

# HISTORY 119: SYLLABUS

## *THE CRUSADES AND THE NEAR EAST, 1095-1291*

**Winter Quarter 2010**  
**Professor Humphreys**

The Crusades are world history, in the sense that almost every major event or process in Eurasia between 1070 and 1300 was somehow reflected in the Frankish settlements in Syria-Palestine during that period and in the movement which established and maintained them. The Papacy's struggle not only to assert control over the Church but, more profoundly, to create a Christian society throughout Europe; the burgeoning of Mediterranean commerce in the 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries; the slow disintegration of the Byzantine Empire; the Turkish transformation of the political and cultural institutions of the eastern Islamic lands; the creation of the Mongol world-empire in the 13<sup>th</sup> century—all this is mirrored in the Crusades. In some of these processes—e.g., the rise of the Papacy, the growth of Mediterranean commerce, the decline of Byzantium—the Crusades had a powerful impact. For others, they had a very minor role to play, if any at all. But even here they reveal much about the larger issues at play.

Given the immense scope of the subject, we cannot cover everything in one quarter. Our study will be guided by three broad topics:

- 1) The origins and development of the Crusading movement, conceived of as war carried out on behalf of Christ and his Church -- war not only against the infidel, but also against tyrants, schismatics, and heretics within Christendom.
- 2) The remarkable capacity of the petty states established by the Crusaders in Syria and Palestine to survive, and sometimes flourish, in the face of repeated crisis and occasional disaster;
- 3) The emergence of Muslim regimes in Egypt and Syria that faced the Crusaders and ultimately drove them from the Levant.

We will elucidate these themes by examining three key “moments” in the history of the movement:

- (1) The First Crusade and the establishment of the Frankish settlements in the East (1095-1100);

(2) The collapse of the Kingdom of Jerusalem in 1187-88 in the face of Saladin's offensive, and its partial recovery with the Third Crusade (1189-1193);

(3) The 13<sup>th</sup>-century Crusades against Christians within Europe: against the Albigensians or Cathars in southern France (1208-1229).

We will use the First Crusade (1095-1099) to examine the beginnings and original character of the Crusading Movement. The Third Crusade (1189-1192) and the Albigensian Crusade (1208-1229) will show how the movement gradually became an all-encompassing instrument of Papal authority and policy. The Third Crusade will also tell us much about how the Muslim regimes of Syria and Lebanon mobilized their material and ideological resources (very tentatively at first) against the Frankish intruders. On the other side of the ledger, it will suggest how very durable and adaptable the Frankish settlements in Syria were.

## **1. Requirements, Grading, and Books to Purchase**

### A. CLASS FORMAT

Classes will be a mix of lectures and discussions. The lectures are intended to provide general background (especially as regards the Islamic world) and to deal with issues not adequately covered in your text (Madden). Class discussions will focus on the numerous texts in translation that we will be reading. **KEEP UP WITH THE ASSIGNED READING, AND BRING YOUR BOOKS WITH YOU TO EVERY CLASS.**

Your participation in class will be factored into your grade for the course. Normally I do not take attendance, but attendance is extremely important. A lot of things that do not appear in the assigned readings are discussed in class. However, there will be four mandatory class sessions, as indicated below in the schedule of classes. Each of these sessions will be devoted to discussion and debate on a topic or issue assigned one week or more in advance. (If you do not attend the class when the assignment is made, you are naturally at some disadvantage relative to your classmates.)

### B. WRITTEN REQUIREMENTS

1. The final examination is scheduled for Saturday, March 20. This is—certainly for me, and I suspect for you—not a really convenient time slot. I am still working on the format for an appropriate final exercise.
2. You must submit an 8 to 10-page term paper in which you analyze a substantial section of some original source for the Crusades. Your textbook (Madden, *Concise History*) has an excellent bibliography of Western European, Muslim and Byzantine sources available in English translation. A few things have appeared since Madden was published, and I will give you a list of those know to me. I will also provide a handout suggesting some of the possible approaches you can take, rules for format and citation, etc.

The text you choose should be of substantial length—at least 50 pages, and 100 is better. Also, your paper cannot be based on passages we have read together in class. That is, you can choose Ibn al-Athir, but your paper cannot be based on the passages I have assigned from him in Gabrieli, *Arab Historians*.

**DUE DATE: Wednesday, March 3.**

I will try to get your papers back to you quickly, so that those students *who wish to do so* can make limited revisions (grammatical, stylistic, organizational) and resubmit their papers. This invitation to revise and submit is optional; the original due date of March 3 is not. Obviously you will save time by getting things right on the first round. On the other hand, editorial intervention is useful even for the most experienced writers.

3. Finally, at the beginning (i.e., 3:30 pm. and not a minute later) of the four mandatory discussion sections described under Section A, you must turn in a short paper. These papers are designed to ensure that you have devoted some real thought and preparation to the day's discussion topic. The point is to work out your key ideas and get them down on paper so that you can participate effectively in our discussion.

Two of these papers will be about 3 pages long (ca. 1000 words). About ten days before the due date, I will give you a topic drawn from the assigned readings for our discussion day.

Two papers—dates to be determined—will be just a page or so. They will also deal with the assigned readings for the discussion section but will be assigned on shorter notice—a week or five days in advance.

