

History 6820: Research Seminar in Medieval History
Medieval Historians and their (Hi)stories, 900-1200

Fall 2010	Prof. Robert Berkhofer
HIST 6820-100 (#43993)	Office: 4424 Friedmann
Th 3:30-6:00pm	Phone: 387-5352 (use email!)
Dunbar 2205 (1 st meeting, then History seminar room)	Hours: TR 1:45-3:00
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COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will examine how narrative histories were written in the High Middle Ages (900-1300) in Western Europe and their use for both medieval and modern historians. Selections will exemplify different types or genres of historical writing and will emphasize France and England but not to the exclusion of neighboring areas of Western Europe. The class will also consider the possibilities for doing research on the various types of narratives or in the regions to which they pertain.

COURSE OBJECTIVES This course will teach PhD and MA students to read different types of medieval narratives and understand their use and value as historical evidence. This course will also help prepare history students for field exams by familiarizing them with some current trends in historical research. For those interested in medieval studies, this course will provide a theoretical perspective on source problems common to all medievalists.

REQUIRED BOOKS (for purchase, in paperback unless otherwise noted):

Bernard Bachrach and Stephen Fanning, eds., *The Annals of Flodoard of Reims, 919-966*, 2d ed. (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2004). ISBN: 1442600012.

Galbert of Bruges, *The Murder of Charles the Good*, trans. J.B. Ross (New York: Columbia University Press, 2005). ISBN: 0231136714. [Note: Medieval Academy reprint also okay]

Patrick Geary, *Phantoms of Remembrance: Memory and Oblivion at the End of the First Millenium* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1996). ISBN: 0691026033.

Chris Given-Wilson, *Chronicles: The Writing of History in Medieval England* (London: Hambledon, 2007). ISBN: 1852855835.

Rosamond McKitterick, *Perceptions of the Past in the Early Middle Ages* (Notre Dame: Notre Dame University Press, 2006). ISBN: 0268035008.

Nancy Partner, ed. *Writing Medieval History* (New York: Bloomsbury, 2005). ISBN: 0340808462.

Leah Shopkow, *History and Community: Norman Historical Writing in the Eleventh and Twelfth Centuries* (Washington: Catholic University Press, 1998). ISBN: 0813208831.

Brian Stock, *Listening for the Text: On the Uses of the Past*, reprint (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1997). ISBN: 0812216121.

Suger, *The Deeds of Louis the Fat*, trans. Richard C. Cusimano and John Moorhead (Washington: Catholic University of America Press, 1992). ISBN: 0813207584.

William of Malmesbury, *Deeds of the Bishops of England*, trans. David Preest (London: Boydell, 2002). ISBN: 0851158846.

REQUIRED READINGS (*not* for purchase; on electronic or two-hour reserve):

- Geoffrey Bosanquet, trans. *Eadmer's History of recent events in England* (London: Cresset Press, 1964), 1-69 (preface, book 1). Waldo: DA190 .E213 1965.
- Deborah Mauskopf Deliyannis, *Historiography in the Middle Ages* (Leiden: Brill, 2004). ISBN: 9004118810. Waldo: D116 .H575 2003. [Available as an e-book].
- Antonia Gransden, *Historical Writing in England*, 2 vols. (Ithaca: Cornell, 1974-82). Waldo: DA 1 .G75 1974.
- Jeff Rider, "'Wonder with With Fresh Wonder': Galbert the Writer and the Genesis of De Multro." In Jeff Rider and Alan V. Murray, eds. *Galbert of Bruges and the Historiography of Medieval Flanders*, 13-38 (Washington: Catholic University Press, 2009). Waldo: DH801.F46 G35 2009.
- Ian Wood, "Saint Wandrille and Its Historiography," in *Church and Chronicle in the Middle Ages: Essays Presented to John Taylor*, 1-14, edited by Ian Wood and G. R. Loud (London: Hambledon, 1991). Waldo: D116 C53 1991.
- R.C. Van Caenegem, *Introduction aux sources de l'histoire médiévale* (Turnhout: Brepols, 1997), ch 1, 21-80 ("sources narratives au sens strict"). Waldo Ref: D117 .C22x 1997.
- Van Houts, Elisabeth. *Medieval Memories: Men, Women and the Past, 700-1300*, 1-17 (Harlow: Pearson, 2001). ISBN: 0582369029. Waldo: CB351 .M3926 2001.
- A variety of primary sources in original language (distributed in class)

