

Degree programme	Type	Course
History	FB	1

Contact lecturer

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Teaching staff

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Group languages

You can consult this information at the [end](#) of the document.

Prerequisites

No

Objectives

The course provides a overview of the various stages, key processes, and major events that took place during the Early Middle Ages, spanning from the 5th to the 9th century. This is approached through multiple thematic perspectives of historical science-social, political, economic, ideological, and cultural-and through both theoretical and practical activities.

The primary objective of the course is to equip students with the appropriate tools to acquire foundational knowledge of the historical framework of the Early Middle Ages, which will serve as a basis for the study of many subsequent subjects within the degree program.

All course content will be addressed with sensitivity to gender-related perspectives.

Learning outcomes

- CM14 (Integrate new methods of historical analysis into the study of the Middle Ages.) Integrate new methods of historical analysis into the study of the Middle Ages.
- CM15 (Apply criteria of ethical responsibility and respect for fundamental rights, diversity and democratic values both in the construction of stories about the Middle Ages in academic and informative contexts.) Apply criteria of ethical responsibility and respect for fundamental rights, diversity and

democratic values both in the construction of stories about the Middle Ages in academic and informative contexts.

- CM16 (Examine inequalities based on gender and sex in the study of the Middle Ages.) Examine inequalities based on gender and sex in the study of the Middle Ages.
- KM21 (Describe the political, social, economic, cultural and ideological events, and historical processes of the Middle Ages in their different regional and temporal contexts.) Describe the political, social, economic, cultural and ideological events, and historical processes of the Middle Ages in their different regional and temporal contexts.
- KM22 (Recognise the different types of information sources and analysis techniques to generate historical and archaeological data on the Middle Ages.) Recognise the different types of information sources and analysis techniques to generate historical and archaeological data on the Middle Ages.
- KM23 (Recognise the main historiographical trends of medievalism from a critical point of view.) Recognise the main historiographical trends of medievalism from a critical point of view.
- KM24 (Relate the recent contributions of historiography on the Middle Ages with those made by other disciplines.) Relate the recent contributions of historiography on the Middle Ages with those made by other disciplines.
- SM19 (Use historical sources and case studies to periodise historical accounts relating to the Middle Ages.) Use historical sources and case studies to periodise historical accounts relating to the Middle Ages.
- SM20 (Use the appropriate register in the preparation of written work or oral presentations in the field of medieval history.) Use the appropriate register in the preparation of written work or oral presentations in the field of medieval history.
- SM21 (Apply critical thinking and reasoning in the field of medieval history in the case study.) Apply critical thinking and reasoning in the field of medieval history in the case study.

Contents

1. The Middle Ages: Concepts, Conventions, Tools and Methodologies
2. Continuity and Change: The Transition from the Roman World to the Medieval World (3rd-5th Centuries)
3. Barbarian Migrations and the First Germanic Kingdoms (5th-6th Centuries)
4. The Eastern Roman Empire up to the Expansion of Justinian (5th-6th Centuries)
5. The Origins and Expansion of Islam and the First Islamic States (7th-8th Centuries)
6. The Carolingian Empire: From the Frankish Kingdom to Dynastic Crisis (7th-9th Centuries)
7. The Medieval Byzantine Empire: From the Heraclian Dynasty to the East-West Schism (7th-9th Centuries)
8. The Political Fragmentation of Islam and the Process of Islamisation (8th-9th Centuries)
9. The Carolingian Manorial System and the Road to Feudalism (7th-9th Centuries)

Learning activities and methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Tutorial sessions for the preparation of assignments (oral and written) and for the preparation of theoretical and practical content	20	0.8	CM14, CM15, CM16, KM23, KM24
Seminars and other activities guided by lecturers	15	0.6	CM14, CM15, CM16, KM22, KM23, SM19, SM20, SM21
Theoretical classes	21	0.84	CM14, CM15, CM16, KM21, KM22, KM23, KM24, SM21
Individual study	48	1.92	CM14, CM15, CM16, KM21, KM22, KM23, KM24

- Directed activities:
- Lectures delivered by the teaching staff.
- Seminar sessions and practical classes led by instructors. These practical sessions may take place outside the UAB, in the form of visits to museums, monuments, or cultural landscapes.
- Close reading of texts and interpretation of maps, graphs, tables, and archaeological documents.
- Supervised activities:
- Tutorial sessions aimed at guiding students in the preparation of assignments (both oral and written) and in the study of theoretical and practical content.
- Independent activities:
- Individual study.
- Completion of assignments and analytical commentaries.

