

## Chivalric Society

History 12  
Spring 2008  
Mr. Bensch

### **I. Introduction.** Jan 22.

M. Bloch, Feudal Society, tr. A. Manyon (Chicago, 1961), vol. I, pp. xvi-58.

### **II. The Two Feudal Ages of March Bloch.** Jan 29.

M. Bloch, Feudal Society, vol. I, pp. 59-144; II, pp. 359-452.

### **III. The Old Order: Power, Order, and Ritual Before the Millennium.** February 5.

R. Fichtenau, Living in the Tenth Century: Mentalities and Social Orders, tr. P. Geary (Chicago, 1990), pp. 1-77.

F. Ganshof, Frankish Institutions under Charlemagne, tr. B. and M. Lyon (N.Y., 1968), pp. 71-97.

#### Special Topics:

#### A. Presenting Power: Ritual and Representations,

K. Leyser, "Ritual, Ceremony, and Gesture: Ottonian Germany," in Communications and Power in Medieval Europe: The Carolingian and Ottonian Centuries (London, 1994), pp. 189-213.

G. Koziol, Begging Pardon and Favor: Ritual and Political Order in Early Medieval France (Ithaca and London, 1990), pp. 23-76.

P. Buc, The Dangers of Ritual: Between Early Medieval Texts and Social Scientific Theory (Princeton, 2001), pp. 1-12, 203-61.

#### B. Keeping Order:

F. L. Cheyette, "Suum cuique tribuere," French Historical Studies, 6 (1970), pp. 287-99.

P. Geary, "Living with Conflict in Stateless France," in Living with the Dead in the Middle Ages (Ithaca and London, 1994), pp. 125-60.

P. Hyams, Rancor and Reconciliation in Medieval England (Ithaca and New York, 2003), 3-110.

#### IV. The Feudal Revolution: A Struggle for Peace and Justice? Feb. 12.

J. Bournazel and J. Poly, The Feudal Transformation, 900-1200, tr. C. Higgit (N.Y. and London, 1991), pp. 9-46.

T. N. Bisson, "The Feudal Revolution," Past and Present, no. 142 (1994), pp. 6-42.

O. Brunner, Land and Lordship: Structures of Governance in Medieval Austria, tr. H. Kaminsky and J. Van Horn Melton (Philadelphia, 1995), pp. 1-35.

#### Special Topics:

##### A. The Peace of God.

G. Duby, "Laity and the Peace of God," in The Chivalrous Society, tr. C. Postan (Berkeley and L.A., 1977), pp. 94-112.

T. N. Bisson, "The Organized Peace in Southern France and Catalonia, ca. 1140-ca. 1233," American Historical Review, 82 (1977), pp. 290-310.

R. Landes, Relics, Apocalypse, and the Deceits of History: Ademar of Chabannes, 989-1034 (Cambridge, Mass., 1995) pp. 24-74.

T. Head, "The Development of the Peace of God in Aquitania," Speculum 74 (1999), pp. 656-686.

##### B. New Forms of Justice.

G. Duby, "The Evolution of Judicial Institutions," in The Chivalrous Society, pp. 15-59.

G. Koziol, "Monks, Feuds, and the Making of Peace in Eleventh-Century Flanders," in The Peace of God, pp. 239-59.

P. Brown, "Society and the Supernatural: a Medieval Change," in Society and the Holy in Late Antiquity (Berkeley and L.A., 1982), 302-32.

C.M. Radding, "Superstition to Science: Nature, Fortune, and the Passing of the Medieval Ordeal," American Historical Review, LXXXIV (1979), pp. 945-69.

## V. Féodalité: The Backbone of Society? Feb. 19.

F. Ganshof, Feudalism, tr. P. Grierson (London, 1964), pp. xv-xviii, 3-50, 69-149.

E.R. Brown, "The Tyranny of a Construct: Feudalism and the Historians of Medieval Europe," American Historical Review, LXXIX (1974), pp. 1063-88.