The following fascicles of the *Typologie des sources du Moyen Age* will be particularly relevant (Rare Books and Waldo reference; reprints are available):

- Michael McCormick, *Les annales du haut Moyen Age* (Turnhout: Brepols, 1975). *Typologie des sources du Moyen Age*, fasc. 14. Waldo Spec. Coll: Z6203 .T95 fasc.14.
- Karl Heidrich Krüger, *Die Universalchroniken* (Turnhout: Brepols, 1976). *Typologie des sources du Moyen Age*, fasc. 16. Waldo Spec. Coll: Z6203 .T95 fasc. 16.
- Guy Philippart, *Les légendiers latins et autres manuscrits hagiographiques* (Turnhout: Brepols, 1977). *Typologie des sources du Moyen Age*, fasc. 24-25. Waldo Spec. Coll: Z6203 .T95 fasc. 24-25.
- Michel Sot, *Gesta episcoporum, gesta abbatum* (Turnhout: Brepols, 1981). *Typologie des sources du Moyen Age*, fasc. 51. Waldo Spec. Coll: Z6203 .T95 fasc.51.
- Van Houts, Elisabeth, *Local and Regional Chronicles* (Turnhout: Brepols, 1995). *Typologie des sources du Moyen Age occidental*, fasc. 74. Waldo Spec. Coll: Z6203 .T95 fasc.74.

RECOMMENDED READINGS: See weekly recommendations in schedule below; consider purchasing the work about which you will be writing your précis.

COURSE FORMAT: The course will be conducted in weekly seminars, which will include extensive discussion, translation, and student presentations, as well as some instructor presentations in Unit I. Discussions will focus on assigned readings and sources for each week. Various written assignments will culminate in a research paper on primary source materials in their original language, chosen by the student in consultation with the instructor. During the latter part of term, the class will meet to review and critique drafts of the research papers.

GRADE COMPONENTS: Class participation, 20%; final paper, 40%; book précis, 10%, peer review of research papers, 10%; class presentations, 20%. *You must complete all elements of the course to receive a passing grade.* All late submissions will be penalized, in fairness to students

who complete the assignments in a timely fashion. The grade scale is as follows: 93-100 = A, 87-92 = BA, 83-86 = B, 77-82 = CB, 73-76 = C, 67-72 = DC, 60-67 = D, and less than 60 = F.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: Much of your grade will be determined by your efforts in our weekly meetings. Mere attendance during class hours will not receive credit towards participation, which should instead be indicated through vocal outbursts giving evidence of cognition; in other words, you must talk about your ideas, your reflections on the readings, and the comments of others in class. To be an effective participant, you will need to complete all readings and translations prior to class. A class that only meets once per week cannot be skipped, if you wish to receive a satisfactory grade. Attendance is mandatory, absences must be documented and excused (preferably in advance). More than one absence could result in a lower course grade. Class participation will count for 20% of the final grade.

BOOK PRÉCIS: In unit II, the students will write a short (2-3 page) analytic book précis of a recommended book and will explain the book in class (see schedule below). See attached directions on how to write the précis. These précis will count for 10% of the final grade.

CLASS PRESENTATIONS: At the end of Unit I, students will present on different genres of historical writing on Sep 30. This presentation will count for 10% of the final grade. During Unit II, each student will choose a week to lead in translating the source(s) for the day; the translation leader should expect to help others with difficult passages and explain the selection. Leading translation discussion will count for 10% of the final grade. Students will also present the findings of their research paper in summary form during the last class.

