

Women in the High Middle Ages

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Universität zu Köln

12 October

Course Introduction

19 October

The Influence of Antiquity & Early Christianity

- ❖ Peter Brown, *The Body and Society: Men, Women and Sexual Renunciation in Early Christianity* (New York 1988).
- ❖ Gillian Clark, *Women in Late Antiquity: Pagan and Christian Lifestyles* (Oxford 1993).
- ❖ Elaine Pagels, *Adam, Eve, and the Serpent: Sex and Politics in Early Christianity* (New York 1989).

26 October

Women in the Early Middle Ages

- ❖ Lisa Bitel, *Women in Early Medieval Europe* (Cambridge 2002).
- ❖ Jo Ann McNamara and Suzanne Wemple, "The Power of Women through the Family in Medieval Europe, 500-1100," in *Feminist Studies* 1 (1973): 126-141. (ILIAS)

2 November

Aristocratic Women: Eleanor of Aquitaine

- ❖ Amy Kelly, *Eleanor of Aquitaine and the Four Kings* (Harvard 1950).
- ❖ Bonnie Wheeler and John Carmi Parsons, *Eleanor of Aquitaine: Lord and Lady* (New York 2003).

9 November

Women in Literature: Romance and the Fabliaux

- ❖ Joan Ferrante, "Marie de France," in *Medieval Women Writers*, ed. Katharina Wilson (Athens, GA 1984), pp. 64-89. (ILIAS)
- ❖ Roberta Krueger, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Medieval Romance* (Cambridge 2000).

16 November

Women in the Cloister: Forms of Religious Life for Women in the High Middle Ages

- ❖ Jeffrey F. Hamburger and Susan Marti, eds. *Crown & Veil: Female Monasticism from the Fifth to the Fifteenth Centuries* (New York 2008).
- ❖ Bruce L. Venarde, *Women's Monasticism and Medieval Society: Nunneries in France and England, 890-1215* (Ithaca 1997).

23 November

Forms of Female Piety: Ascetics, Mystics & Visionaries

- ❖ Caroline Walker Bynum, *Holy Feast and Holy Fast: The Religious Significance of Food to Medieval Women* (Berkeley 1988).
- ❖ Elizabeth Petroff, ed. *Medieval Women's Visionary Literature* (Oxford 1986).

30 November

Women, Education & the Church: the Case of Abelard & Heloise

- ❖ Betty Radice, ed. and trans. and revised by M.T. Clanchy, *The Letters of Abelard and Heloise* (London 2003).
- ❖ Constant J. Mews, *The Lost Love Letters of Heloise and Abelard: Perceptions of Dialogue in Twelfth-Century France* (New York 1999).
- ❖ Constant J. Mews, "Cicero and the Boundaries of Friendship in the Twelfth Century," in *Viator* 38 (2007): 369-384. (ILIAS)

7 December

Marriage, Prostitution & the Rise of Canon Law

- ❖ James Brundage, *Law, Sex and Christian Society in Medieval Europe* (Chicago and London 1987).
- ❖ Ruth Mazo Karras, "Holy Harlots: Prostitute Saints in Medieval Legend," in *Journal of the History of Sexuality* 1 (1990): 3-33. (ILIAS)

14 December

Women's Health: Sex, Reproduction, and Birth Control

- ❖ James Brundage, *Law, Sex and Christian Society in Medieval Europe* (Chicago and London 1987).
- ❖ Monica Green, "Women's Medical Practice and Health Care in Medieval Europe," in *Signs* 14/2 (1989): 434-473. (ILIAS)
- ❖ Monica Green, *The Trotula: a Medieval Compendium of Women's Medicine* (Philadelphia 2001). (ILIAS)

11 January

Working Women 1: Peasants

- ❖ Judith Bennett, *Women in the Medieval English Countryside: Gender and Household in Brigstock before the Plague* (New York 1987).
- ❖ David Herlihy, *Opera Muliebria: Women and Work in Medieval Europe* (New York 1990).
- ❖ Helen M. Jewell, *Women in Dark Age and Early Medieval Europe, c. 500-1200* (Basingstoke 2007).

18 January

Working Women 2: Townswomen

- ❖ Judith Bennett, *Ale, Beer, and Brewsters in England: Women's Work in a Changing World, 1300-1600* (New York 1996).
- ❖ David Herlihy, *Opera Muliebria: Women and Work in Medieval Europe* (New York 1990).
- ❖ Helen M. Jewell, *Women in Dark Age and Early Medieval Europe, c. 500-1200* (Basingstoke 2007).

25 January

Women on the Margins: Witches & Heretics?

- ❖ Heidi Breuer, *Crafting the Witch: Gendering Magic in Medieval and Early Modern England* (New York 2008).
- ❖ Valerie J. Flint, *The Rise of Magic in Early Medieval Europe* (Princeton 1991).
- ❖ Richard Kieckhefer, *Magic in the Middle Ages* (Cambridge and New York 1989 and 2000).

1 February

Course Conclusion