HSGA 6065: The Crusades

image: New York, Pierpont Morgan Library, MS M.638 f. 23v Saul defeats the Ammonites

Fordham University
Fall 2011
Nicholas Paul
Welcome to the study of the crusades. This course seeks to accomplish three objectives: (1) to further graduate students along the path of scholarship, refining skills in research, group interaction, and written and oral argumentation; (2) to prepare graduate students to effectively teach an undergraduate course on the crusades; and (3) to encourage graduate students to explore a specific area of inquiry and locate themes and materials of interest to them.

Course Info:
Wednesdays
Dealy 112 4:45 PM
Eres password: crusades

Instructor info:
Nicholas Paul
npaul@fordham.edu
Dealy 632
Phone x3298
Office hours: Wednesdays and Thursdays 11AM-1PM and ther times by appointment.

Expectations and Evaluation:

In concert with the goals of the course stated above, students will be expected to maintain a professional attitude toward their work, and to be active, courteous, and constructive in discussions.

It is expected that all students will appear promptly for the class meeting and prepared to discuss the assigned reading. All written assignments will be submitted in the format prescribed and in hard copy to the instructor on the date due. If students feel that they cannot submit assignments on the given date and need an extension they must contact the instructor well in advance of the due date.

In written assignments and in-class presentations, students will be evaluated on the depth and quality of their research and the clarity and strength of their arguments. Quality of scholarly prose, evidence of proofreading, and attention to detail will all be taken seriously. The instructor is happy to read drafts provided well in advance of the due date.

Open engagement with peers in class and with the instructor both inside and outside of the classroom will help to ensure that students get the most out of the course.

Basis for Evaluation: Presentations and discussion: 60% Final project 40%
Class Presentations:

Over the course of the semester, each student must make two presentations to the class, one historiographical and the other relating to a particular type of source material. The presentations will be no longer than 10 minutes in duration, and should introduce the class to the subject at hand. Ultimately, the style and content of the presentation is at the students' discretion, but all presentations must include certain elements.

Historiographical presentation:

The purpose of the historiographical presentation is to introduce the rest of the class to the issues, arguments, and methods relevant to a discrete area of research. Students may choose to structure their discussion chronologically, thematically, or in some other way (for instance by schools of thought or by tracing a scholar's intellectual pedigree- not always the same thing.) All presentations must be accompanied by a short, annotated bibliography (2 books and three articles, or the equivalent.)

Source presentation:

The source presentation will introduce the class either to a type of source material or, where appropriate, to a particular work. As this is a technically a history course, many of the most useful sources are textual, but students may draw on strengths in the appropriate arts and sciences and present sources architectural, artistic and otherwise material, medical, or musical. For textual sources, information must be provided covering manuscript transmission and editorial history. For other types of sources, equivalent information regarding provenance, description and field-work must be provided.

Final Project:

A the end of the semester, students will produce a piece of written work of no more than twenty-five pages (1.5 spacing, 1 inch margins). The final project will be tailored to the students' interests and abilities, but will generally represent either an historiographical essay or a short research paper based on an appropriate topic with a circumscribed source base. The final paper should have a cover page and an alphabetical list of works cited. Footnote references will follow the Chicago Manual of Style.
Schedule of Class Meetings and Assignments

Class 1 (August 31): Studying the Crusades

Class will meet in Walsh library to discuss tools and collections.

Class 2 (September 14): Definitions and Origins

- Reading:

  Norman Housley, "Defining the Crusade," in Contesting the Crusades (Oxford and Malden, 2006), pp. 1-23*


Class 3 (September 21): The Motivations of Early Crusaders

- Reading:


  Jonathan Riley-Smith The First Crusaders, 1095-1131 (Cambridge, 1997), pp. 81-105 [Eres]*

Class 4 (September 28): The First Crusade in Memory and Narrative

- Reading (I):


• **Reading (2):** [Narrative accounts of the First Crusade.]