RESEARCH PAPER: In consultation with the instructor, students will select a medieval historical work as the focus of their research paper. Students will prepare a preliminary list of possible sources on Sept 23rd. Students will submit a brief research proposal with attached bibliography of sources and readings, due Oct 7th. Students will produce a full working draft of their paper, due Nov 11th, and will conduct peer review of each other's papers on Nov 18th in class. The narrative portion of the final paper should be no less than 20 pages in length (with apparatus as necessary) and the revised paper is due on the last day of class, Dec 9th. This paper will count for 40% of the final grade.

Students with Disabilities: You should register your disability with Disabled Student Resources and Services, (269-387-2116 or www.dsrs.wmich.edu). You should discuss any accommodation with them and they will give you a card listing the approved accommodation, which you should show to the instructor. This process should be completed by the end of the second week of class.

Late Work: Make-up exams will be given only for valid, university-approved written excuses, at the instructor's discretion. Make-up exams must be taken as soon as possible after the original test, preferably the day the student returns to class, at a time chosen by the instructor (usually my office hours). Unexcused late papers will be penalized two full letter grades per day they are late (e.g., a "B" paper will become a "D" paper).

Email/IP Policy: Students should use their WMU email address for all correspondence related to this course. Students will not reproduce any portion of course materials (including notes on lecture) without the instructor's express written permission.

READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

The course materials are a combination of primary source texts and related secondary works. The “Sources” listed below are short selections in the original language (usually Latin) for close reading and translation in class; “Sources in Translation” are usually larger selections of the same work in English, which provide context for the original language material. “Readings” are descriptive, methodological, or theoretical works useful for analyzing the sources.

Unit I: Medieval Histories—Definitions, Models, and Types

Week 1 (Sep 9) Defining *Historia*

Sources: Isidore, *Etymologies*, ed. W.M. Lindsay, *Isidori hispalensis episcopi etymologiarum sive originum libri xx*, reprint (Clarendon: Oxford University Press, 1962) 1, I.xl-xliv “De Historia” and V.xxviii . [Available electronically in CETEDOC.]

Sources in Translation: Isidore of Seville, *The Etymologies of Isidore of Seville*, trans. Stephen Barney et al., (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006), 39 (introduction to “Grammar”), 66-67 (fabula, historia, argumentum), 125-33 (times). [Available as e-book through WMU.]

In-Class Readings: (*definitions*) Charles Du Cange, *Glossarium mediae et infimae latinitatis* 4, new edition (Paris: Librairie des sciences et des arts, 1938), 209-10, *historia*; J.F. Niermeyer et al., *Mediae latinitatis lexicon minus*, 2 vols. (Leiden: Brill, 2002) 1:640, *historia, historialiter*. (*types*) R.C. Van Caenegem, *Introduction aux sources* (table of contents). [Class handouts]

Readings: R.C. Van Caenegem, *Introduction aux sources de l'histoire médiévale* (Turnhout: Brepols, 1997), ch 1, 21-80 (“sources narratives au sens strict”). Waldo Ref: D117 .C22x 1997. [Note: A less complete English version from 1977 also exists in Reference. Special Collections also has copies. You may read the introduction in English, but you must consult the most recent French version for bibliography.]

Online Resources: Become familiar with these resources in the first week of class

- 1) Du Cange in PDF form, consult Stanford’s *Medieval and Modern Thought Text Digitization Project* <http://standish.stanford.edu/bin/page?forward=home>
- 2) Perseus Latin Dictionary (based on Lewis and Short) <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/>
- 3) The following Brepols databases (available via WMU Library)
 - a. eMGH (Monumenta Germaniae Historica)
 - b. Library of Latin Texts Series A and B
 - c. International Medieval Bibliography
 - d. Database of Latin Dictionaries
- 4) Chicago Manual of Style Online (available via WMU Library)

Recommended: Bernard Guenée, *Histoire et culture historique dans l'occident médiévale* (Paris: Aubier-Montaigne, 1980), 259-69 (maps of diffusion of historical works). Herbert Grundmann, *Geschichtsschreibung im Mittelalter: Gattungen-Epochen-Eigenart* (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 1957), 4-5 (table of contents).

