

## HISTORY 330

### Medieval England

**Instructor:** Edwin B. DeWindt, LMS, PhD, FRHistS  
**Office:** B320  
**Office Hours:** M: 10:00-2:00  
T: 1:00-3:00  
W: 9:00-11:00 (not guaranteed)  
R: 1:00-3:00  
**Office Phone:** (313) 993-1098`

#### Texts:

Barbara Harvey, *The Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries (Short Oxford History of the British Isles)*

Sandra Raban, *England under Edward I and Edward II*

Scott Waugh, *England in the Reign of Edward III*

**Additional Readings to be supplied by the Instructor**

#### PURPOSE OF COURSE:

**THIS COURSE** is designed as an introduction to the history of England during the period between the Norman Conquest of the mid-11<sup>th</sup> century to the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century and the installation of the Tudor dynasty. It will consist of close readings and discussion of the required texts for the course, with additional comments by the Instructor. Students will be responsible for preparing oral reports on the specific chapters in the required texts and presenting them in class as “springboards” for discussion. No specific assignment will be made to any particular student: the Instructor will come into class and call on members of the class at random to deliver their reports on the assigned chapters. This means that it would be wise to have read them—and thought about them—before coming to class.

#### ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Normally, there would be a research paper required in this course, but have you seen our Library? Consequently, grading will be based partially on student reports and participation in class discussions (*i.e.* 50%). This latter naturally suggests that class attendance would be a good idea. As for the remaining 50% of the grade, students will select a film or play based on events/persons in medieval England and produce an extended essay as to the historical accuracy of the film/play and

**assessing its value (or uselessness) as a reflection of the realities of medieval English society or culture. Films/plays may be chosen from the attached list, or students may suggest others to the Instructor for his approval. Also, if a student desires to select a *novel* dealing with medieval England, that is also a possibility.**

## LIST OF POSSIBLE FILMS/PLAYS DEALING WITH MEDIEVAL ENGLAND

*The Lion in Winter*

*Becket*

*Braveheart*

*Edward II*

*The Navigator*

*Robin and Marian*

*Robin Hood, Prince of Thieves*

*Ivanhoe* [There are 3 versions: MGM, CBS, A&E]

*Henry V* (Olivier version)

*Henry V* (Branagh version)

*Richard III* (Olivier version)

*Richard III* (McKellen version)

*Looking for Richard*

*Excalibur*

*Monty Python and the Holy Grail*

*The Tower of London* [Two versions: 1939, 1962]

## CALENDAR

September 2	Introduction.
September 4	NO CLASS. Read Geoffrey Elton, <i>The English</i> , Chapter 1; Michael Alexander, "The Norman Conquest", (supplied)
September 9	The Norman Conquest and the Anglo-Saxon Heritage Readings: Harvey, <i>The 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Centuries</i> , Introduction, Chapter 1
September 11	“ “ “
September 16	Anglo-Norman Rule Reading: Harvey, Chapter 2
September 18	“ “
September 23	Angevin Rule and Beyond Reading: Harvey, Chapter 6; Michael Alexander, "Magna Carta and King John" (supplied)
September 25	“ “ “
September 30	English Society, 11 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> centuries Reading: Harvey, Chapter 3
October 2	“ “
October 7	The English Church Reading: Harvey, Chapter 4
October 9	“ “
October 14	English Culture in the Central Middle Ages Reading: Harvey, Chapter 5, Conclusion
October 16	“ “ “
October 21	The English Crown, Edward I-Edward II Reading: Raban, <i>England under Edward I and Edward II</i> , Chapter 6 and 7
October 23	“ “ ‘

<b>October 28</b>	<b>English Society in the 14<sup>th</sup> century</b> <b>Reading: Raban, Chapters 1-5, Chapter 8</b>
<b>October 30</b>	“ “ ‘
<b>November 4</b>	<b>England at War</b> <b>Reading: Waugh, <i>England in the Reign of Edward III</i>, Parts I and II</b>
<b>November 6</b>	“ “ “
<b>November 11</b>	<b>Government</b> <b>Reading: Waugh, Part IV, Part III, Chapters 10-11</b>
<b>November 13</b>	“ “ “
<b>November 18</b>	<b>The 15<sup>th</sup> Century</b> <b>Readings: A. J. Pollard, <i>Late Medieval England</i>, Introduction, Chapters 1-3 (supplied)</b>
<b>November 20</b>	“ “ “
<b>November 25</b>	<b>The Wars of the Roses</b> <b>Reading: Michael Alexander, “The Wars of the Roses” (supplied)</b>
<b>December 2</b>	“ “ “
<b>December 4</b>	“ “ “
<b>Week of December 9:</b>	<b>Essay on film/play/novel due</b>