

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School / Department:	CASS
Programme:	History
FHEQ Level:	5
Course Title:	Monks of War: Military Orders and Religious Fighters from the Middle Ages to Today
Course Code:	HST 5840
Course Leader:	Rosanna Grazianni
Student Engagement Hours:	120 (standard 3- credit BA course)
Lectures:	45
Seminar / Tutorials:	Click here to enter text.
Independent / Guided Learning:	75
Semester:	Fall, Spring, Summer
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

ITALIAN STUDY CENTRES ONLY. This course focuses upon the development of Military Orders in the Holy Land and the Christian West against the social, cultural and political background of the Mediterranean Sea. The key concepts of Christian pilgrimage, monasticism and knighthood in the early Medieval West are explored. The history of the Christian Military Orders are covered – their creation in the aftermath of the First Crusade, their role on the defence of the Kingdom of Jerusalem and their deeds after the fall of the last Christian stronghold in Palestine. Given its popularity particular attention will be given to the Trial and Dissolution of the Order of the Templars in the 14th century. Focus will also be put on the rise of the Hospitallers and the significance of the imperial states they created in Rhodes and Malta and their role in the defence of Europe against Ottoman might. Where possible the class will be complemented by relevant visits to sites such as the Hospitaller's palace in Rome.

Prerequisites:

HST 3200 World Cultural History or GEP 4180 Research & Writing II

Aims and Objectives:

This course aims to discuss the most significant events, personalities, institutions and periods that have impacted the development of the three main Western Military Orders,

namely the Templars, the Hospitallers and the Teutonic Knights, between the 12th and the 19th centuries. In doing so it will consider a range of sources, debates and methodologies, including their relationship between Christianity and Medieval society. The course will show the importance, politically and culturally, of these groups, and identify the long-term significance of the religious-imperial nexus by way of a comparison with another religious-imperial state, namely ISIS in the current Middle East.

Programme Outcomes:

5A(i); 5B(i); 5B (iii); 5C(ii);5C(iii); 5D(ii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at:

<http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-schools/academic-registry/program-and-course-specifications.aspx>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a detailed understanding of the origins, periods, personalities, developments and changes which impacted the rise of these Military Orders;
- Analyse critically selected topics such as: the Military Orders' role in the defence of the Holy Land; the Teutonic Order's career in the Baltic; the Military Orders' role in Spain; the trial of the Templars; and the importance of the Hospitallers in Rhodes and Malta;
- Demonstrate a critical awareness of modern popular cultural representations of the military Orders, in film, literature, gaming and on the far right, as well as non-Christian varieties of religious empire makers, such as Islamic State;
- Recognise, utilise and critique the varying historical sources and documents which help us to understand the evolution of these Orders.

Indicative Content:

- The imperial Christian Military Orders (including the Knights Templars, Hospitallers and Teutonic Knights)
- Relations with Islam, Byzantium, other Christian states and the Papacy
- The Decline of the Templars
- Rhodes, Malta and the Ottoman Empire
- The End of the Rhodes/Road?
- Non-western religious-imperial states
- Contemporary relevance from ISIS to popular culture

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: <http://www.richmond.ac.uk/admitted-students/>

Teaching Methodology:

In-class lectures with visuals

Assigned readings

In-class seminars, videos and discussions

On-site visits and guest lectures

Indicative Text(s):

Morton, N.E. 2013. *The Medieval Military Orders: 1120—1314*. Harlow

Linehan, P & Nelson, J.L., 2003. *The Medieval World*. Routledge.

Sumption, J., 2003. **The Age of Pilgrimage: The Medieval Journey to God**. Hidden Spring.

Journals

See syllabus

Web Sites

Click here to enter text.

See syllabus for complete reading list

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry

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