

## THE EXAM

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The exam will include:

- ▶ **Identifications** (6 or so) — you'll be provided with a term and you'll need to give (a) a description of what it refers to and (b) its significance or importance. All the identification terms will come from this sheet.
- ▶ **Multiple choice** (6 or so)
- ▶ **Short answer** (2 or 3) — like the quiz questions, a paragraph or two on a specific topic we've discussed
- ▶ **Essay** (1) — a longer discussion giving your interpretation and analysis of a major theme we've covered

For all the sections except multiple choice, you will be able to choose from several possibilities and write about the ones you're most familiar with. For example, if you need to answer 5 or 6 identifications, I'll give you a choice of 10 or 12. There will be at least two essay questions to choose from.

## Approach to Preparing

- ▶ Make a list of the key transformations we've encountered in Western culture, especially during the Middle Ages. Discuss the issues and ideas in study groups.
- ▶ For each of the questions below, see whether you have a strong idea how to answer it, an okay idea how to answer, or a weak sense of how to answer it. Review from the books and notes at least the "weak" ones.
- ▶ Take note of the terms and review ones you're unfamiliar with.

## TOPICS

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### Successors to Rome

What factors make Rome so successful that it dominates the entire Mediterranean world?

What brings about the fall of the western Roman Empire?

In what ways can the Roman Empire be said to endure into the Middle Ages? In what ways are the three worlds of the middle ages successors to the Roman Empire?

How do we define the Middle Ages? How might medieval Christians have seen themselves as living in a "middle age"?

Breakdown of personal identity from the cosmopolitan (Roman citizen) to the very local

Generally, what characterizes the Early Middle Ages? The High Middle Ages? The Late Middle Ages?

- ▶ TERMS: Pax Romanum – Constantine the Great – Byzantium – Islamic Empire – Christendom – al-Andalus – Latin West – Greek East

### Peasants and Labor

Describe the medieval manor — how did it function? What were its parts? What was the goal of a manor?

What was the role of the peasant in the manorial system? What was his relationship with the manor lord?

What different kinds of peasants were there? What were their degrees of freedom?

What kinds of "specialists" might be found in a manor village? How are these skills acquired and passed on?

- ▶ TERMS: peasant – villein – manor – three field system – manse – demesne – seneschal – serfs – freemen

### Priests, Monks, and Worshippers

Ecclesiastical hierarchy — What were the different kinds of clergy and their roles in society?

What role did saints play in the lives of ordinary medieval Christians? Why was there particular devotion to Mary?

What was the importance of relics?

How did the nature of monasticism change in the High Middle Ages?

What roles were monks and nuns expected to play in medieval society?

What factors made it possible for the pope to increase his power in the West? How was the situation different for the Greek church in the east? Why did the Greek East resist the pope's authority more than the Latin West?

- ▶ TERMS: clerks – priests – bishops – popes – Blessed Virgin Mary – relics – pilgrimage – monastic reform – Clunaic monks – mendicant orders – papal monarchy

## Philosophy and Literature

What disciplines were emphasized in medieval education?

What is scholasticism? How does it relate to faith and revelation?

How do medieval epics and chansons de geste depict the nobility and society in general? What function was performed by this literature?

What factors contributed to the flowering of science in the High Middle Ages?

- ▶ TERMS: troubadour – dialectic – scholasticism – St. Thomas Aquinas – Peter Abelard – alchemy

## The Spread of Islam

Ways Muslim and Christian worlds related in Middle Ages apart from war

Close relationship between origins of Islam and Judeo-Christian ideas and traditions (universal god, line of messengers/prophets, day of judgment, sacred text)

Why did Muhammad expect recognition from the Jews?

Acts of Muhammad and early followers that create Islamic movement — what was the appeal in Arabia? In Syria-Palestine?

How does the rise of Islam affect the role of women?

The divide into sunni and shi'ite — how do these two groups differ in their beliefs?

Several factors made it possible for the Islamic Arabs to overrun Byzantine territory — what are they?