  You will choose a single narrative account of any part of the crusade, written at any point in the Middle Ages. Your presentation will introduce the class to the text, its author, and its manuscript tradition and editorial history.

---

**Class 5 (October 5): Establishment of the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem**

• **Reading (1):**


• **Reading (2):** Debate: Was the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem a European Colony?


Class 6 (October 12): Islamic Perspectives

- **Reading:**


Class 7 (October 19): Iberia

- **Reading:**


  William Purkis, *Crusading Spirituality in the Holy Land and Iberia* (c. 1095-c. 1187) (Woodbridge, 2008), pp. 120-178. [Eres]*

Class 8: (October 26): Institutionalization and Evolution

- **Reading (1):**


• Reading (2):

A crusade sermon and an encyclical.

Class 9 (November 2): Crusading Diplomacy: Byzantium, the East, and the West before 1200

• Reading:


Class 10: (November 9): The Fourth Crusade

• Reading (1):


• Reading (2):


Create a list of three reading questions for undergraduate students that would help them understand what you think are the most important aspects of this text.

Class 11 (November 16): The Albigensian Crusade

• Reading (1):


- **Reading (2):**


  + List of three reading questions.

**Class 12: (November 30) The North**

- **Reading (1):**


- **Reading (2):** Select two articles from each of the following two books


  Also read the introductions to each of these collections.

**Class 13: (December 7) Crusading Society**

- **Reading:**


**Class 14 (December 14): Crusading and the Latin East in the Thirteenth Century**

- **Reading:**

  John of Joinville, *Life of Saint Louis*, tr. Caroline Smith in *Chronicles of the Crusades*

  + List of 3 reading questions

**Class 15 (December 21): Crusading After Lyons II (1274)**

- **Reading:**


  Sylvia Schein, “*Gesta Dei per Mongulos* 1300: the Genesis of Non-Event,” *English Historical Review* 94 (1979), 805-819. [Ejournal]
Potential Topics for Presentations (these are meant only as suggestions, students should feel free to suggest their own topics).

Class 3 (September 21):

- SP: (e.g. Charters of departing crusaders)
- HP: (e.g., Violence and dispute resolution in knightly society, aristocratic kinship and lordship)

Class 5 (October 5):

- SP: (eg William of Tyre, *Historia Nicaeana*, Walter the Chancellor, Genoese and Venetian Sources)

Class 6 (October 12):

- SP: (eg Arabic poetry and inscriptions, Usama ibn-Munqidh and ‘adab literature, Saladin’s biographers, the Genizah materials)
- HP: (e.g. the Assassins, Jewish communities in the Islamic world)

Class 7 (October 19):

- SP: (e.g. *Chronica Adefonsi Imperatoris, Gesta comitum Barcinonensium, Llibre dels Feits, Fueros*)
- HP: (e.g. the military orders in Iberia)

Class 8: (October 26):

- SP: (eg Canon law, sermons)

Class 9 (November 2):

- HP (e.g. Sicily, Venice)

Class 11 (November 16):

- SP: (eg Troubadour songs, the Trencavel cartulary, inquisition records)
Class 12: (November 30)

- **SP**: (e.g. Henry of Livonia, the Livonian Rhymed Chronicle, the Chronicle of Novgorod, the records of the Teutonic Knights in the North)
- **HP**: Northern military orders, Denmark and the Crusades

Class 13: (December 7)

- **SP**: (e.g. crusade songs, the Old French Crusade Cycle, crusade romances, liturgy)
- **HP**: (e.g. crusading and pilgrimage in literature and art, the Childrens’ Crusade)

Class 14 (December 14):

- **SP**: (e.g. artworks, archaeology + forensics, liturgy)
- **HP**: (e.g. the Mongols, the Mamluks)

Class 15 (December 21):

- **SP**: (e.g. the Templar Process, recovery treatises, Boucicault's biographer)
- **HP**: (e.g. the Italian Crusades, Crusade and Discovery)