

**HTST 493.35 - Special Topics in History:
The History of the Family in Medieval Europe**

MWF, 14:00 – 14:50 Location: MS 217

Instructor: Dr. Lucie Laumonier
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Office Hours: Monday 10:00 – 11:30; Wednesday 10:00 – 11:30
Office: SS 622

Course content

This course offers a survey of the history of Western medieval families, from the 5th to the late 15th century. The course is divided in three sequences. The first will set the ground for the rest of the term by presenting key concepts (family, household, etc.) and providing chronological and cultural benchmarks. The second section of the course will focus on archives and historiography (demography, legal history...): how was history of the family undertaken by past and present historians? The third section will be devoted to the study of themes such as education, emotions, or familial violence, in order to deepen the students' understanding of medieval families and of the medieval familial culture. The course will be based on short lectures, discussions, detailed source analysis and students' presentations.

Course objectives

The aim of the course is to provide students with a general understanding of history of medieval families while stimulating reflections on historical sources and concepts related to the field. At the end of the semester, students should be able to understand the transformations that European families and societies experienced, to comment on archival material – both texts and images – and to discuss historical concepts and secondary sources. As well as gaining a solid knowledge of the period, the course will foster personal and professional development, enabling students to acquire and develop transferable skills such as critical thinking, articulating ideas persuasively, sorting information and independent learning.

Exams, see detail below

20% Preliminary Research paper – Monday, February 6th 2017

20% Presentation in class – Week 8 to Week 13

35% Research paper – Monday, March 13th 2017

25% Final Exam (written at home) – Wednesday, April 12th 2017

Readings

The students are not asked to purchase books. For some classes, readings of sources and archival material will be scheduled and posted on D2L.

Two sourcebooks will be placed on the Taylor Library reserve:

Murray, Jacqueline, *Love, Marriage, and Family in the Middle Ages: a Reader*, Toronto, University of Toronto Press, 2010.

McCarthy, Conor, *Love, Sex and Marriage in the Middle Ages: a Sourcebook*, New York, Routledge, 2004.

Course schedule

| | Content | Assignments |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Week 1 (9 Jan.) | Introduction | |
| Week 2 (16 Jan.) | Families Through Time | |
| Week 3 (23 Jan.) | Families Through Time | |
| Week 4 (30 Jan.) | Approaches in History of the Family | |
| Week 5 (6 Feb.) | Family and the Life cycle | Monday: Preliminary research paper |
| Week 6 (13 Feb.) | Family and the Life cycle | |
| Week 7 (20 Feb.) | <i>Mid-Term Break</i> | |

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Week 8 (27 Feb.) | Sacraments and the Family | Friday: Presentations |
| Week 9 (6 Mar.) | Education and the Family | Friday: Presentations |
| Week 10 (13 Mar.) | Household economy | Monday: Research paper Friday: Presentations |
| Week 11 (20 Mar.) | Death and the Family | Friday: Presentations |
| Week 12 (27 Mar.) | Familial Roles and Emotions | Friday: Presentations |
| Week 13 (3 Apr.) | Familial Troubles | Wednesday: Presentations |
| Week 14 (10 Apr.-12 Apr.) | Conclusion | Wednesday: Final Exam |

20% Preliminary Research paper – Monday February 6th 2017

Three to four pages + appendices + bibliography

This assignment helps the students set the groundwork for their research paper. Its aim is to make sure that the students are on the right track: the instructor validates the research project, archival sources and preliminary bibliography.

In the preliminary research paper, the students are expected to:

- Briefly present the theme of their research (what, where, when); offer a preliminary question of research and an overview of the arguments – one and a half page to two pages.
- Have identified a minimum of two historical sources. The references of the sources should be indicated, and the documents themselves should be presented (what, where, when + author) – one and a half to two pages in total.

At least one of the two sources must be a written document. The second source can consist in illuminations or tables (demographic figures for instance).

A copy of the sources must be attached to the paper (maximum one page by source (if several pages, only attach the first one)).

- Provide a preliminary bibliography (two books + two articles from scholarly journals).
- This assignment must be posted on the D2L portal.

* *To find written sources, please consult the books placed on the library reserve*

Murray, Jacqueline, *Love, Marriage, and Family in the Middle Ages: a Reader*, Toronto, University of Toronto Press, 2010.

McCarthy, Conor, *Love, Sex and Marriage in the Middle Ages: a Sourcebook*, New York, Routledge, 2004.

35% Research paper – Monday, March 13th 2017

Five to Six pages + Bibliography

The research paper explores a particular topic of the history of the medieval family. It is based on readings (at least three books and three articles) and on the analysis of archival documents (at least two different sources). One of the two sources must be a written document. The second source can consist in illuminations or tables (demographic figures for instance).

The research paper must follow the structure of an academic essay, exploring a question and offering hypothesis in the introduction, arguing and discussing the hypothesis in the body of the paper, summarizing the arguments and drawing a conclusion in the conclusion. The topic of the source must focus on medieval European history (late 5th century to end of the 15th century). The question leading the argumentation should be “How” or “Why” oriented.

The research paper will be evaluated in the following manner:

- Acquisition of knowledge: 10 points [relevance; level of understanding]
- Critical sense and argumentation: 12 points [critic of the sources; articulation of arguments]
- Research tools: 12 points [use of the sources and bibliography; scientific rigour]
- Respect of guidelines: 1 point [length, bibliography, footnotes, etc.]

