Course Proposal  
**HIS 5444 - Seminar on Church and Society in Medieval Europe**

1. **Catalogue Description**  
   a) HIS 5444  
   b) Church and Society in Medieval Europe  
   c) 3-0-3  
   d) S  
   e) Med Church & Soc  
   f) Introduction to medieval Europe from the perspective of the Church  
   g) Graduate status or permission of the instructor  
   h) Spring 2007

2. **Student Learning Objectives and Evaluation**  
   a) **Student Learning objectives**  
      Students will learn to:  
      (1) describe the historiography of medieval history, Renaissance to present;  
      (2) develop the skills of textual criticism, through analysis of selected medieval sources in translation;  
      (3) compare the approaches of major scholarly traditions, e.g. constitutional and political history, social and economic history, cultural history, archaeology, literary studies;  
      (4) debate key concepts, such as feudalism, chivalry, crusading, Papal monarchy, nobility, agricultural and commercial revolutions, heresy, kingship, peasants, urban development and universities, role of the arts and spirituality;  
      (5) learn the outline of the overall narrative framework A.D. 1000-1450;  
      (6) develop their ability to summarize and present assigned source materials and scholarly analyses within the seminar;  
      (7) research a topic for a 15-30 page paper; discuss bibliography and research progress with the seminar as a whole, and respond to presentations of others.

   b) **Assessment**  
      Evaluation will be based on the following criteria:  
      * Class participation (25%) Short in-class exercises of source interpretation (objectives 2, 6), homework assignments focused on historiography (1), differing scholarly traditions (3, 4), and historical narrative and chronology (5) will measure student achievement over the course of the semester.  
      * The Research Project (50%) includes presentation to the whole seminar of a preliminary bibliography, and discussion of the historical issues and methodology associated with the topic (1, 2, 3, 4, 6), as well as final submission of a 15-30 page research paper.  
      * Final Exam (25%) will test overall knowledge acquired (1, 3, 4, 5) and skills of marshaling historical facts with well-integrated arguments.

   c) This course is not technology-delivered.  
   d) This course is eligible for graduate credit.  
   e) This course is writing-intensive. Most of the evaluation is based on written work, as detailed above.

3. **Outline of the Course**  
   a) This course will be taught over 15 weeks, meeting once a week for 2 ½ hours.
b) **Schedule**

Week 1: Introduction to historiography. Medieval society and world-view ca. AD 1000. In class source exercise and discussion.

Week 2: Galbert of Bruges and “Feudalism” in the 12th century

Week 3: Finish Galbert of Bruges. First writing exercise handed in. Approval of research projects


Week 5: Gies: *Medieval City*. Discussion: medieval towns (individual reports)

Week 6: Medieval city: finish

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**Initial project bibliographies and discussion**

Week 7: *Medieval Village*. Discussion: agriculture, rural lordship and peasant society.

Week 8: Little, *Religious Poverty I* Discussion: Medieval Papacy, church and society from the Gregorian Reform to Innocent III.


Week 12: Montaillou. Catastrophes of the 14th century.

Week 13: Michelet, *Joan of Arc* Discussion: shifting social & political, religious & social boundaries in the Late Middle Ages.

Week 14: Presentation of student seminar reports

Week 15: Student Seminar Reports.

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b) **N/A.**

4) **Rationale**

   a) A seminar on this theme has been taught since 1995 under the number 5400, Topics in European History. This course is being added as a permanent offering within the history program.

   b) This is a graduate-level reading seminar. The History Department’s Traditional M.A. requires students to take seminars in both American and European topics; this course is fundamental to understanding European history in the long perspective, and its historiographical aspects complement approaches to this and methodological matters in other graduate courses.

   c) No similarity to existing courses.

   d) This seminar will serve as an approved elective for the Master of Arts in History program.

5) **Implementation**

   a) This seminar will be taught by Bailey K. Young. It might also be taught by Joshua Birk.

   b) No additional costs to students.

   c) Sample Textbooks:

E. LeRoi Ladurie, Montaillou (Random, 1979)
Lester Little, Religious Poverty and Mendicant Orders
Jules Michelet, Joan of Arc (Ann Arbor, 1957)
Joseph Strayer, The Albigensian Crusades (re-edition 1978)

6. No community college course will be judged equivalent.

7. Date approved by History Department. Jan 30, 2006

8. Date approved by the CAHCC Feb. 15, 2006

9. Date approved by CGS Sept. 5, 2006