What conditions led to different rates of conversion to Islam in different areas?

- ▶ TERMS: peoples of the book – bedouin – Qur'an – Hijra – ummah – caliph – sunni – shi'ite – Battle of Yarmuth – Battle of Poitiers – Battle of Manzikert – Covenant of 'Umar

## The Frank and the Turk

In class we outlined a number of major transformations of Western European society in the 10th and 11th centuries that seem to culminate in the Crusades. What are these transformations, and how are they connected to the Crusade?

What role does the Muslim as the "other" play in Christian thinking about the Islamic world?

What motivations does Urban II have in making his appeal for a Crusade in 1095? Why is there such a huge response?

Byzantine attitudes toward Franks as they march through Byzantium

Several factors led to the success of the First Crusade — what were they?

How were the Second and Third Crusades different from the First?

How did the Second Crusade fail? Why was this particularly disastrous politically for the Crusader States?

What's the deal with the Fourth Crusade?

- ▶ TERMS: ecclesiastical reform – warrior class – Peace of God – millenarianism – holy war – pilgrimage in arms – Pope Urban II – "Franks" – Nur al-Din – Battle of Hittin – Saladin

## Warriors and Citizens

Different levels of warriors — what was the connection between warriors vertically?

What did warrior nobles share in common in terms of lifestyle and appearance?

What effects does the rise of primogeniture have in amongst the warrior nobles? Among the peasantry? For women?

How is the problem of division of land and inheritance handled differently in Italy?

What is the difference between canon and civil law?

- ▶ TERMS: king – count – castellan – knight – feudalism – fief – vassal, vassalage – liege-lord – primogeniture – chivalry – power of the ban

## Woman, Family, and Slaves

What functions to peasant women perform in the manorial system?

What functions are noblewomen expected to perform in the High Middle Ages?

In what ways can a noblewoman exercise power, openly or secretly?

How were boys raised differently from girls? Why were they sent off at an early age?

- ▶ TERMS: abbess – courtesy – courtly love

## World economies

Why would the manorial system be unfavorable to the growth of commerce?

How is the town different from the manorial village?

How did technology encourage seagoing trade?

What new techniques change agricultural output in the High Middle Ages?

How does increased agricultural productivity relate to an increase in international trade?

What leads to the formation of guilds? How does this affect medieval society?

How do the trade economy and the rise of powerful nobles affect the Jews of Europe?

What problems came with the rise of cities in the High Middle Ages?

How did German cities react to international trade competition differently from Italian cities?

- ▶ TERMS: textiles – capitalism – guilds – pogrom – usury – blood libel – Hanseatic League - burgher

## The Four Horsemen

What four major disasters make the 14th century “calamitous”?

What is meant by the “Babylonian Captivity” of the Papacy? How does this relate to the Great Schism within the Western Church? What are the effects of the Schism on the papacy and the church?

What factors before the outbreak made the Black Death even more devastating in Europe?

What are the social, economic, political, and religious effects of the Black Death in Europe?

What are the causes of the Hundred Years War? What factors give each side an advantage?

- ▶ TERMS: the Black Death – Hundred Years’ War – Ottoman war on Byzantium – Great Schism – flagellant – dance of death

## Reinventing the Ancients

What is humanism? What role does it play in the development of the “Renaissance”?

What were the humanists looking to accomplish in their own world in reviving classical thought?

What role was played by gender among the humanists?

What are the philosophical implications of humanism (according to King)? How did the rediscover of Plato challenge both medieval philosophy and theology?

- ▶ TERMS: humanism – civic humanism

## The Song of Roland

What are the themes encountered in Roland’s story?

How do these themes relate to the real medieval noble society we’ve discussed?

How are the Saracens portrayed, and why?

What role does God play in *Roland*?

What is the relationship between Roland and Charlemagne?

If the Christian side represents “good,” how are Ganelon’s actions explained?

What is the significance of the oliphant horn?

- ▶ TERMS: chanson de geste – Roland – Baligant – “pagan” (as applied to Saracens)