

Updated Syllabus

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
Department of History
Semester I, 1979-80

History 215
TR 2:25-3:40 P.M.

M. Mazzaoui

ARISTOCRATIC LIFE IN THE
MIDDLE AGES

Lecture Topics

- Sept. 4 1. Introduction (Mazzaoui)
- A. The Warrior Society of the Early Middle Ages
- 6 2. The Roman Aristocratic Class (Clover)
- 11 3. German Warriors (Thompson)
- 13 4. The Clerical Elite in the Primitive Age 700-1050 (Mazzaoui)
- 18 5. Beowulf and the Anglo-Saxon Heroic Ideal (Ringler)
- 20 6. The Icelandic Sagas and the Viking Heroic Ideal (Ringler)
- 25 7. The Decorative Arts (Horlbeck)
- B. The Feudal Class of the High Middle Ages
- 27 8. The Origins of the European Nobility: Wealth, Status and Life
 Style (Mazzaoui)
- Oct. 2 9. Feudal Warfare: Weapons, Tactics and the Rationalization of
 Violence (Mazzaoui)
- 4 10. The World of the Crusaders (Barker)
- 9 11. The Byzantine Aristocracy (Barker)
- 11 SIX WEEKS EXAMINATION
- C. The Chivalric Society
- 16 12. The Ideal of Knighthood (Mazzaoui)
- 18 13. German Epic: The Nibelungenlied (Gentry)
- 23 14. Jews as Aristocrats: The Courtly Society of Medieval Spain
 (Roth)
- 25 15. The Cid (Temprano)
- 30 16. The Chansons de Geste (Caulkins)

- Nov. 1 17. Women in Feudal Society (Schulenburg)
6 18. Troubadour Music (Barker)
8 19. The Romance Tradition: The Conflict between Love and Grace
in Chivalry (Kelly)
- D. The Aristocracy in the Later Middle Ages
- 13 20. Language and Social Class in England (Reames)
15 21. Aristocratic Patronage and Gothic Art (Horlbeck)
20 TWELVE WEEKS EXAMINATION
27 22. The Urban Patriciate: Family and Lineage in Domestic and
Public Life (Mazzaoui)
29 23. Health and Illness: Medicine and Health Care for the Elite
(Lindberg)
30 24. Dante: A View of the Italian Urban Nobility (Kleinhenz)
- Dec. 4 25. Aristocratic Factionalism and Social Conflict in the Fourteenth
and Fifteenth Centuries (Mazzaoui)
6 26. Chaucer and Late Medieval Social Commentary (Taylor)
11 27. Literature at the Court of Richard II (Doane)
13 28. Review session

READING LIST

Required Texts:

David Herlihy, The History of Feudalism (Humanities PB)

Georges Duby, The Early Growth of the European Economy: Warriors and
Peasants from the Seventh to the Twelfth Century (Cornell)

Warren Hollister, Medieval Europe, A Short History (Wiley)

Beowulf, tr. M. Alexander, (Penguin)

Reserve Reading:

R.W. Southern, The Making of the Middle Ages

David Herlihy, Medieval Culture and Society

P. Riche', Daily Life in the Age of Charlemagne

E. Power, Medieval Women

F. and J. Gies, Women in the Middle Ages

Robert Haller, Literary Criticism of Dante Alighieri

Dante, The Divine Comedy (tr. Sinclair)

Eliayahu Ashtor, The Jews of Moslem Spain

Yitzhak Baer, History of the Jews in Christian Spain

Section A: The Warrior Society of the Early Middle Ages

Hollister, Pt. I

Duby, Pt. I

Herlihy, Feudalism, Introd. and Pt. I

Beowulf

Herlihy, Medieval Culture, Pt. I, sec. III, pp. 118-125. (vernacular culture)

Section B: The Feudal Class of the High Middle Ages

Hollister, Pt. II

Duby, Pts. II and III

Herlihy, Feudalism, Pts. II and III

Southern, chs. I, II

Riche' (pages to be assigned)

Section C: The Chivalric Society

Herlihy, Feudalism, Pt. IV

Southern, V

Herlihy, Medieval Culture, Pt. II, sec. III, pp. 229-281 (literature of feudal society)

Selections from Power, Gies, Ashtor and Baer (to be assigned)

Section D: The Aristocracy in the Later Middle Ages

Hollister, Pt. III

Herlihy, Medieval Culture, Pt. II, sec. V, no 22 (pp. 314 ff); Pt. III, sec. I, no. 3 (pp. 361 ff) and sec. II, no. 4 (pp. 385 ff).

Dante, Divine Comedy, Inferno, cantos 4, 5, 6, 10, 15, 16, 17, 29, 30, 33; Purgatory, cantos 6, 13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27; Paradise, cantos 6, 15, 16, 17.

Haller, "De vulgari eloquentia," Bk. I.