

HISTORY 6340: RESEARCH SEMINAR IN MEDIEVAL HISTORY  
Syllabus

## REQUIRED BOOKS:

- Jacques Barzun and Henry F. Graff, *The Modern Researcher* 6<sup>th</sup> ed. 0-15-505529-1  
*A Handbook of Dates for students of British History*, new edition ed. by C. R. Cheney and Michael Jones  
 0-521-77845-X  
*Handbook of British Chronology*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., ed. E. B. Fryde, D. E. Greenway, S. Porter and I. Roy  
 0-521-56350  
 Booth, Colomb and Williams, *The Craft of Research*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition  
*Liber Eliensis*

## RECOMMENDED BOOKS

- The Record Interpreter* Latham, *Medieval Latin Word List*  
*Dizionario di Abbreviature latine ed italiane*, ed. Cappelli  
 Lewis and Short, *A Latin Dictionary* Niermeyer, *Mediae Latinitatis Lexicon Minus*

This seminar will focus on the techniques and processes of historical research and writing in Medieval History. We will take as our handbook *The Craft of Research*, and discuss it weekly in the first 2/3 of the class as we each produce a 30-page research paper. Some students will produce a chapter or two of dissertations or theses. We will spend about one hour each week on mechanics—i.e., *The Craft of Research*, and the discussion of practical matters (in **boldface** in the Class Schedule below). You must choose your research topic by August 31, and complete a comprehensive bibliography by September 7.

Each person will report every other week on the progress of his/her research after the first four weeks. The last third of the class will consist of class critiques of a first draft of each of the papers individually. Each paper will have a Chief Critic, who will lead the critique and discussion. Each student will then have the opportunity to complete a final draft for the grade in the class. You will be graded on class participation and your critique as Chief Critic as well as your final draft of your paper. It is very important that you attend class every week, whether or not you will present a report. As we will not start class until everyone is here, please inform the instructor if you will be absent.

## CLASS SCHEDULE:

- August 24 Introductions: students, topics, books  
**Choosing a Topic; Making a Research Bibliography; Finding Sources**  
 August 30 *Craft of Research*, I, II and III: Research, Researchers and Readers; Asking Questions, Finding Answers, pp, 1-109 : Making a Claim and Supporting it, 109-182  
 September 7 **BIBLIOGRAPHIES DUE:**  
*Craft of Research*, IV: Preparing to Draft, Drafting and Revising, 183-282  
 and V: Some Last Considerations 283-324  
 September 14 Reports Group One  
 September 21 Reports Group Two  
 September 28 Reports Group Three  
 October 5 Reports Group One  
 October 12 Reports Group Two  
 October 19 Reports Group Three Group One hands out First Drafts to all  
 October 26 **Group One Critiqued Group Two hands out First Drafts to all**  
 November 2  
 November 9 **Group Two Critiqued Group Three hands out First Drafts to all**  
 November 16 **Group Three Critiqued Group Four hands out First Drafts to all**  
Revised papers due Group One

## THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

- November 30 Revised Papers Due Group Two  
 December 6 Revised Papers due Group Three

Group One: Holle, Courtney, Ben, Luke, Group Two: Maria, James A, Diana, Michael  
 Group Three: James G, Kristen, Brandon, Elizabeth, Charles