This course examines the rise of crusade ideology in the medieval Christian and Islamic worlds, and the evolution of the phenomenon of crusading. But rather than focusing on military campaigns this course will explore the broad spectrum of Muslim-Christian-Jewish relations in the Middle Ages, with the aim of understanding the periodic religious wars as a single facet of a wider-ranging network of social and cultural interactions. We will begin by examining the origins of the crusading idea in Western society; then we will turn to the rise of the first Islamic empire and the development of its cultural traditions. We will then branch into a variety of individual topics that illustrate the complicated relations that bound the medieval Christian, Muslim, and Jewish worlds together and often kept them at each others' throats.

There are three books required, which are available at the BU Bookstore:


We will also read a good number of primary source materials, some of which will be available online.

**Course-Grades** will be determined by three scores, each comprising one-third of your course-grade.

| Exam #1 | In-class quiz on **Friday, 17 February.**  
|         | Take-home essay due on **Tuesday, 21 February.** |
| Exam #2 | In-class quiz on **Friday, 30 March.**  
|         | Take-home essay due on **Monday, 2 April.** |
| Exam #3 | In-class quiz on **Wednesday, 2 May.**  
|         | Take-home essay due on **Monday, 7 May.** |

Each in-class quiz will comprise 33% of each overall exam-grade; the take-home essay will count for 66% of each exam-grade.

The three quizzes/exams are NOT cumulative.

There will be NO FINAL EXAM for this course. The dates of the regular quizzes/exams are not negotiable, except in case of emergency.

Email is the best way to reach me. I check my email once a day, but never on weekends.

Please feel welcome to telephone my office, but I recommend that you do not leave voicemail. My service drops messages regularly.
Like all the courses offered in the History Department, this course has no pre-requisites. We do not assume any prior knowledge of Christian, Islamic, or European history on your part – so if you are an absolute beginner on this topic, don’t worry.

In fact, from a quick glance at the enrollment roster and your transcripts, the overwhelming majority of you are absolute beginners. I do know a handful of you from previous courses, but most of you seem to have no background to this era of Western history. Here is how this class breaks down, statistically.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Freshmen</th>
<th>17</th>
<th>CAS</th>
<th>48</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sophomores</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>CFA</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juniors</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>CGS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>COM</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>Non-Degree</td>
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<td>MET</td>
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<td>XRG</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Important dates to bear in mind:

30 Jan       Last day to add classes.
21 Feb       Last day to drop a class without receiving a “W” on your transcript.
30 Mar       Last day to drop a class, with a “W” on your transcript.
11 Apr       Last day to withdraw from the University.

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My Schedule for Spring 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>HI 102</td>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>HI 102</td>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>HI 102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
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<tr>
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<td>HI 204</td>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>HI 204</td>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>HI 204</td>
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</table>

Important: Because of my schedule, my office hours on Wednesdays and Fridays will be held in the Espresso Royale Café. Monday office hours will meet in my office at 226 BSR.
The Nasty Legalistic Stuff

CAS requires us to inform you that the Student Academic Conduct Code is in force. You can find it at:

http://www.bu.edu/cas/students/undergrad-resources/code/

Regular attendance in class is expected as a matter of professionalism and basic courtesy. I recognize that circumstances sometimes arise that make it impossible for you to attend class. Consequently, you are allowed to miss three (3) class-meetings; any more than that, however, will result in a penalty of one half-grade for each day (beyond the third) missed, for your overall course-grade.

I am happy to help if you are having any trouble with the course; but please be fair. Let me know as soon as the difficulty starts. Don't wait until you discover that you haven't received the grade you wanted.

Speaking of grades, here is the College's official guideline to faculty:

Avoid grade inflation. Grades should reflect the distribution of effort and success in the class. In undergraduate courses, a useful (unofficial) guideline is that an "A" should mean that the student mastered the material and produced excellent work; "B" that the student understood the material but did not master it or whose work was good but not superior; "C" that there were significant gaps in understanding/accomplishment or that the work was lackluster ("satisfactory" is the term used in the Undergraduate Bulletin), "D" ("low pass") that there was limited understanding/accomplishment or effort, and "F" that there was little understanding/accomplishment or effort. If your distribution of grades is skewed toward the high end, it might imply that either an "A" does not require a high level of achievement in the course or you are demanding too little of your students. "High end" is a median grade of "B" or higher for a 100 to 200 level undergraduate course. A median grade of "B" is common for upper-level undergraduate courses. (In graduate courses "C+" is a failing grade, hence the average grade is higher than in undergraduate courses.)

If a student for good reason could not complete the last stages of your course (e.g., missed the final exam because of illness), you and the student can enter into a contract in which you specify the work that needs to be completed and the date by which it must be handed in to you. That date must be no later than one calendar year from the end of the semester in which the course was offered. An incomplete grade form, available through your departmental administrator, must be submitted with your grade sheet for the course for each "I" grade that you issue.

Classroom expectations are also based on professionalism and basic courtesy. If you are late to class, or if you need to leave the classroom for any personal reason, please do so with as little disruption to your neighbors as possible. No need to ask permission. The use of laptop computers is fine so long as you use them for class purposes; other students find it distracting if you are watching videos or updating your Facebook page. If I receive any complaints, I will contact you privately and ask you either to change your behavior or to cease bringing the computer to class.
Lecture Schedule and Reading Assignments

You will be expected to have read each week’s assignment prior to class on Mondays.

