

History 4331 THE NORMANS
Syllabus

REQUIRED BOOKS

- Marjory Chibnall, *The Normans* (text)
 Elizabeth van Houts, ed., *The Normans in Europe* (Manchester U Press) 0-7190-4751-x paper
 David Bates, *William the Conqueror* (Tempus) 0-7524-1980-3 paper
 C. Warren Hollister, *Henry I* (Yale) 0-300-09829-4 paper
 G. A. Loud, *The Age of Robert Guiscard* (Longman) 0582045290 paper
 Hubert Houben, *Roger II of Sicily* (Cambridge) 0-521-65573-0 paper

OPTIONAL BOOKS

- Frank Barlow, *William Rufus*
 Wolfgang Grape, *The Bayeux Tapestry* (Prestel) 0-7509-2469-1 paper
Encomium Emmae Reginae (Cambridge) 0-521-62655-2 paper

The Normans were a very extraordinary people who emerged from the roots of a small Viking settlement clinging to the windblown shores of Northern France to conquer England, the French counties of Maine and Brittany, Southern Italy, Sicily, Wales, Ireland and parts of Scotland, parts of North Africa, and parts of the Holy Land during the First Crusade. A number of Normans participated in the Reconquest of Spain, settling there. Some of them even tried to conquer the Byzantine Empire--with some hopes of success. In addition, they made extraordinary strides in political organization and state-building, the writing of history, church reform, art and architecture, technology, and the development of written documents and the formation of a bureaucracy. This course will attempt to survey all these achievements, from their origins to the end of their great imperial foundations.

There will be two papers and two examinations. See Lecture Schedule for due dates.

Choose one of the following subjects, or propose another. Each paper should be 5-7 pages long, with proper footnotes and bibliography. See GUIDELINES FOR PAPERS on Webct site.

PAPER 1: Normandy and England--Choose one of these topics, or suggest another

1. How "Viking" were the Normans? What Viking customs did they transfer to Normandy and England?
2. Why did the Normans Succeed: "Predatory Kinship" or "Feudal Monarchy"?
3. The Norman Uses of Propaganda: Creation of Myths and "Histories"
4. The Anglo-Norman "Empire": Myth or Reality?
5. Families and Power: The Importance of the Norman Aristocracy
6. Children of William the Conqueror: Filial Interactions
7. The Norman Church and the Formation of the English Church
8. Lanfranc, Anselm, and the Abbey of Bec in Normandy and England
9. The Transfer of Power: King Stephen and the Empress Matilda

PAPER 2: The Normans and the Wider World--Choose one of these topics, or suggest another

1. Norman Military Institutions and their Uses (Include Social as well as Military Uses)
2. The Secrets of Norman Success: Italy, Sicily, Spain, the Mediterranean
3. How "Viking" were the Normans? What Viking customs did they transfer to Italy and Sicily?
4. The Norman Kingdoms of Italy and Sicily: Methods of Control and Successful Rule
5. The Norman Empires: England and Sicily Compared
6. The sons of Tancred d'Hauteville: Successes and Failures
7. The Normans and the Papacy
8. Sicilian Kingship: Roger II, William I and William II
9. The Normans on Crusade: Heroes and Villains
10. Contacts between the Sicilian Normans and the Anglo-Normans
11. The Norman-Italian Church
12. The Norman-Sicilian Church

LEARNING OUTCOMES: 1. Mastery of factual materials about The Normans. 2. Critical evaluation of historical problems based on primary and secondary source evidence. 3. Mastery of appropriate writing skills: Organization, logical discussion, presentation of appropriate and persuasive evidence with a comprehensive thesis.

CALENDAR—BROADCAST ON KUHT WEDNESDAYS 1-4 AM (after Midnight Tuesdays)

WEEK 1	Jan. 15--Introduction and overview	
January 17	Background	van Houts Introduction
WEEK 2	The Viking Background	van Houts 1-56
January 24	From Viking to Norman	Bates, 11-30
WEEK 3	Prelude to Conquests	van Houts 56-101
January 31	Viking Infusions in England	Bates 31-68, <i>Encomium Emmae Regina</i>
WEEK 4	The First Normans in England	Bates 69-96
February 7	The Battle of Hastings--Norman Accounts	van Houts 102-133; <i>Bayeux Tapestry</i>
WEEK 5	The Battle of Hastings--English Accounts	van Houts 136-172;
February 14	William the Conqueror: The King in his Kingdom	Bates 97-162;
WEEK 6	The Anglo-Norman Church	Bates 163-212
February 21	King William II Rufus and Duke Robert Curthose	Hollister 1-148
WEEK 7	King Henry I	Hollister 149-326,
February 28	King Stephen and Empress Matilda	
MARCH 5 MONDAY 7-8:30 PM MIDTERM EXAMINATION ROOM ANNOUNCED ON WEBSITE		
WEEK 8	The Normans in Italy:	Loud 1-91; FIRST PAPER DUE
March 7	Robert Guiscard	Loud 92-146 MARCH 12
SPRING BREAK (March 14—WEEK 8 REPEATED ON BROADCAST)		
WEEK 9	The Conquest of Sicily	Loud, 146-185; van Houts 223-249
March 21	Roger the Great Count	van Houts 223-249
WEEK 10	The Normans and the Papacy	Loud 186-296
March 28	The Norman Kingdom of Sicily	
WEEK 11	The Norman Kingdom of Sicily	Houben 1-165
April 4	The Normans Kingdom of Sicily	
WEEK 12	The Normans on Crusade	van Houts 250-68, 274-8,
April 11	The Normans in Spain	van Houts 268-273;
WEEK 13	The Norman Legacy in Italy	Houben 166-181
April 18	The Norman World	van Houts 182-222
WEEK 14	The Norman Legacy in Europe	SECOND PAPER DUE
April 25	DISCUSSION: The Normans in Europe	

APRIL 30 (Monday) 7-10 pm --FINAL EXAMINATION (Room to be announced on website)

OFFICE HOURS: Dr. Sally Vaughn

M 3-5 pm, AH 638, 713-743-3122, email -- snvaughn@sbcglobal.net

TA Benjamin Pugno

Office hours announced on Website AH 641, 713-743-3126 email bpugno@hotmail.com

THE PREFERRED WAY TO REACH US IS BY EMAIL

INFORMATION ABOUT THE MIDTERM, THE FINAL, AND BOTH PAPERS WILL BE POSTED ON THE CLASS WEBSITE: www.uh/webct

You may turn in Term Papers in the following ways:

1. EMAIL to Ben Pugno, bpugno@hotmail.com
2. MAIL A HARD COPY TO
 Prof. Sally N. Vaughn
 Department of History
 University of Houston
 Houston TX 77204-3003
3. DELIVER A HARD COPY TO THE HISTORY OFFICE, AH 524 (give to Gloria Ned, receptionist)