C. GRADING (provisional)

Term Paper:	40%
Final Exam:	30%
Class discussion and short papers:	30%

D. BOOKS TO PURCHASE

Thomas F. Madden, *New Concise History of the Crusades* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2006)

F. Gabrieli, *Arab Historians of the Crusades* (Univ. of California Pr., 1984)

Edward Peters, ed. *The First Crusade* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Univ. of Pennsylvania, 1998)

Joseph Strayer, *The Albigensian Crusades* (Univ. of Michigan Pr., 1992)

Course Reader: available from Grafikart

**2. Schedule of Classes**

1. (Mon., Jan. 4) Introduction to the Course
2. (Wed., Jan. 6) The Transformation of the Islamic World in the 11<sup>th</sup> Century: Caliphate, Sultanate, and Turkish Domination

READINGS: *Reader, "Islamic History"*  
*Reader, "Zengids, Ayyubids, and Seljuqs, pp. 1-5"*

3. (Mon., Jan. 11) Byzantium: from great power to a struggle for survival

READINGS: *Reader: Herrin, Byzantium*

4. (Wed., Jan. 13) Europe in the 11<sup>th</sup> century: (a) the assertion of papal leadership in Church and society; (b) feudalism and the military class

READINGS: *Reader: C. Brooke, "Society," from Europe in the Central Middle Ages, 962-1154.*

*Peters, First Crusade, 1-16*

**MONDAY, JAN. 18 – NO CLASS (Martin Luther King Day)**

5. (Wed., Jan. 20) Warfare in the Name of Christ, Struggle in God's Path

READINGS: *Reader: Norman Daniel, "The Legal and Political Theory of the Crusade," in K. M. Setton, ed., History of the Crusades, vol. VI, 3-38*

*Reader: Letter of Gregory VII to Emperor Henry IV*

*Reader: Rudolph Peters, Jihad in Classical and Modern Islam*

6. (Mon., Jan. 25) The Proclamation of the First Crusade

READINGS: *Madden, Concise History, 1-14*

*Peters, First Crusade, 17-56*

**JAN. 25: FIRST PAPER DUE: Holy War, Just War, and Jihad**

7. (Wed., Jan. 27) The First Crusade: Constantinople

READINGS, 9: *Madden, Concise History, 15-35*

*Peters, First Crusade, 57-68, 152-186*

8. (Mon., Feb. 1) The First Crusade: Antioch

READINGS: *Peters, First Crusade, 58-84, 187-237, 283-292*

## 9. (Wed., Feb. 3): The First Crusade: Jerusalem

READINGS: Peters, *First Crusade*, 84-101, 238-281, 292-297

10. (Mon., Feb. 8) The Crusader Settlements in the 12<sup>th</sup> Century, 1100-1185

READINGS: Madden, *Concise History*, 37-68

*Reader:* William of Tyre, "Foundation of the Knights Templar"

*Reader:* Bernard of Clairvaux, "The New Knighthood"

Gabrieli, *Arab Historians*, 73-84

## 11. (Wed., Feb. 10) The Muslim States of Syria and Egypt, 1100-1185

READINGS: Gabrieli, *Arab Historians*, 24-72

*Reader:* "Zengids, Ayyubids, and Seljuqs, pp. 5-18

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15 – NO CLASS (Presidents Day)**

## 12. (Wed., Feb. 17) Saladin and the Conquest of the Latin Kingdom, 1185-1189

READINGS: Madden, *Concise History*, 68-96

Gabrieli, *Arab Historians*, 114-160

*Reader:* Battles of Cresson and Hattin

Coronation of Guy and Sibylla

*Eracles:* Saladin's reconquest of Palestine

## 13. (Mon., Feb. 22) The Third Crusade, 1189-1193

READINGS: *Reader: Chronicle of the Third Crusade*  
*Gabrieli, Arab Historians, 208-252, 87-113*

**Feb. 22, SECOND PAPER DUE: How did the Frankish states survive?**

14. (Wed., Feb. 24) Crusaders, Ayyubids, and Mamluks –the Middle East in the 13<sup>th</sup> Century, 1193-1291

READINGS: Madden, *Concise History*, 143-190

*Reader: "Zengids, Ayyubids, and Seljuqs," pp. 18-26*

*Reader: Ibn Wasil, "The Crusade of Louis IX and the Mamluk Coup d'état, pp. 125-154*

15. (Mon., March 1) The Albigensian "Heresy" in Italy and Languedoc

READINGS: Madden, *Concise History*, 121-141

*Strayer, Albigensian Crusades, 1-39, 175-261*

**MARCH 3, DUE DATE FOR TERM PAPER**

16. (Wed., March 3) The Albigensian Crusade, 1209-1218: Conquest of the Midi

READINGS: *Strayer, Albigensian Crusades, 40-162*

*Reader: Roger of Wendover, "The Albigensian Crusade"*

*Reader: Song of the Cathar Wars, The death of Simon de Montfort*

17. (Mon., March 8) The Albigensian Crusade, 1218-1229: the Final Phase

READINGS: Bernardo Gui, "Description of Heresies"

18. (Wed., March 10) Toward an Assessment of the Crusade Movement