Week 2 (Sep 16) Medieval Models I: Chronicles and Gesta

Sources: *Gesta abbatum Fontanellensium*, i.5-7. In *Chronique des abbés de Fontenelle (Saint-Wandrille)*, ed. and trans. Pascal Pradié, 10-25 (Paris: Belles Lettres, 1999).

Readings: Rosamond McKitterick, *Perceptions of the Past in the Early Middle Ages* (entire). Ian Wood, “Saint Wandrille and Its Historiography,” in *Church and Chronicle in the Middle Ages: Essays Presented to John Taylor*, 1-14, edited by Ian Wood and G. R. Loud (London: Hambledon, 1991).

Recommended: Van Houts, *Local and Regional Chronicles*.

Week 3 (Sep 23) Medieval Models II: Annals

Sources: Philippe Lauer, ed., *Les Annales de Flodoard* (Paris: Picard, 1905), para 1-6. [919 and career of Charles the Simple to 924]. *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, F version, a. 694. In *The Anglo Saxon Chronicle: A Collaborative Edition 8: MS. F: The Domitian Bilingual*, ed. Peter S. Baker, 40-44 (Cambridge: D.S. Brewer, 2000).

Sources in Translation: Bachrach and Fanning, eds., *The Annals of Flodoard of Reims, 919-966* (entire).

Readings: Sarah Foot, “Finding the Meaning of Form: Narrative in Annals and Chronicles.” In Partner, *Writing Medieval History*, 88-108.

Recommended: Michael McCormick, *Les annales du haut Moyen Age*.

Preliminary list of possible historical narrative sources for final paper, with full citations of editions including WMU call number (no less than 3) due today in class.

Week 4 (Sep 30) Modern Approaches to Medieval Historical Writings

Readings (*approaches*): Stock, *Listening for the Text* (entire); Van Houts, Elisabeth. “Medieval Memories.” In *Medieval Memories*, ed. Elisabeth Van Houts, 1-17; Nancy Partner, “The Post-Traditional Middle Ages: The Distant Past through Contemporary Eyes.” In Partner, *Writing Medieval History*, xi-xvi.

Readings (*types*): Deliyannis, *Medieval Historiography*, introduction, 1-13 and selected chapters [on reserve]. There are four chapters on early medieval historiography (universal history, national/ethnic history, local/institutional history, and biography/hagiography) and eight on later medieval historiography (the same four, plus dynastic, urban, contemporary, and legendary history). Students will be assigned one of these eight topic areas, read the relevant chapter(s) and report their findings in class.

Recommended: Examine fascicles in *Typologie des sources du Moyen Age* listed above.

Class Presentations on Types of History

Unit II: History and History-Writing in High Middle Ages (1000-1200)

Week 5 (Oct 7): Regional Histories, Origin Stories and the Norman Myth

Sources: Willaim of Jumièges, *Gesta Normannorum ducum*, ed. Jean Marx (Paris: Picard, 1914), 132-6 (book 7, ch XIII [XXXI]; account of Norman Conquest) and 191-4 (interpolations of Orderic Vitalis). Waldo: DC611.N842 G8x.

Sources in Translation: Elisabeth M.C. Van Houts, ed. and trans., *The Gesta Normannorum ducum of William of Jumièges, Orderic Vitalis, and Robert of Torigni*, 2 vols. (Oxford: Clarendon, 1992-5). [Selections] Waldo: DA190 .W71413 1992.

