History 213 is designed to provide an understanding of history’s greatest clash between Christians and Muslims. Themes include the ideology of the Crusades, Papal policy, patterns of settlement in the Holy Land, social and economic structures of the Muslims and Crusaders’ states, military orders, warfare techniques, Muslim reaction and reconquest, and myths and legends of the Crusaders.

The classes will be “lecture-discussion” format. Lectures will provide background on events, issues, and personalities involved in the crusading movement and will review the readings in historical perspective. Discussions will focus on primary sources; aim of the discussions will be to learn how to read and analyze different kinds of sources (including texts, paintings, songs and movies), and construct historical arguments. We will visit a museum to inspect artifacts of the Crusades.
I expect you to come to class regularly, read the assigned texts by the dates listed in the syllabus, participate actively and thoughtfully in class discussion and complete all written work as outlined below.

READINGS

The following books are required for the course; they have been ordered at the Penn Plaza Bookstore on Albany Street. If you obtain copies of the books elsewhere, try to get the same edition that the class is using.


The rest of the readings are available as downloadable files (in PDF or HTML) on the course website (and are marked as ‘web’ on the syllabus). The two films for this course should be treated as required readings. Both will be screened in class before the discussion, and both will be available for viewing in the Media Library (in the Kilmer Library on Livingston campus).

SAKAI

A course website will be set up soon at https://sakai.rutgers.edu. Everyone registered for this class will be automatically registered for the website--your website ID and password are the same as your eden account ID and password. To access this website, you must have a valid Rutgers account (eden, rci, clam, andromeda, or whatever but not AOL, Yahoo, Hotmail and similar commercial providers). The website will include copies of the syllabus and lecture outlines; various course materials, including handouts, study guides and some assigned readings; guidelines for preparing for the assignments; a chat room and a bulletin board for electronic discussions, and your grades.

To get to this site:

1. Go to sakai.rutgers.edu
2. Enter your RU (eden, etc.) username and password
3. Click on 510:213 The Crusades
4. Choose the icon for readings, chat room, post ‘em grades etc.

DISCUSSIONS

The second part of each class meeting will be devoted to discussion and small group work. Please bring to the discussion the texts assigned for the section. Participation in discussions and group work is a substantial portion of your grade.

GRADING

The final grade for this class will be calculated from the following:

(1) Participation (20%): includes regular attendance at lectures; participation in discussion sections and on the course website chat room and discussion board; participation through
questions during or after lecture or via e-mail; and participation to the visit to the Metropolitan Museum (NYC)

(2) Short papers (15% each): one/two short analyses of primary sources, 2-3 typed pages, and a short analysis of one aspect, or thing, that particularly caught your attention at the Metropolitan museum (an alternative assignment can be arranged if you are not able to come to the museum - see me).

(3) Final exam (35%): standard 3-hour test, using identifications and one essay. Sample identifications and sample essay topic will be provided in advance on SAKAI.

All extensions of the deadlines for written work must be negotiated in advance. Work handed in late without an extension will be penalized. Any assignment not handed in one week after the deadline, without an explanation for the delay, will be given an F. Two Fs for incomplete work will result in an F for the class.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance in class is mandatory. I take attendance before and/or after class. Any more than ONE unexcused absence will result in ½ grade demotion for each absence.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Any student with special needs is urged to contact me at the beginning of the course to make the arrangements necessary to support a successful learning experience in this course.
WEEK 1: PRELUDE TO CRUSADE

Tue, July 8.  INTRODUCTION
Medieval Europe and the Levant on the Eve of the First Crusade


WEEK 2: THE FIRST CRUSADE

Tue, July 15.  Calling, Preaching and Organizing the First Crusade

Thu, July 17.  The First Crusaders and the Road to Jerusalem

WEEK 3: THE SECOND CRUSADE

Tue, July 22.  The Second Crusade and Crusaders States

Thu, July 24.  VISIT TO THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM (NYC)

WEEK 4: SALADIN AND THE THIRD CRUSADE

Tue, July 29.  Saladin and the Horns of Hattin

Thu, July 31.  The Conquest of Jerusalem and the Third Crusade

WEEK 5: THE END OF CRUSADES

Tue, August 5.  The Later Crusades: Pope Innocent III and the Reorientation of Crusading. The Crusades of St. Louis.

Thu, August 7.  Mamluks, Mongols, and the Fall of Acre.

WEEK 6: CONCLUSION

Tue, August 12.  FINAL EXAM