At the beginning of the semester, the teaching staff will inform students of the scheduled office hours for face-to-face tutorials throughout the term, in order to support them in the preparation of assignments and the overall study of both theoretical and practical course content.

Annotation: within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Assessment

Continuous assessment activities

Title	Weight	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Synthesis test 2	30%	1.5	0.06	CM16, KM21, KM22, KM23, KM24, SM20
Synthesis test 1	30%	1.5	0.06	CM16, KM21, KM22, KM23, KM24, SM20
Reading Control	25%	2	0.08	CM16, KM21, KM22, KM23, KM24, SM19, SM21
Practical work	15%	11	0.44	CM14, CM15, CM16, KM21, KM22, KM23, KM24, SM19, SM20, SM21

The assessment system will be based on the completion of four activities. Below are the types of assessment and the percentage each contributes to the overall grade:

1. Synthesis test 1: 30%
2. Synthesis test 2: 30%
3. Reading comprehension test: 25%
4. Practical work: 15%

At the time of each evaluative activity, the lecturer will inform students (via Moodle) of the procedure and the date for reviewing the grades.

To pass the course, students must achieve an overall average mark of 5 or higher across all assessment activities. Furthermore, to calculate the average, it is mandatory to pass at least one of the two synthesis tests with a minimum mark of 5. Students who fail both synthesis tests must sit the resit exam, regardless of their weighted average. Any activity that is not completed or submitted will be graded as 0 for the purpose of calculating the final average.

Students may earn up to an additional 0.5 points on their final average by attending seminars, conferences,

congresses, or other activities previously approved by the course instructors, provided they are directly related to the subject matter. Attendance must be certified and a brief report on the activity submitted. The teaching staff will provide specific guidelines at the beginning of the semester. These 0.5 extra points will only be applied if the course has been passed and may not be used to reach the minimum passing grade of 5 or to avoid the resit exam. Likewise, the final course grade may not exceed 10.

Students may access the resit examination provided that all required assessment activities have been submitted or completed within the deadlines set by the teaching staff. No new activity may be submitted for the first time during the resit period.

To participate in the resit process, the student must have been previously assessed in activities that amount to at least two-thirds of the total assessment weight.

In order to be eligible for the resit, students must have obtained an average mark of at least 3.5 across all assessment activities. Students who do not reach this threshold will not be permitted to take the resit exam.

The resit for the synthesis tests will consist of a written exam covering the entire course content and will take place on the date scheduled by the faculty.

The maximum grade that can be obtained in any resit activity is 5. Resits will not be considered an opportunity to improve marks.

A student will receive a "Not Assessable" grade if they have not completed at least two-thirds of the assessment activities.

The schedule for assessment activities may not be altered except in exceptional, justified circumstances. Erasmus students who wish to take an exam in advance must submit an official request from their home university justifying the reason.

If a student commits any academic irregularity that may significantly alter the outcome of an assessment, the activity in question will receive a grade of 0, regardless of any disciplinary proceedings. In cases of multiple irregularities within the same course, the final grade will be 0.

Any form of misconduct (e.g. plagiarism, copying, use of unauthorised devices such as digital watches, smartphones, headphones, or similar items) will result in a grade of 0 for the relevant activity, which will not be eligible for resit.

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies is strictly prohibited in any phase of this course. Any work found to contain AI-generated content will be considered a breach of academic integrity, will receive a grade of 0, will not be resit-eligible, and may incur further disciplinary action in severe cases.

All submitted work will be evaluated on spelling accuracy, clarity of expression, and proper writing. Serious deficiencies in these areas may result in failure to pass the course.

During the semester, a voluntary visit to an archive, museum, or other site related to the course content may be organised. Participation is optional and will not influence the final grade. Students must cover any expenses incurred (e.g., transport or entrance fees). Details of the activity will be provided by the teaching staff during the term.

This subject does not incorporate single assessment

Bibliography

Specific Bibliography on the Early Middle Ages

- Brown, Peter: *The World of Late Antiquity: AD 150-750 (World of Art)*. Londres: Thames and Hudson

Ltd., 2024.