### Special Topics:

#### A. The Conceptual Relevance of Feudalism.

J.R. Strayer, "The Two Levels of Feudalism," in J.F. Benton and T.N. Bisson, eds., Medieval Statecraft and Perspectives on History (Princeton, 1971), pp. 63-77.

J. Le Goff, "The Symbolic Ritual of Vassalage," in Time, Work, and Culture, pp. 237-88.

P. Bonnassie, "Feudal Conventions in Eleventh-Century Catalonia," and "From the Rhône to Galicia: Origins and Modalities of the Feudal Order," in From Slavery to Feudalism, pp. 104-31, 170-94.

S. Reynolds, Fiefs and Vassals. The Medieval Evidence Reinterpreted (Oxford, 1994), pp. 1-74.

#### B. The Anglo-Norman Example.

W. A. Stubbs, The Constitutional History of England (Oxford, 1891-98), I, pp. 247-336.

C.W. Hollister, "1066: The Feudal Revolution," American Historical Review, LXXIII (1968), pp. 708-23.

F. Stenton, The First Century of English Feudalism, 1066-1166 (Oxford, 1932), pp. 1-82, 151-90.

Reynolds, Fiefs and Vassals, pp. 323-95.

## VI. Féodalisme: Lordship and Exploitation. Feb. 26.

Bloch, Feudal Society, I, no. 241-81.  
 T.N. Bisson, Tormented Voices: Power, Crisis, and Humanity in Medieval Catalonia, 1140-1200 (Cambridge, Mass., 1998), pp. 1-36, 80-94, 116-55.

### Special Topics:

#### A. Slaves to Serfs?

M. Bloch, "How and Why Ancient Slavery Came to an End," tr. W.R. Beer, Slavery and Serfdom in the Middle Ages (Berkeley and Los Angeles, 1975), pp. 1-32, 93-150.  
 P. Bonnassie, "The Survival and Extinction of the Slave System in the Early Medieval West (Fourth to Eleventh Centuries)," From Slavery to Feudalism in South-Western Europe, tr. J. Birrell (Cambridge, 1991), 1-59.  
 G. Bois, The Transformation of the Year one Thousand: The Village of Lournand from Antiquity to Feudalism, tr. J. Birrell (Manchester, 1992), pp. 1-69, 94-139, 155-72.  
 S.M. Susan Mosher. "Ancillary Evidence for the Decline of Medieval Slavery," Past and Present, no. 149 (1995), pp. 3-28.

#### B. The Nature of Servile Obligations.

P. Freedman, The Origins of Peasant Servitude in Medieval Catalonia (Cambridge, 1991), pp. 1-118.  
 T. N. Bisson, "The Crisis of the Catalan Franchises (1150-1200)," in La formació i expansió del feudalisme català (Girona, 1985-6), pp. 153-72.  
 J. Hatcher, "English Serfdom and Villeinage: Towards a Reassessment," Past and Present, XC (1981), pp. 3-39.  
 A. Boureau, The Lord's First Night: The Myth of the *Droit de Cuissage*, tr. L. G. Cochrane (Chicago, 1998), pp. 1-39, 119-54.

## VII. Vernacular Culture and the Epic. March 4.

The Song of Roland, tr. F. B. Luquiens (N.Y., 1952).

**Midterm: March 6**

# **VIII. Restructuring the Early Medieval Aristocracy. March 18.**

Bloch, Feudal Society, II, 281-332.

\* C. Bouchard, Strong of Body. Brave and Noble: Chivalry and Society in Medieval France (Philadelphia, 1998), pp. 1-27, 67-102

## Special Topics:

### A. Lordship: Command and Ritual.

L. Genicot, "The Nobility of Medieval Francia: Continuity, Break, or Evolution?" in ed. F.L. Cheyette, Lordship and Community in Medieval Europe (Huntington, N.Y., 1975), pp.128-136.

W. Schlesinger, "Lord and Follower in Germanic Institutional History," ibid., pp. 64-99.

F. Irsigler, "On the Aristocratic Character of Early Frankish Society," in ed. T Reuter, The Medieval Nobility (N.Y., London, Amsterdam, 1979), pp. 105-36.

H. Wolfram, "The Shaping of the Early Medieval Principality as a Type of Non-Royal Rulership," Viator, II (1971), pp. 33-51.

### B. The Origins of the Noble Families: From Sippe to Geschlect?

K. Schmidt, "The Structure of the Nobility in the Early Middle Ages," in T. Reuter, ed. The Medieval Nobility (Amsterdam, London, and New York, 1977), pp. 37-60.

G. Tellenbach, "From the Carolingian Imperial Nobility to the German Estate of Imperial Princes," in The Medieval Nobility, pp. 203-44

K. Leyser, "The German Aristocracy from the Ninth to the Early Twelfth Century," Past and Present, XXXIX (1968), pp. 25-53.

K.A. Bullough, "Early Medieval Kinship Groupings: The Terminology of Kinship," Past and Present, XL (1969), pp. 3-18.

J. B. Freed, "Reflections on the Medieval German Nobility," The American Historical Review, XCI (1986), pp. 553-75.

**IX. The Shaping of Noble Houses.** March 25.

G. Duby, The Knight, the Lady, and the Priest, tr. B. Bray (N.Y., 1983).

Special Topics:

A. How Cohesive were Noble Families?

C.B. Bouchard, "Family Structure and Family Consciousness among the Aristocracy in the Ninth to Eleventh Centuries," Francia, 14 (1986), pp. 639-58.

S. White, Custom, Kinship, and Gifts to Saints: The *laudatio parentum* in Western France (Chapel Hill, 1988), pp. 1-18, 40-129.

C. Lansing, The Florentine Magnates: Lineage and Faction in a Medieval Commune (Princeton, 1991), pp. 3-27, 64-83, 164-211.

B. Predators and Princes: The Anglo-Norman Nobility.

E. Searle, Predatory Kinship and the Creation of Norman Power, 840-1066 (Berkeley and L.A., 1989), pp. 1-14, 93-131, 159-249.

R. Fleming, Knights and Lords in Conquest England, (Cambridge, 1991), pp. 3-144

R.C. Holt, "Feudal Society and the Family in Early Medieval England: I. The Revolution of 1066," Transactions of the Royal Historical Society, series 5, 32 (1982), pp. 193-212.

## **X. The Rise of the Knights.** April 1.

Chrétien de Troyes, Perceval le gallois.  
Bouchard, Strong of Body, pp. 26-65.

### Special Topics:

#### A. The Problem of the Knights.

G. Duby, "The Nobility in Eleventh- and Twelfth-Century Mâconnais," in Cheyette, Lordship and Community in Medieval Europe, pp. 137-55.

G. Duby, "Lineage, Nobility, and Knighthood," in The Chivalrous Society, pp. 59-80, 149-57.

J.B. Freed, "The Origins of the European Nobility: The Problem of the Ministerials," Viator, 7 (1976), pp. 211-41.

J. Gillingham, "Thegns and Knights in Eleventh-Century England: Who Was Then a Gentleman?" Transactions of the Royal Historical Society, 6th series, V (1995), pp. 129-54.

K. Leyser, "Early Medieval Canon Law and the Beginning of Knighthood," in his Communications and Power, pp. 143-164.

#### B. Memory and Aristocratic Identity.

G. Duby, "French Genealogical Literature," in The Chivalrous Society, tr. C. Postan (Berkeley and Los Angeles, 1977), pp. 59-80, 149-57.

K. Hauck, "The Literature of House and Kindred Associated with Medieval Noble Families, Illustrated from Eleventh- and Twelfth-Century Satires on the Nobility," in Medieval Nobility, pp. 61-86.

J.B. Freed, The Counts of Falkenstein: Noble Self-Consciousness in Twelfth-Century Germany. Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, new series, vol. 74 (Philadelphia, 1984), pp. 1-68.

T. N. Bisson, "Unheroed Pasts: History and Commemoration in South Frankland Before the Albigensian Crusades," Speculum, 65 (1990), pp. 281-308.

