

History Practicum - The Crusades
HIS3942.8459
Spring 2015

Dr. Nina Caputo

email: ncaputo@ufl.edu

phone: (352) 273-3379

office: 025 Keene-Flint Hall

office hours: Monday 2:00-3:00, Tuesday 3:00-5:00, or by
appointment

website: <http://users.clas.ufl.edu/ncaputo/site/index.html>

TA: Alana Lord email: alord@ufl.edu



Tuesday 4th period (10:40-11:30)/Thursday 4th-5th period (10:40-12:35)
@ 119 Keene-Flint

The History Practicum - Purpose and structure of the class

What is history? What is the difference between popular history and professional history? What skills and resources do historians need to do their work? This class is intended to introduce students to the basic goals of historical study and to the fundamental skills necessary for historical research, analysis, and writing.

Our work this semester will be divided into two parts. Half of the class hours will focus on a specific historical theme; namely, the meaning and content of medieval history and imagery in western culture. What do we mean when we talk about “The Crusades”? How does western society understand and use the Crusades? What does this history mean to us today and why is it compelling? We will consider primary documents from the middle ages, as well as contemporary historical writing, film, literature, and political discourse. The class content is intended as an introduction to significant themes in the historiography of the Crusades, not as a comprehensive survey. During the remaining course hours you will develop the practical skills necessary for succeeding in other history classes, completing the major, and conducting historical research.

Attendance policy and expectations

Students are expected to attend class regularly and arrive for lecture or section promptly. A heavy penalty will be imposed on students who arrive late for class. Attendance is mandatory for all sections. Unexcused absences will be penalized in the following manner: you will be permitted one absence in the lecture and one in the precept without penalty, every absence thereafter will lower your grade by one third.

History classes are most rewarding when students interact with the texts, each other, and the instructor on a sustained basis. Readings provide the raw material for class discussion, where much of the learning takes place. Effective class participation is therefore essential. Students can expect a respectful atmosphere in which to express their opinions.

Late work will not be accepted without penalty. Please make every effort to apprise the instructor of adverse circumstances that affect your ability to attend class or complete assignments on time. Official documentation is required to excuse an absence and to schedule make-up assignments. Unless otherwise noted, assignments will be collected at the end of the precept session for which they are assigned. Do not submit your work to via email - written work must be presented in hard-copy.

In writing papers, be certain to give proper credit whenever you use words, phrases, ideas, arguments, and conclusions drawn from someone else’s work. Failure to give credit by quoting and/or footnoting is PLAGIARISM and will not be accepted in this class because it violates the University of Florida’s honesty policy. Please review the policy at www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/.

Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor during the semester if you have any individual concerns or issues that need to be discussed. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office (www.dso.ufl.edu/drp/). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

Please turn off your cell phones. If your cell phone rings or if you spend your time texting, you will be asked to leave the class and this will count as an unexcused absence.

Online Course Evaluation Process: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>

Required Texts - available at the University Bookstore or on-line
 Mary Rampolla, *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History* (Bedford/St. Martins; 7th edition, 2012)

Recommended Texts
 Jill N. Claster, *Sacred Violence: The European Crusades to the Middle East, 1095-1396*

There are also readings that are available on the internet or on the course Canvas site (lss.at.ufl.edu). **You are responsible for bringing those materials to class.**

Grade Distribution and Grading Scale

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research project/annotated bibliography 20% • Precept assignments 30% • Class participation and attendance 20% • Midterm exam 10% • Final exam 15% 	A = 100 - 93	C = 74 - 71
	A- = 92 - 90	C- = 70 - 67
	B+ = 89 - 87	D+ = 66 - 63
	B = 86 - 83	D = 62 - 60
	B- = 82 - 79	D- = 59 - 56
	C+ = 78 - 75	F = below 55

Note: A grade of C- is not a qualifying grade for major, minor, Gen Ed, or College Basic distribution credit. For

further information on UF's Grading Policy, see:
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx#hgrades>
<http://www.isis.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html>

Course schedule - subject to change

Week I

6 January *What is history and (why) is it important?*

8 January *Discussion: The Historian's Craft - how we do what we do.*

Reading: Rampolla, pp. 1-5; Sam Wineburg, "Historical Thinking and Other Unnatural Acts"; Lynn Cheney "Politics in the Classroom"

Week II

13 January *Introduction to the Middle Ages: Where do the Crusades Fit?*

15 January *Discussion: How to Succeed in the History Major*

Reading: Claster, Chapter 1; Christopher Tyerman, *Fighting for Christendom: Holy War and the Crusades* (Oxford, 2004), 95-124

Precept assignment #1

Week III

20 January *The Crusading Movement: Background and Significance in Christendom*

22 January *Discussion: Defining Context*

Reading: Claster, Chapter 2; [Pope Leo IV, *Forgiveness of sins for those who die in battle*](#); [Pope John VIII *Indulgence for Fighting the Heathen*](#); Marcus Bull, "Origins" from *The Oxford History of the Crusades*, ed. Jonathan Reilly-Smith (Oxford, 1999), 15-34. Rampolla, Chapter 2.