Readings: Leah Shopkow, *History and Community* (entire); Robert M. Stein, "Literary Criticism and the Evidence for History." In Partner, *Writing Medieval History*, 67-87. Gransden, *Historical Writing in England*, 94-97 (William of Jumièges).

Recommended: Samantha Kahn Herrick, *Imagining the Sacred Past: Hagiography and Power in Early Normandy* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2007). Waldo: BR255 .H47 2007. Emily Albu, *The Normans in Their Histories: Propaganda, Myth, and Subversion* (Woodbridge: Boydell, 2001). Waldo: D148 .A59 2001. Any 3 articles in Gerd Althoff et al., eds., *Medieval Concepts of the Past: Ritual, Memory, Historiography* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002). Waldo: D13 .M3656 2002.

Research Proposal (1 page) and bibliography of sources and readings due

Week 6 (Oct 14): History as mundane, miracle, and marvel

Sources: Eadmer, *Historia novorum in Anglia*, ed. Martin Rule (London: Longman, 1884), [preface plus selections from book 5, pp. 259-262]. Rolls Series, 81. Waldo: DA25 .B5 no.81.

Sources in Translation: Geoffrey Bosanquet, trans. *Eadmer's History of recent events in England* (London: Cresset Press, 1964), 1-69 (preface, book 1). Waldo: DA190 .E213 1965.

Readings: Gransden, *Historical Writing in England*, 136-42 (Eadmer).

Recommended: Southern, *Saint Anselm: A Portrait in a Landscape* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990). R.W. Southern, *Saint Anselm and His Biographer: A Study of Monastic Life and Thought, 1059-c.1130* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1963). Kathleen Quirk, "Men, Women and Miracles in Normandy, 1050-1150" in Van Houts, *Medieval Memories*, 53-71 AND Carl Watkins, "Memories of the Marvellous in the Anglo-Norman Realm" in Van Houts, *Medieval Memories*, 92-112.

Week 7 (Oct 21) Contemporary or eyewitness history

Sources: Galbert of Bruges, *De multro, traditione, et occisione gloriosi Karoli comitis Flandriarum*, ed. Jeff Rider, *Corpus christianorum, continuatio medievalis*, 131 (Turnhout: Brepols, 1994), vii-xix (introduction), 2-11, 35-7 (prologue, ch. 1-3, ch. 15). Waldo: BR60 .C492x v.131.

Sources in Translation: Galbert of Bruges, *The Murder of Charles the Good*, trans. J.B. Ross (entire).

Readings: Jeff Rider, “‘Wonder with Fresh Wonder’: Galbert the Writer and the Genesis of *De Multro*.” In Rider and Murray, *Galbert of Bruges*, 13-38. Nancy Partner, “The Hidden Self: Psychoanalysis and the Textual Unconscious. In Partner, *Writing Medieval History*, 42-64.

Recommended: Jeff Rider, *God's Scribe: The Historiographical Art of Galbert of Bruges* (Washington: Catholic University of America Press, 2001). Waldo: DH801.F46 R53 2001. Karine Ugé, *Creating the Monastic Past in Medieval Flanders* (Woodbridge: Boydell, 2005). Waldo: BX2676.F53 U38 2005. Renée Nip, "Gendered Memories from Flanders" in Van Houts, *Medieval Memories*, 113-131 with any 2 articles in Rider and Murray, eds., *Galbert of Bruges*.

Week 8 (Oct 28) Dynastic history

Sources: Lluís Barrau Dihigo and Jaume Massó Torrents, *Gesta comitum Barcinonensium* (Barcelona, 1925), 3-11. (Chs. 1-8, Genealogy of Counts).

Sources in Translation: *Gesta comitum Barcinonensium* (entire), Trans. Bruce L. Venarde (handout).