- Faci Lacasta, Javier: *Introducción al mundo bizantino*. Madrid: Editorial Síntesis, 1996.
- Feller, Laurent: *Campesinos y señores en la Edad Media: siglos VIII-XV*. València: Publicacions de la Universitat de València, 2015.
- Fiore, Alessio i Poloni, Alma: *L'economia medievale. Un profilo storico (secoli V-XV)*. Roma: Carocci Editori, 2024.
- García Sanjuán, Alejandro: *Las sociedades islámicas clásicas (siglos VII-XV)*. Madrid: Editorial Síntesis, 2022.
- Halsall, Guy: *Las migraciones bárbaras y el occidente romano, 376-568*. València: Publicacions de la Universitat de València, 2012.
- Haywood, John: *Los Hombres del Norte: la saga vikinga (793-1241)*. Barcelona: Ariel, 2016.
- Heather, Peter: *Cristiandad. El triunfo de una religión*. Barcelona: Crítica, 2024.
- Herrin, Judith: *Bizancio: el imperio que hizo posible la Europa Moderna*. Barcelona: Editorial Debate, 2022.
- Kennedy, Hugh: *Las grandes conquistas árabes*. Barcelona: Grupo Planeta, 2007.
- Morsel, Joseph: *La aristocracia medieval: el dominio social en Occidente, siglos V-XV*. València: Publicacions de la Universitat de València, 2008.
- Sanz Serrano, Rosa: *Las migraciones bárbaras y la creación de los primeros reinos de Occidente*. Madrid: Editorial Síntesis, 1999.
- Toubert, Pierre: *Europa en su primer crecimiento. De Carlomagano al año mil*. València: Publicacions de la Universitat de València, 2006.
- Wickham, Chris: *Una historia nueva de la Alta Edad Media. Europa y el mundo mediterráneo. 400-800*. Barcelona: Editorial Crítica, 2001.
- Wickham, Chris: *El legado de Roma. Una historia de Europa de 400 a 1000*. Barcelona: Ediciones de Pasado y Presente, 2014.

Supplementary Bibliography (General Works and Textbooks on the Middle Ages)

- Bartlett, Robert: *Fire and Water: The Medieval Judicial Ordeal*. Oxford (UK): Oxford University Press, 2014.
- Blockmans, Wim i Hoppenbrouwers, Peter: *Introduction to Medieval Europe 300-1500*. Abingdon (UK): Routledge, 2023.
- Boucheron, Patrick, Denis Menjot i Marc Boone: *Historia de la Europa Urbana. II. La ciudad medieval*. València: Publicacions de la Universitat de València, 2010.
- Bresh, Henri, Pierre Guichard i Robert Mantran: *Europa y el Islam en la Edad Media*. Barcelona: Editorial Crítica, 2001.
- Contamine, Philippe, Bompaigne, Marc, Lebecq, Stéphane i Sarrazin, Jean-Luc: *La economía medieval*. Madrid: Akal, 2000.
- Donado Vara, Julián i Ana Echevarría Arsuaga: *Historia Medieval I (siglos V-XII)*. Madrid: UNED, 2014.
- García de Cortázar y Ruiz de Aguirre i José Ángel Sesma Muñoz: *Manual de Historia Medieval*. Madrid: Alianza Editorial, 2008 (quarta reimpressió, 2012).
- Ladero Quesada, Miguel Ángel: *Historia de la Edad Media. Siglos IV a XV*. Madrid: Editorial Dykinson, 2025.
- Salrach i Marès, Josep Maria: *Entre Roma i el Renaixement. Història i textos de l'Occident Medieval*. Vic: Eumo, 2002.
- Wickham, Chris: *Europa en la Edad Media. Una nueva interpretación*. Barcelona: Editorial Crítica, 2017.

Reference and Research Tools Bibliography

- Bonnassie, Pierre: *Vocabulario básico de la historia medieval*. Barcelona: Editorial Crítica, 1983.
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- Salrach i Marès, Josep Maria: *Entre Roma i el Renaixement. Història i textos de l'Occident Medieval*.

Vic: Eumo, 2002.

Guidelines for Citation and Bibliographic References:

<https://www.uab.cat/web/estudia-i-investiga/com-citar-i-elaborar-la-bibliografia-1345708785665.html>

Software

No

Course groups and languages

The information provided is provisional until November 30. After this date, you will be able to consult the language of each group through this [link](#). To access the information, you will need to enter the course CODE

Type of teaching	Group	Language	Semester	Shift
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	2	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	2	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	3	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	3	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed