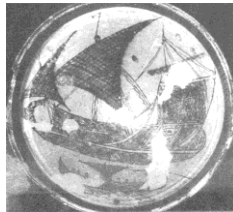


Medieval Seafaring in the Mediterranean

Anthropology 618

Fall 2010

Instructor: Filipe Castro



Classes

Wednesdays, 14:00-17:00. Anthropology Building, Room 105;

Office Hours

Mondays, 14:00 to 16:00, or by appointment. Anthropology Building, Room 105A.

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Semester Schedule

First day of classes:	30 August
First class ANTH618:	01 September
Term paper abstract and bibliography due:	27 October
Term Paper due:	20 April
Last day of Classes:	07 December

Course Description

This course will examine seafaring, maritime commerce, naval affairs, and shipbuilding in Southern and Northern Europe from the late Roman Period until the end of the Middle Ages (for convenience we shall take the fall of Constantinople in 1453 as the end of the Middle Ages in Europe). Each three-hour meeting will encompass one oral report on the day's theme (45 minutes), followed by three or four oral presentations of case-studies related to the day's theme (20 minutes), and based on relevant primary material (shipwrecks or historical documents). In addition, there will be general readings assigned to the whole class. In order for this to work, **everyone must keep up with the readings**, and everyone must participate in the discussion. The final grade is based 50% on oral reports and class participation, and 50% on a term paper.

General Readings

Bass, G.F. *A History of Seafaring; Based on Underwater Archaeology*, London: Thames and Hudson, 1972.

Collins, R. *Early Medieval Europe 300-1000*. New York: St Martin's Press, 1999.

Haywood, John. *Dark Age Naval Power: A Reassessment of Frankish and Anglo-Saxon Seafaring Activity*. New York, 1991.

Hill, D. *A History of Engineering in Classical and Medieval Times*. LaSalle, Illinois, 1984.

Holmes, G., ed., *The Oxford Illustrated History of Medieval Europe*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1988.

Hourani, A. *A History of the Arab Peoples*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1991.

Hutchinson, Gillian. *Medieval Ships and Seafaring*. London and Washington, 1994.

Lewis, Archibald R. and Timothy J. Runyon. *European Naval and Maritime History, 300-1500*. Bloomington, IN, 1985. (See especially chapters I, V-VII).

Le Goff, Jacques, *Medieval Civilization 400-1500*. New York : Barnes and Noble, 2000.

McEvedy, Colin. *The New Penguin Atlas of Medieval History*. London, 1992.

(Concentrated general reading for the M. h. deficient, each page a short synopsis and a map).

McGrail, Sean. *Ancient Boats in N.W. Europe: The Archaeology of Water Transport to AD 1500*. London and New York, 1987.

Ostrogorsky, G. *History of the Byzantine State*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1969.

Randsborg, K. *The First Millenium A.D. in Europe and the Mediterranean*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991.

Rogers, W.L. *Greek and Roman Naval Warfare*. Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 1983.

Rodger, N.A.M. *The Safeguard of the Sea: A Naval History of Britain, 660-1649*. New York and London, 1997. (See Chapters 1-12).

Treadgold, W. *Byzantium and its Army 284-1081*. Stanford, 1995.



Course Schedule

Week 1 (Sep 1): Introduction

Term paper requirements. Oral report format. Work assignments. Bibliography.

Week 2 (Sep 8): 410-599 in the Mediterranean World: Fall of the Roman Empire

Report

1. The Fall of the Roman Empire

Case-Studies

2. Yassi Ada II, Trade Routes and Ship Sizes
3. Port-Vendres I and Late Roman Shipbuilding
4. Sebastos and Portus
5. Laws Concerning Maritime Trade

Week 3 (Sep 15): 410-599 in the North: Fall of the Roman Empire

Report

6. Romans and Northern Europe

Case-Studies

7. Ship Remains from the Roman Period
8. Roman Ports, Waterfront Structures & Barges
9. Patrol Craft in German Rivers
10. Nydam Ship & Sutton Hoo

Week 4 (Sep 22): 600-799 in the Mediterranean World: Heraclius to Anastasius

Report

11. Heraclius to Anastasius

Case-Studies

12. Luxury Cargoes & Skerki Bank Wrecks
13. Liburnians
14. Naval Campaigns of Constantine
15. Anastasius Fleet

Week 5 (Sep 29): 600-799 in the Mediterranean World: Islam

Report

16. The Islamic World

Case-Studies

- 17. Shell to Skeleton: Dor D, Tantura A, Yassi Ada I & St. Gervais II
- 18. Persians and Byzantines
- 19. The Arab Invasions
- 20. Lateen Sails

Week 6 (Oct 6): 600-799 in Western Europe: “The Dark Age”

Report

21. The “Dark Age”

Case-Studies

- 22. Patterns of Settlement and Trade
- 23. Aspects of Maritime Scandinavia
- 24. Port Berteau 2
- 25. Vikings and Sails

Week 7 (Oct 13): 800-999 in the Mediterranean World: Islam

Report

26. The Golden Age of Islam

Case-Studies

- 27. Byzantium – The Thematic System of Defense
- 28. Bozburun & Serçe Limanı
- 29. The Saracen Wrecks
- 30. Navigation & Navigational Instruments

Week 8 (Oct 20): 800-999 in Western Europe: from Charlemagne to the Millennium

Report

31. Charlemagne and the Political Organization of Europe

Case-Studies

- 32. Alfred and the Danes
- 33. The Viking Expansion in the North
- 34. The Atlantic Ocean from St. Brendan to Eric the Red
- 35. Viking Expansion in the Mediterranean

Week 9 (Oct 27): 1000-1199 in the Mediterranean World: The Crusades

Report

36. The Crusades

Case-Studies

- 37. Cities, Trade, & Tourism
- 38. Caravels, Cogs & *Cocche*
- 39. Galleys
- 40. *Reconquista*

Term paper abstracts due next class!

Week 10 (Nov 3): 1000-1199 in Western Europe: Time of the Cathedrals

Report

41. Time of the Cathedrals: The Formation of the Modern City

Case-Studies

- 42. The Norman Invasion of England
- 43. Skuldelev Ships: Function and Trade / Pillaging Routes
- 44. Early Bottom Based Shipwrecks
- 45. Cogs: Square Sails, Central Rudders & Sawn Planks

Term paper abstracts due today!

Week 11 (Nov 10): 1200-1399 in the Mediterranean: Italian Maritime Republics

Report

46. Italian Maritime Republics

Case-Studies

- 47. Venetian Arsenal
- 48. Lateeners
- 49. Three-Masted Ships
- 50. Into the Atlantic! Islands, Monsters, and Magnets in the Bottom of the Sea

Week 12 (Nov 17): 1200-1399 Northern Europe: The Hansa League

Report

51. The Hansa League

Case-Studies

52. From Cogs to Hulks

53. The Black Death, Three-Masted Ships and *Grace Dieu*

54. Aber W'rac, Newport Ship, & other clinker merchantmen

55. Introduction of Carvel Building in the North

Term papers due next class!

Week 13 (Nov 24): 1400-1453 in the Mediterranean World: The Italian Renaissance

Report

56. The Renaissance and the Rise of the Central State

Case-Studies

57. Italian Ship Treatises: Michael of Rhodes and Zorzi Trombetta

58. The Ottoman Empire, Galleys & Guns

59. Caravels, Galleons, and Naos

60. The Atlantic Expansion

Term papers due today!

Week 14 (Dec 1): Presentation of the Term Papers

Presentation of Term Papers – 10 Minutes Papers



Oral Reports

Oral reports must **fit exactly** within the time frame established. Images, such as slides or computer graphics' presentations are welcome. I expect students to present a short summary in the beginning, followed by a clear and structured report, **a critic analysis of the sources in which the report was based**, and a conclusion.

Every oral report must be accompanied by a short handout. Handouts must be useful to your colleagues for current and future reference. Typically these should contain an abstract of your presentation, critical comments (when found pertinent), and a complete list of the bibliography consulted. Timelines are welcome. Although I consider the graphic aspect very important, I will grade especially the contents. I don't care too much for handouts with lots of color pictures and no relevant information.

Term Paper

Term papers must follow the style and format of the *International Journal of Nautical Archaeology and Underwater Exploration*, the *American Neptune*, the *Society for Historical Archaeology Publications Style Guide*, or the *Mariner's Mirror*.

I strongly advise all my students to read Dr. Kevin Crisman's *Guidelines for Writing Your Term Paper*.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Office of Support Services for Students with Disabilities in Room 126 of the Student Services Building. The telephone number is 845-1637.

Aggie Honor Code

"An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do."

Upon accepting admission to Texas A&M University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning and follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor System. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the Texas A&M University community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor System. For additional information please visit: www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor/

On all course work, assignments, and examinations at Texas A&M University, the following Honor Pledge shall be preprinted and signed by the student:

"On my honor, as an Aggie, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this academic work."