

Medieval Europe Research Paper

Due Thursday 28 March @ Midnight

Unlike some History papers, for this one you will get to determine your own research question. You can study any aspect of Medieval Europe that appeals to you, in any way that appeals to you, as long as you follow a few basic parameters:

- 1) You must use ALL THREE of the articles you have annotated for class.**
- 2) You must use AT LEAST TWO additional, new sources.**
- 3) Your topic must be an appropriate size for a 5-page paper.**

In your introduction, you will need to have a clear thesis statement that explains what the research question is in your paper. Who or what are you studying, and in what respect? In other words, what will the paper be attempting to prove? You should then move on to your supporting evidence, which will make up the bulk of your paper. Each paragraph should focus on a single sub-issue related to your overall argument. Finally, your conclusion should discuss why the topic selected is important to someone's overall understanding of Medieval Europe.

Additional sources:

For your TWO additional sources, you can use either journal articles (same criteria pertain from your article annotations) or books. To aid in your research, I have put the following books on Reserve at the library:

- *Byzantium: The Surprising Life of a Medieval Empire*
- *The Cathedral: The Social and Architectural Dynamics of Construction*
- *Chivalry and Violence in Medieval Europe*
- *The Crusades: The Authoritative History of the War for the Holy Land*
- *Economic and Social History of Medieval Europe*
- *From Boys to Men: Formations of Masculinity in Late Medieval Europe*
- *Law, Sex, and Christian Society in Medieval Europe*
- *Life in the Medieval University*
- *The Medieval Invention of Travel*
- *Toxicology in the Middle Ages and Renaissance*

These books may or may not be helpful to you, but there are plenty others at Hewes Library for you to check out as well. You may also use your textbooks if they are helpful, but they cannot count as your two new sources (because they are obviously not new).

In-class proofreading session:

Class on the 28th will be devoted to proofreading papers. Bring a copy with you, and be prepared to do some proofreading yourself. ☺

Technical specifics:

Your paper must be at least 1000 words long, typed, double-spaced, and in 12-pt. font with 1-inch margins. Do not use the first person in writing your paper. You must use *Chicago Manual of Style* footnotes for all the information you utilize (see reverse for more details). Do not forget to put your name on your paper.

Using Footnotes

For any piece of information or ideas you use from another source, you must provide a reference. Let me repeat that...for *any* piece of information or ideas you use from another source, you must provide a reference. In addition, you must place quotation marks around any direct wording you take from a source, even if it is only three or four words.

As a general rule, you should have at least one footnote per paragraph in your paper. You may list more than one source in the footnote to save you making too many of them, but you must have all the knowledge you have “borrowed” properly cited.

For this paper, please use footnotes. Your computer will automatically insert them for you. To insert a footnote, place cursor at the end of the sentence and do as follows:

- ★ In the newest version of Microsoft Word (for Windows)...go to the Reference tab.
- ★ Click on "Add Footnote..."
- ★ Automatically a new "footnote" will come up at the bottom of your paper, set to the correct footnote number you should be on. At that point you will type in your reference information according to *The Chicago Manual of Style*. After you are finished, you can move your cursor back to the main text of your paper with your mouse. It is also good to know that you can cut, paste, and copy footnotes just as you can any other text (by highlighting the number in the paper itself and performing whichever function you need) and all the reference information will move along with the number.
- ★ Footnotes are normally in 10pt. font.
- ★ Do not change the default settings the computer uses for your footnotes, they should all be correct already.
- ★ There will NEVER be two footnotes with the same number.
- ★ Finally, footnotes are NOT footers and should not be in your footer.

If you have any additional questions, do not hesitate to ask Dr. Myers for assistance.

Here are some examples to help you in laying out your references:

¹ History 230: Medieval Europe, October 25, 2016.

² Michael Pye, *The Edge of the World: A Cultural History of the North Sea and the Transformation of Europe* (New York: Pegasus Books LLC, 2014), 84-85.

³ Class notes, September 6, 2016.

⁴ Pye, 95.

⁵ Lee L. Brice and Steven Catania, "A Pedagogical Trebuchet: A Case Study in Experimental History and History Pedagogy," *The History Teacher* 46, no. 1 (November 2012): 76-78.

⁶ Michelle M. Sauer, *Gender in Medieval Culture* (London, New Delhi, New York, and Sydney: Bloomsbury, 2015), 146.

⁷ *Ibid.*, 150.

⁸ Brice and Catania, 83.

⁹ *Ibid.*

Note: If you have a copy of Kate Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* (that is available in the Bookstore) the format for references that you will need begin on page 143.