. 301-28
Bernard of Angers, *Miracles of St. Foy*, pp. 39-68, 77-81, 93-97,
161-69
- Week 5**
Mon. 2/13 **The First Crusade**
An apocalyptic moment?
Tyerman, *God’s War*, pp. 92-164
- Wed. 2/15 NO CLASS
- Week 6**
Mon. 2/20 **The First Crusade: Part Deux**
GROUP WORK
An apocalyptic moment
Robert the Monk, *History of the First Crusade*, pp. 75-214 (whole thing)
- Wed. 2/22 **GROUP WORK**
Scholar
Rubenstein, “Lambert of Saint-Omer,” pp. 1-27
- Week 7**
Mon. 2/27 **Midterm**
MIDTERM (in class)
- Wed. 2/29 NO CLASS

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| Week 8 | SPRING BREAK |
| Week 9 | Life in the East |
| Mon. 3/12 | <i>The Crusader States: New Neighbors</i> <u>DISCUSS PAPER & LIBRARY ASSIGNMENT</u> Tyerman, <i>God's War</i> , pp. 212-40 |
| Wed. 3/14 | <i>Templars</i> GROUP WORK Scholar Documents on the Foundation Papal Privileges Letters on Templars |
| Week 10 | The 3rd Crusade |
| Mon. 3/19 | <i>The Palestine War</i> Tyerman, <i>God's War</i> , pp. 341-74. |
| Wed. 3/21 | <i>Despair, Hope, & Failure</i> GROUP WORK Scholar Travellers in the Holy Land Ibn Jubayr Usamah ibn Munqidh Benjamin of Tudela Battle of Hattin & Fall of Jerusalem Imad ad-Din Roger of Wendover Letters on Fall of Jerusalem Ambroise, <i>History of the Holy War</i> , pp. 95-108, 115-23, 192-94 |
| Week 11 | The 4th Crusade – To Constantinople |
| Mon. 3/26 | <i>A Long, Strange Journey</i> Tyerman, <i>God's War</i> , pp. 501-60 |
| Wed. 3/28 | <i>Storming the Gates of a Most Christian City</i> GROUP WORK Robert of Clari, <i>Conquest of Constantinople</i> , pp. 31-41, 77-102 Scholar Choniates, <i>O, City of Byzantium</i> , pp. 549-73 |
| Week 12 | The 4th Crusade – Reactions |
| Mon. 4/2 | <i>Beginning or End?</i> Scholar Andrea, "Innocent III, the 4 th Crusade," pp. 97-106 Moore, <i>Pope Innocent III</i> , pp. 125-68 |

- Wed. 4/4 *A New, Glorious Day*
GROUP WORK
 Robert of Clari, *Conquest of Constantinople*, pp. 113-28
 Scholar
 Innocent III, *Letters*, pp. 2-6
Deeds of Innocent III, pp. 166-72
 Choniates, *O, City of Byzantium*, pp. 573-601
- Week 13**
- Mon. 4/9 **The Albigensian Crusade**
Devils in Their Midst
LIBRARY ASSIGNMENT/ ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE
 Tyerman, *God's War*, pp. 563-605
 Scholar
 Pegg, *A Most Holy War*, pp. 188-91
- Wed. 4/11 "Kill them all. God will know His own."
GROUP WORK
 Scholar
 Caesarius of Heisterbach, *Dialogue on Miracles*, pp. 195-98
 William of Puylaurens, *Chronicle*, pp. 7-9, 23-29, 32-49
 Peter of les Vaux-de-Cernay, *Historia Albigensis*, pp. 7-15, 31-59
- Week 14**
- Mon. 4/16 **1215**
Body of Christ/ Lord of the World
 Scholar
 Moore, *Pope Innocent III*, pp. 228-51
 Nirenberg, *Communities of Violence*, pp. 127-65
- Wed. 4/18 *Purification*
GROUP WORK
 Scholar
 1263 Barcelona Disputation
 Bernard Gui, *On Heresies*, pp. 375-404, 439-45
 Alfonso X of Léon-Castille, *Las Siete Partidas*, pp. 1431-45
- Week 15**
- Mon. 4/23 "Nationalizing" the Crusade
Louis IX (St. Louis)
 Tyerman, *God's War*, pp. 770-822.
- Wed. 4/25 *Philip IV & the Templars*
GROUP WORK
 Scholar
Templar of Tyre, pp. 101-17.
 Order for Arrest of Templars
 Charges Made against Templars
 Suppression of Order

Week 16

Mon. 4/30

What is a “Crusade?”*A New, Christian Spain – A New, Christian Europe***GROUP WORK**

Scholar

Expulsion of the Jews from Spain

Constable, *Medieval Iberia*, pp. 353-70Pope Alexander VI, *Piis Fidelium*, pp. 144-47Columbus, *Book of Prophecies*, pp. 33-37, 178-83Sahagun, *Florentine Codex*, ALL ILLUSTRATIONSMotolinia, *History of the Indians of New Spain*, pp. 109-17

Tues. 5/1

Film Screening (Optional – but recommended, since responsible for film. . .)**ROOM TBA – 7-10:30pm**

Wed. 5/2

*Historiography & Politics after 9/11***GROUP WORK**

“Kingdom of Heaven,” dir. Ridley Scott

Scholar

Madden, *New Concise History of the Crusades*, pp. ix-xiii, 213-225

Scholars after 9/11

Thomas Madden, Saint Louis University

Jonathan Riley-Smith, University of Cambridge

Robert Spencer, Independent Scholar

Jonathan Phillips, Royal Holloway College, University of London

Week 17

Mon. 5/7

Paper Due**FINAL PAPER DUE – 4pm, via scholar**