Readings: Georges Duby, "French Genealogical Literature" in Georges Duby, *The Chivalrous Society* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1981), 149-57; Nathaniel L. Taylor, "Inheritance of Power in the House of Guifred the Hairy: Contemporary Perspectives on the Formation of a Dynasty," in Robert Berkhofer et al., eds. *The Experience of Power in Medieval Europe* (Brookfield: Ashgate, 2005), 129-51.

Recommended: Peter Linehan, *History and Historians of Medieval Spain* (Clarendon: Oxford University Press, 1993). Waldo: DP96 .L56 1993. Matthew Innes, "Keeping it in the Family: Women and Aristocratic Memory, 700-1200" in Van Houts, *Medieval Memories*, 17-35 AND Rose Walker, "Images of Royal and Aristocratic Burial in Northern Spain, c. 950-c. 1250," in Van Houts, *Medieval Memories*, 150-172.

Peer Review Groups determined in class.

Week 9 (Nov 4) Deeds of Churchmen

Sources: William of Malmesbury, *Gesta Pontificum Anglorum*, ed. N.E.S.A. Hamilton, *Willelmi Malmesbrenensis...* (Rolls Series, 52), 39-46, 62-66 (Lanfranc and dispute over primacy) and 256-66 (Disputes of 1108 and 1119-20). Waldo: DA75 B5 no. 52.

Sources in Translation: William of Malmesbury, *The Deeds of the Bishops of England*, trans. David Prest, 1-90 (prologue and Book 1: Kent). The rest is optional but recommended.

Reading: Monika Otter, “Functions of Fiction in Historical Writing.” In Partner, *Writing Medieval History*, 109-132. Gransden, *Historical Writing in England*, 166-85 (William of Malmesbury).

Recommended: Nancy F. Partner, *Serious Entertainments: The Writing of History in Twelfth-Century England* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1977). ISBN: 0226647633. R. M. Thomson, *William of Malmesbury*, rev ed. (Woodbridge: Boydell, 2003), 1-136 (ch. 1-6). ISBN: 1843830302. Any 3 articles in Paul Magdalino, ed. *Perceptions of the Past in Twelfth-Century Europe* (London: Hambledon, 1992). ISBN: 1-85285-066-3.

Week 10 (Nov 11) Lives of Rulers

Sources: Suger, *Vie de Louis VI le Gros*, ed. Henri Waquet (Paris: Belles Lettres, 1964), 218-31 and 240-50, ch 28 and 30. (German invasion of 1124, Death of Charles the Good), [Note: May be changed to more modern Gasparri edition, if available.]

Sources in Translation: Richard C. Cusimano and John Moorhead, trans. *The Deeds of Louis the Fat* (Washington: Catholic University of America Press, 1992). (entire)

Readings: Jay Rubenstein, "Biography and Autobiography in the Middle Ages." In Partner, *Writing Medieval History*, 22-41.

Complete Draft of Research Papers due

Make enough copies for members of your peer review group and Prof. Berkhofer.

Week 11 (Nov 18): (Re)Writing Histories

Written Peer Review due. Discussion of drafts conducted in class.

Week 12 (Nov 25): No Class—Thanksgiving

Unit III: Historical Writing Before and After the High Middle Ages

Week 14 (Dec 2): Looking Backward: Problems of Memory

Readings: Patrick Geary, *Phantoms of Remembrance: Memory and Oblivion at the End of the First Millennium* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1996).

Recommended: Mary Carruthers, *The Book of Memory: A Study of Memory in Medieval Culture*, 2d ed. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008). Any 3 articles in Van Houts, *Medieval Memories*.

Week 15 (Dec 9): Looking Forward: Triumph of the Vernacular

Readings: Chris Given-Wilson, *Chronicles: The Writing of History in Medieval England* (entire).

Recommended: Gabrielle Spiegel, *Romancing the Past: The Rise of Vernacular Prose Historiography in Thirteenth-Century France*, reprint (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1995). Any other articles in Partner, *Writing Medieval History*.

FINAL PAPER DUE in class