18 Jan  Introduction.  
20 Jan  No lecture today. I have another commitment.  

23 Jan  How the East Became Christian.  
25 Jan  How the West Became Christian.  
27 Jan  1054 and All That.  

30 Jan  The Islamic Revelation.  
1 Feb  A Minority Empire.  
3 Feb  A Majority Empire.  

6 Feb  Jews in the Roman World.  
8 Feb  Jews in the Christian World.  
10 Feb  Jews in the Muslim World.  

13 Feb  Pilgrimage and Penance.  
15 Feb  The Idea of Holy War.  
17 Feb  In-class Quiz #1. Essay #1 due on 21 Feb.  

20 Feb  MONDAY/TUESDAY SWITCH.  
21 Feb  The 1st Crusade.  
22 Feb  Life in the Crusader States, I.  
24 Feb  Life in the Crusader States, II.  

27 Feb  Madrasas, Yeshivas, and Universities.  
29 Feb  The Fight over Reason.  
2 Mar  Arabs, Persians, and Turks.  

5 Mar  Zangi and Nur ad-Din.  
7 Mar  Alternatives to Another Crusade.  
9 Mar  The 2nd Crusade.  

12 Mar  SPRING BREAK.  
14 Mar  SPRING BREAK.  
16 Mar  SPRING BREAK.  

19 Mar  The Professionals Take Over.  
21 Mar  The 3rd Crusade, I.  
23 Mar  The 3rd Crusade, II.  

26 Mar  Preaching and Paying for the Crusades.  
28 Mar  Military Recruitment.  
30 Mar  In-class Quiz #2. Essay #2 due on 2 Apr.  

2 Apr  Life in the Mediterranean, ca. 1200.  
4 Apr  The Spanish Reconquista, I.  
6 Apr  The Spanish Reconquista, II.  

Asbridge, ch. 7-8  
Asbridge, ch. 5  
Asbridge, ch. 9-10  
Asbridge, ch. 11-12

Asbridge, ch. 13-14

Asbridge, ch. 15-16

Asbridge, ch. 17-18

Cohen, ch. 6-8
I try to keep an informal atmosphere in the classroom. I invite you to interrupt my lectures whenever you have a question to ask, a contrary opinion to raise, or an example to share. Like most things in life, this course will be more enjoyable and interesting if you become actively involved in it.

Above all, don’t hesitate to ask for help if you need it. But please be fair: if you’re having trouble with the course, let me know as early as possible. Don’t ask for special favors after you discover that you haven’t scored as well as you had hoped. Students affiliated with the King Center for Learning Disabilities are especially encouraged to talk with me soon and often.
Some Useful Websites
Please let me know of any new ones that you discover.

Medieval Christianity

www.bu.edu/people/bpstone/theology
www.chinstitute.org
www.doaks.org/byzantine
www.fordham.edu/halsall/eb ook
www.icl.net/pub/resources/christian-history
www.labynuth.org
www.newadvent.org/cathen
www.sscle.org
www.stg.brown.edu/webs/bible-browse r
www.utm.edu/research/ie p
www.vatican.va
http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/r/resources
http://celt.wheaton.edu/index
http://cedar.evansville.edu/~ccoelweb
http://matrix.be.edu/matrixwebdata
http://orb.rhodes.edu
http://urban.hunter.cuny.edu/~thead/xtain
Sources for Christian theology
Church History Institute website
Website of the Center for Byzantine History
Collection of primary sources
Early Christian documents
Collection of primary sources
The Catholic Encyclopedia (1910 edn)
Society for the Study of the Crusades + the Latin East
Hypertext browser through the Bible
Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy
The official Vatican website. Read it in Latin!
Resources for the study of Christianity and Judaism
Christian Classics Ethereal Library
Early Christian history encyclopedia
Medieval women’s religious communities
Everything medieval
Guide to research in medieval Christianity

Medieval Judaism

www.acs.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/talmudmap
www.columbia.edu/cu/cijs
www.du.edu/~sward/institut
www.fordham.edu/halsall/jewish/jewishbooks book
www.jewfaq.org
http://ejr.library.utoronto.ca/jewishhistory
http://shamash.org/trb/judais m
www.jewishencyclopedia.com
Resources on rabbinics and Jewish mysticism
Center for Israeli and Jewish Studies
Jewish-Muslim relations
Primary source collection
Introductory information about Judaism
Sources for Jewish history
Everything (I mean, Everything!!) Jewish
1906 edition of the Jewish Encyclopedia

Medieval Islam

www.du.edu/~sward/institut
www.hri.umich.edu/relig/koran
www.islam.about.com
www.islamworld.net
www.islamicity.org
www.sharaaz.com
www.unn.ac.uk/societies/islamic
http://wings.ubuffalo.edu/sa/muslim/isl
Islamic-Jewish relations
Word-searchable Qur’anic text
Introductory information about Islam
Contemporary Islam
Contemporary Islam
Islamic bookstore
Islamic social history
Primary sources