20% Presentation in class

20 minutes

The presentation in class can be related to the research paper, but the presentation must correspond to one of the predetermined topics (a list of topics will be communicated to the students).

Students are expected to:

- Define a subject for their presentation, identify one relevant historical document to support their demonstration and prepare an exposé on that particular topic.
- Present their findings to the class (20 minutes) including the source.
- Answer questions after the presentation.

Note that the archival document can be a text, a series of illuminations, tables, etc. It must be displayed during the presentation. The source presentation should not exceed 5-8 minutes within the 20 minutes presentation.

Prior to their presentation (at least two days before), students must drop in the D2L box a document containing the names of the participants, the title of the presentation and the reference of the source.

Evaluation:

Transmission of knowledge: 10 points

Choice and presentation of the source: 5 points

Articulation of ideas: 5 points

25% Final Exam (Written at home) – Due Wednesday, April 12th 2017

One week prior the due date the instructor will post on D2L the final exam, that students should write at home in no more than 1 hour and 30 minutes. The exams will be hand in in class on the due date.

Definition of concepts: 15 points.

Short source commentary: 10 points.

Course policies

Assignments

All papers must include a title page, be written in Times New Roman, font size 12, with a double spacing. The minimum page requirements for each assignment must be met, the maximum page requirements should not be exceeded.

All assignments must include footnotes. Except for scientific journals available on line, Internet sources are usually not reliable scholarly sources. The secondary sources used in the papers must be from peer-reviewed books or journals. When referring to an article accessed on-line the

reference should be the same as for the paper version and without citing an internet URL. Refer to the *Student's Handbook* for more information.¹

Failure to follow the guidelines such as length of paper, footnotes, etc. will be sanctioned with the loss of a maximum of 1 point.

Spelling and grammatical errors in the papers may be penalized in the following manner: the first two errors will not be counted, then for every two errors 0.25 point will be taken off the grade. Maximum loss: 10% of the grade.

Plagiarism constitutes a fraud and will be severely sanctioned.

Late Assignments

Assignments will be handed to the professor or teaching assistants in class on the due date. Students can also drop off their assignments in the “red box” located outside of the History Department Office (SS 656). Assignments received after 4:00 pm are date stamped with the date of the next business day.

No electronic copies of assignments will be accepted.

Assignments submitted after the deadline will be penalized with the loss of 5% of the grade by day of delay, including weekends.

Electronic Devices

Cell phones should be turned off during class.

Audio and/or visual recording of lectures is not permissible.

Students who bring laptops in class should turn off the Wi-Fi and use them for taking notes only. They are strongly invited to sit at the back or at the sides of the classroom so their device does not distract close by students.²

Email and D2L

The instructor will not respond to emails after 5pm on week days nor on Saturdays and Sundays.

Students will find on D2L:

- the contact information of the instructor and her office hours

¹ http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/2012_handbook.pdf

² Pam A. Mueller and Daniel M. Oppenheimer, “The Pen Is Mightier than the Keyboard: Advantages of Longhand over Laptop Note Taking,” *Psychological Science* (2014), pp. 1-10 [[link](#)]. Carrie B. Fried, “In-class Laptop Use and its Effects on Student Learning,” *Computers & Education*, 50-3 (2008), pp. 906–914 [[link](#)].

- a copy of the course outline
- a complementary bibliography
- the list of topics for the presentations

Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. For detailed information on common academic concerns, you can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Arts Students Centre, Social Sciences 102, 403-220-3580, or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

Departmental Twitter Handle @ucalgaryhist - For departmental updates and notifications

Writing:

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

Writing Support:

Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Copyright:

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. This means that instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. What this simply means is that no copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or that you will have to consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

Red Box Policy:

Essays and other assignments may be handed in to the red box located outside of the History Department office (SS 656). Please include the following information on your assignment: course name and number, instructor, your name and your student number. Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. will be date stamped with the date of the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the office to be stamped. The box is emptied promptly at 8:30 a.m. and at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Departmental Grading System:

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme has been adopted for use in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses.

| Percentage | Letter Grade | Grade Point Value | Description |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---|
| 90-100 | A+ | 4.00 | Outstanding |
| 85-89 | A | 4.00 | Excellent—superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter. |
| 80-84 | A- | 3.70 | |
| 77-79 | B+ | 3.30 | |
| 73-76 | B | 3.00 | Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete. |
| 70-72 | B- | 2.70 | |
| 67-69 | C+ | 2.30 | |
| 63-66 | C | 2.00 | Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter. |
| 60-62 | C- | 1.70 | Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation. |
| 56-59 | D+ | 1.30 | Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject. |
| 50-55 | D | 1.00 | |
| 0-49 | F | 0 | Fail—unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements. |

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. As noted in *The History Student's Handbook* (http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history_students_handbook_2015.pdf), plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works.
- The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Arts' associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*.

Universal Student Ratings of Instruction:

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference. Please participate in USRI Surveys.

Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected grounds other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

Other Useful Information:

- Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.
- *Safewalk and Campus Security*: 403-220-5333.

Please also familiarize yourself about the following topics by consulting the information at these links:

- *Freedom of Information*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/foip-hia>
- *Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

- *Safewalk*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>
- *Student Union Information*: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>
- *Graduate Student Association*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>
- *Student Ombudsman Office*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

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