

History UG

Semester: 2				
Programme : History				
Course : Political, Social, Economic and Cultural Developments in Medieval Europe				
Paper code: C1HS230221T			Credits: 4	
Hours/week : 4				
Category: Core/MDC/SEC/VAC : Core (Major)				
Theory / Practical / Composite: Theory				
No of Modules : 2				
Course Overview: This syllabus offers a deep dive into the "Long Middle Ages," tracing the transformation of Europe from the ashes of the Roman Empire to the vibrant cultural awakening of the 12th century. You'll explore the tension between the sword and the cross, examining how Charlemagne built an empire, how the Crusades reshaped the world, and how feudalism structured daily life. Beyond politics, the course highlights the grit of medieval economics—from the rise of guilds to the revival of trade—and the intellectual sparks found in early universities. Finally, we peel back the layers of medieval culture to reveal the artistic triumphs and the often-overlooked roles of women in this foundational era of Western history.				
Course Outcome:				
1. Identify key historical milestones, including the Treaty of Verdun, major Crusades, and the reigns of pivotal figures like Charlemagne and Gregory the Great.				
2. Explain the socio-economic foundations of the feudal system and the evolution of the Papacy as a central political and religious authority.				
3. Relate the impacts of external invasions (Norse, Saracen, Magyar) to the subsequent decentralization of power and the rise of regional monarchies.				
4. Distinguish between the various causes of the 12th-century Renaissance, examining the interplay between scholasticism, trade revival, and demographic shifts.				
5. Assess the legacy of feudalism and the varied depictions of women in medieval literature and art to critique the social hierarchies of the era.				
6. Formulate a comprehensive historical argument regarding the transition of Europe from a fragmented post-Roman territory to a structured, culturally distinct civilization.				
Prerequisites: <i>Basic knowledge about any prior course</i>				
SYLLABUS				
UNIT/Module	CONTENT	HOURS or NUMBER OF CLASSES	CO Mapping	COGNITIVE LEVEL
I.	1: From The Fall of Rome to the Carolingian Empire (6 Lectures) 1) The Fall of the Roman empire and its aftermath 2) The Carolingian Empire to	18	CO1 CO2 CO3 CO4 CO5 CO6	K1,K2,K3,K4.K5,K6

	<p>the Treaty of Verdun – an overview</p> <p>3) Charlemagne as a ruler, his coronation and its significance</p>			
	<p>2: From the Norse attacks to the 13th century (6 Lectures)</p> <p>1) Norse, Saracen and Magyar attacks and their impact</p> <p>2) Political structures in medieval Europe – from the German empire to the rise of regional monarchies.</p>			
	<p>3: Changes and Developments in Christianity and related movements (6 Lectures)</p> <p>1) The Papacy from Gregory the Great to the 13th century</p> <p>2) The Crusades – causes and background, major events, impact and aftermath.</p> <p>3) Monasticism, from Benedict to Cluny and beyond.</p>			
II.	<p>1: Feudalism and Feudal society (6 Lectures)</p> <p>1) Definitions, overview of socio-economic features</p> <p>2) Decay of feudalism – major issues and its legacy</p> <p>3) Women in feudalism</p>	18	CO1 CO2 CO3 CO4 CO5 CO6	K1,K2,K3,K4.K5,K6
	<p>2: The Medieval Economy (6 Lectures)</p> <p>1) Trade – revival, growth, trade routes and patterns.</p> <p>2) Agricultural expansion and demographic growth.</p> <p>3) The medieval towns and guilds - overview</p>			
	<p>3: Patterns of Culture (6 Lectures)</p> <p>1) Philosophy and science in the Medieval period, Scholasticism and the</p>			

	universities. 2) Medieval literature, art, music and architecture – the 12th century Renaissance 3) Women and their depiction in the 12th century Renaissance			
Text Books				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R.H.C. Davis – A History of Medieval Europe, Routledge, 2006. • The New Cambridge Medieval History, CUP. • Chris Wickham – Medieval Europe, Yale University Press, 2016. • Chris Wickham, The Inheritance of Rome: A History of Europe from 400 to 1000 CE • Clifford R Backman – The Worlds of Medieval Europe, OUP, 2003 • HG Koenigsberger – Medieval Europe 400-1500, Routledge 2013. • George Holmes, Oxford History of Medieval Europe • Jonathan P Philips, Holy Warriors: A Modern History of The Crusades • Rebecca Rist, The Papacy and Crusading in Europe 1198-1245 • Brett Edward Whalen, The Two Powers The Papacy, The Empire, And The Struggle For Sovereignty In The Thirteenth Century • Kevin Madigan, Medieval Christianity A New History • Alison Beach, The Cambridge History of Medieval Monasticism in the West • C H Lawrence, Medieval Monasticism • Margaret Deanesly, A History of the Medieval Church 590-1500 • Peter Brown, The Rise of Western Christendom • Wim Blockmans and Peter Hoppenbrouwers, Introduction to Medieval Europe 				
Suggested readings				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carol Lansing, A Companion to the Medieval World • Jeremiah Hackett, Medieval Europe 814-1350 • J.W. Thompson, An Introduction to Medieval Europe • Georges Duby, The Three Orders: Feudal Society Reimagined • Marc Bloch, Feudal Society Volumes 1 and 2 • Francois Louis Ganshof, Feudalism • Jonathan Riley-Smith, The Oxford History of the Crusades 				
Web Resources				
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
Evaluation : Theory CIA= 5 + Mid Sem= 20 +Attendance = 5 Semester Exam: 70				
Paper Structure for Theory Semester Exam:				

Total Marks: 70

Two modules of 35 marks each.

(3 questions of 5 marks from 5 options: 3X5=15

2 questions of 10 marks from 3 options: 2X10=20

Course outcomes (COs) and Cognitive Level Mapping

COs	CO Description	Cognitive levels
CO1	Identify key historical milestones, including the Treaty of Verdun, major Crusades, and the reigns of pivotal figures like Charlemagne and Gregory the Great.	K1
CO2	Explain the socio-economic foundations of the feudal system and the evolution of the Papacy as a central political and religious authority.	K2
CO3	Relate the impacts of external invasions (Norse, Saracen, Magyar) to the subsequent decentralization of power and the rise of regional monarchies.	K3
CO4	Distinguish between the various causes of the 12th-century Renaissance, examining the interplay between scholasticism, trade revival, and demographic shifts.	K4
CO5	Assess the legacy of feudalism and the varied depictions of women in medieval literature and art to critique the social hierarchies of the era.	K5
CO6	Formulate a comprehensive historical argument regarding the transition of Europe from a fragmented post-Roman territory to a structured, culturally distinct civilization.	K6