

**Emergence of Medieval Europe**  
**Medieval Civilization**  
Department of History  
Rutgers University  
510:209  
667:281  
Thursday, Scott Hall 116

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**Course Description –**

*Emergence of Medieval Europe* hopes to provide students with an understanding of the key aspects of the history of Europe from the end of the Roman Empire to the Investiture Crisis. Special attention will be paid to the growth of feudal institutions, the crusades, and the development of the Church.

**Required Texts –**

R.H.C. Davis, *A History of Medieval Europe* (Pearson Longman 2006)  
Judith M. Bennett & C. Warren Hollister, *Medieval Europe: A Short History* (McGraw Hill, 2006)  
Jonathan Riley-Smith, *The First Crusade and the Idea of Crusading* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 1986)  
Einhard, *Two Lives of Charlemagne* (Penguin, 1969)

All texts have been ordered through the Rutgers University Book Store and New Jersey Books.

**Assignments –**

Grades will be assigned on the basis of one mid-term examination, one final examination, and one analytic book review. The midterm and final examinations will test your knowledge of both lecture material and assigned readings from the texts. They will be divided into two sections. The first section will require you to identify and describe the historical significance of a selection of people, places, dates or concepts. This section is designed to test the level of detailed knowledge you have acquired in the course. The second part of the examination will require you to answer essay questions that deal with a general theme in the course. In answering such a question, you should be able to display independent, analytic thought about broad historical developments in the period covered by the course. You should also be able to integrate material from lectures and assigned

readings and develop a consistent argument that addresses the issues raised in the essay question. The analytic book review is designed to allow you to analyze historical arguments in a systematic fashion. This will require a critical perspective of the book you are reading that focuses both on the strengths and weaknesses of the text.

### **Attendance-**

Because of the unique nature of the course schedule, regular and punctual attendance is required. Missing more than one class will result in the loss of one full grade. Exceptions will be made only for extended medical or personal problems that can be satisfactorily documented. Therefore, students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss one or two classes please use the University absence reporting website: <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email will automatically be sent to me.

### **Schedule of Lectures and Required Reading**

September 6-	An introduction to medieval society. The Roman Empire at its height The early Christian Church
September 13-	The transformation of the Roman Empire. - Hollister & Bennett, <i>Barbarian settlements in the West</i> . -Davis, <i>The barbarian invasions</i> .
September 20-	Justinian and the growth of Islam - Hollister & Bennett, <i>Neighbors: Byzantium and Islam</i> - Davis, <i>Islam</i>
September 27-	The formation of medieval ecclesiastical institutions - Davis, <i>The Church and the Papacy</i> -Benedictine monasticism.
October 4-	The outlines of feudalism and the flowering of knighthood - Davis, <i>The Franks</i> . - Hollister & Bennett, <i>Carolingian Europe</i> ..
October 11 –	Interpretations of Charlemagne

- Einhard, *Two Lives of Charlemagne*.

- October 18 - mid term examination
- October 25- Medieval People.  
-Handouts to be read.
- November 1- Pilgrimage and urbanism in medieval society.  
-Davis, *Europe at the end of the Ninth Century*.  
-Hollister & Bennett, *Economic takeoff and social change*.
- November 8- no class –reading and preparation for analytic book review
- November 15- Architecture and authority – the role of medieval castles  
-Analytic book review due on Riley-Smith, *The First Crusade and the Idea of Crusading*.  
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- November 29- *Deus Lo Volte* - the First Crusade.  
- Davis, *Jerusalem regained and lost*.  
-Hollister & Bennett, *Conquests, crusades, and persecutions*.
- December 6- The Investiture Crisis  
- Hollister & Bennett, *Worlds in Collision: Papacy and the Holy Roman Empire*.  
Davis, *The Reform of the Papacy*.
- December 13- Universities and Universals  
- Hollister & Bennett, *Literature, art, and thought*.
- Final Examination 8:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.