Week IV

27 January *The Crusading Movement: Response to an Islamic Threat?*

29 January *Discussion: The Art of Summary*

Reading: [Pope Gregory VII *Call for 'Crusade'*](#); [1064 Pilgrimage](#); Thomas Madden, "The Call" in Thomas Madden *A Concise History of the Crusades* (Rowman and Littlefield, 1999), 1-14; Thomas Head, "Peace and Power in France around the Year 1000" *Essays in Medieval History*, 23 (2006): 1-17; Rampolla, Chapter 3a-3d.

Week V

3 February *The Call to Crusade: The Council of Clermont*

5 February *Discussion: Analysis and reconstruction based on primary sources*

Reading: "How To Read A Primary Source", by Mark Kishlansky; [The Council of Clermont, Five versions](#); Jay Rubinstein, *Armies of Heaven*, selections

Precept assignment #2

Week VI

10 February *The Peoples Crusade*

12 February *Discussion: Reading and Analyzing Secondary Sources*

Weighing different sources of evidence

Reading: Claster, Chapter 3; [Peter the Hermit \(three versions\)](#); [The Crusaders Journey to Constantinople](#);

Week VII

17 February *The Enemy Within: The Crusaders and the Jews*

19 February *Preparing for history exams*

Reading: [Solomon ben Samson: The Crusaders in Mainz](#); [Emico and the Slaughter of the Rhineland Jews](#); Jeremy Cohen, "A 1096 Complex? Constructing the First Crusade in Jewish Historical Memory," *Medieval and Modern* in *Jews and Christians in Twelfth-Century Europe*, ed. Michael Signer and John Van Engen (Notre Dame, 2001), 9-26; Robert Chazan, "The First Crusade as Reflected in the Earliest Hebrew Narrative" in *Viator*, vol. 29 (1998): 25-38. Rampolla, Chapter 4.

Precept assignment #3

Week VIII

24 February *The Kingdom of Jerusalem*

26 February **In class Midterm Exam - bring blue books!**

Reading: Claster, Chapter 4; [Crusaders' Letters](#); Nikita Elisséeff "The Reaction of the Syrian Muslims after the Foundation of the First Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem" in *The Crusades*, ed. Thomas Madden (Blackwell, 1988), 221-232; [Usmah Ibn Munqidh, Autobiography, Excerpts on the Franks](#); [William of Tyre, Godfrey of Bouillon Become Defender of the Holy Sepulcher](#); Rampolla, Chapter 3f.

Precept assignment #4

Week IX SPRING BREAK

3 March

5 March

Week X

10 March *The Second Crusade*

12 March *Discussion: What is a Usable Past?*

Reading: Claster, Chapter 5; [William of Tyre, Latin Disarray](#); [Roger Hoveden, The Fall of Jerusalem](#); [Pope Eugenius III, Call for the Second Crusade](#); [Bernard of Clairvaux, Apologia for the Second Crusade](#); Thomas Madden, "The Rise of the Latin Kingdom in Jerusalem and the Second Crusade" in *A Concise History of the Crusades* (Rowman and Littlefield, 1999), 39-63

Research Questions for the Annotated Bibliography Due.

Week XI

17 March *Crusades in the Twelfth Century*

19 March *Discussion: Library sessions meet in front of the circulation desk in Library West*

Reading: Claster, Chapter 6; [Bernard of Clairvaux In Praise of the New Knighthood](#); Tom Licence, "The Military Orders as Monastic Orders" in *Crusades 4* (2005) 39-53; Rampolla, Chapter 5.

Week XII

24 March *The Crusading Orders*

26 March *Discussion: Formulating research questions*

Reading: Norman Housley, “Crusades against Christians: Their Origins and Early Development, c. 1000-1216” in *The Crusades*, ed. Thomas Madden (Blackwell, 1988), 71-97; [Accusations against the Albigensians](#); Rampolla, Chapter 7.

Precept assignment #5

Week XIII

31 March *Finding Heretics in Christendom*

2 April *Discussion: The Crusades Today - (Why) Is History Important?*

Reading: Claster, Chapter 7; [Robert of Clari, The Capture of Constantinople](#); [Nicetas Choniates, The Sack of Constantinople](#); [Pope Innocent III, Reprimand of Papal Legate](#); Thomas Madden, “Outside and Inside the Fourth Crusade” in *International History Review* 17:4 (1995), 726-743; Rampolla, Chapter 6.

Precept assignment #6

Week XIV

7 April *The Fourth Crusade: West versus East*

9 April *Annotated bibliography*

Reading: Claster, Chapter 8; Sources on the Fourth Crusade; Rampolla, Chapter 7.

Research Prospectus for the Annotated Bibliography Due

Week XV

14 April *The Reconquista Holy War and Just War*

16 April *Discussion: Medieval Holdovers: The Crusades in Hollywood*

Reading: Claster, Chapter 9; Rodney Stark, *God’s Battalions: The Case for the Crusades* (Harper Collins, 2009), 1-9

Precept assignment #7

Week XVI

21 April **In class Midterm Exam - bring blue books!**

27 April

Annotated Bibliography Due - by 5:00 in my office