

**IUPUI
SPRING 2007**

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**HISTORY J495
SAINTS, SANCTITY, AND CHARISMA IN THE MIDDLE
AGES**

W 6:00-8:40 p.m.
Sect. 20159
CA 215

Goals

This course is your senior capstone course. The goal of the course is three-fold: 1.) to gain a sophisticated understanding of the approaches to history and the theoretical issues involved in “doing” history; 2.) to research and write a major paper; and 3.) to gain a sophisticated understanding of the phenomenon of saints in medieval society by analyzing the creation and role of sanctity and charisma. The goal is to combine theoretical perspective with practical application, which is essential for producing high quality historical work. In many ways, this course seeks to put into practice IUPUI’s Principles of Undergraduate Learning with respect to a given topic.

Structure of Course

This course will consist of lectures, discussions, and presentations, thus incorporating the experience of lectures, colloquia, and seminars. You will get out of this course what you put into it. If scheduling permits, I will be presenting some of my own research to the class in a seminar. In any case, the hope is that my experience and expertise will help you develop your own research projects and to execute them with a high level of sophistication. This is both a theoretical course and a hands-on workshop. Each of you are strongly encouraged to seek my advise and help outside of class, via email, office hours, and/or special appointments. If there are any questions or concerns about this class, and what it requires, please do not hesitate to see me at the earliest possible occasion.

Required Texts

Andre Vauchez, Sainthood in the Later Middle Ages
Max Weber, The Sociology of Religion
Mircea Eliade, The Sacred and the Profane
William James, Varieties of Religious Experience
Rudolph Otto, The Idea of the Holy

Grading

Participation:	20%
Proposal:	10%
Draft:	10%
Presentation:	10%
Paper:	50%

Basic Requirements: Students are expected to attend all class meetings, and to be prepared for discussing the material of the day. Each student is required to formulate a research project and turn in a proposal thereof. Further, students are expected to turn in a draft of their papers. These drafts, as the proposals, will be commented on by the instructor, and time will be available to re-write/polish/finish the paper before it is due the end of the semester. Each student is also required to present her/his project to the class for a seminar discussion of the topic, the approach, the method, and the practical execution.

Course Schedule

- Jan. 10:** Introduction and “Doing History” [lecture]
- Jan. 17:** The Phenomena of Holiness [lecture/colloquium: Otto and Eliade]
Sources
- Jan. 24:** The History of Holiness [lecture/colloquium: James]
Historiography
- Jan. 31:** Religion, History, and Society [lecture/colloquium: Weber]
Historical Approaches
- Feb. 7:** Medieval Saints [lecture/colloquium: Vauchez]
- Feb. 14:** Saints and Society in the Middle Ages [lecture/colloquium: Vauchez]
Proposals Due
- Feb. 21:** Presentations [seminar]
- Feb. 28:** Presentations [seminar]
- March 7:** Presentations [seminar]
- March 14 :** **Spring Break; No Class**
- March 21:** Presentations [seminar]
- March 28:** Presentations [seminar]
- April 4:** Presentations [seminar]
Drafts Due
- April 11:** Presentations [seminar]
- April 18:** Presentations [seminar]
- April 25:** Presentations and “So What?” [seminar/lecture/discussion]
- Wednesday, May 2: 5:45-7:45 P.M., FINAL : Papers Due**