## **XI. Reordering Europe. April 8.**

G. Duby, The Three Orders: Feudal Society Imagined, tr. A. Goldhammer (Chicago, 1978), pp. 1-65, 76-168, 322-53.

\*Bouchard, Strong of Body, pp. 145-71.

### Special Topics:

#### A. Christianizing Violence: The Crusading Movement.

C. Erdmann, The Origins of the Idea of Crusade, tr. M.W. Baldwin and W. Goffart (Princeton, 1977), pp. 3-56, 306-54.

J. Riley-Smith, The First Crusade and the Idea of Crusading (Philadelphia, 1986), pp. 1-58, 91-120.

M. Bull, Knightly Piety and the Lay Response to the First Crusade: The Limousin and Gascony, c. 970-1130 (Oxford, 1993), pp. 1-20, 250-88.

#### B. Noble Patronage and the Church.

J. Howe, "The Nobility's Reform of the Medieval Church," American Historical Review 93 (1988), pp. 317-19.

C.A. Berman, "Women as Donors and Patrons to Southern French Monasteries in the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries," in The Worlds of Medieval Women: Creativity, Influence, Imagination, ed. C.A. Berman et al., (Morgantown, W.V., 1985), pp. 53-68.

C. Bouchard, Sword, Mitre, and Cloister: Nobility and the Church in Burgundy, 980-1198 (Ithaca, N.Y., 1987), pp. 23-86, 225-254.

B. Rosenwein, To Be the Neighbor of Saint Peter: The Social Meaning of Cluny's Property, 909-1049 (Ithaca, N.Y., 1989), pp. 1-77, 202-7.



## **XII. The Courtly Complex.** April 15.

A. Capellanus, The Art of Courtly Love, tr. J.J. Parry (N.Y., 1941) (Selections).

D. de Rougemont, Love in the Western World, tr. M. Belgion (N.Y., 1940), pp. 15-60, 257-87.

### Special Topics:

#### A. Love: Heresy or a New Civilization?

C.S. Lewis, The Allegory of Love: A Study in Medieval Tradition (Oxford, 1936), pp. 1-43.

A.J. Denomy, "An Inquiry into the Origins of Courtly Love," Mediaeval Studies 6 (1944), pp. 175-260.

D. W. Robertson Jr., "The Concept of Courtly Love as an Impediment to the Understanding of Medieval Texts," in The Meaning of Courtly Love, F.X. Newman, ed. (Albany, 1968), pp. **1-18**.

C. Morris, The Discovery of the Individual, 1050-1200 (London, 1972), pp. 107-20.

#### B. Romance and Power

J. W. Baldwin: The Language of Sex: Five Voices from Northern France around 1200 (Baltimore, 1994), pp. xiii-xxviii, 1-88, 116-72.

R. Howard Bloch, Medieval Misogyny and the Invention of Western Romantic Love (Chicago, 1991), pp. 1-13, 113-96.

D. Jacquart and C. Thomasset, Sexuality and Medicine in the Middle Ages, tr. M. Adamson (Princeton, 1988), pp. 87-138.

### XIII. Courtliness and Chivalry. April 22.

Bouchard, Strong of Body, pp. 103-44.

#### Special Topics:

##### A. Shaping Courtly Culture.

N. Elias, A History of Manners, vol. 2 Power and Civility, tr. E. Jephcott (N.Y., 1982), pp. 66-90, 258-70.

J. Bumke, The Concept of Knighthood in the Middle Ages, trans. W.T.H. Jackson ((New York, 1982), 3-21, 72-106.

S. Jaeger, The Origins of Courtliness (Philadelphia, 1986), 3-53, 101-12,

G. Spiegel, Romancing the Past: The Rise of Vernacular Prose Historiography in Thirteenth-Century France (Berekeley and L.A., 1993), pp. 1-54, 99-151, 214-319.

### XIV. Aristocratic Power Contested and Inscribed: Resistance and Representation. April 29.

J. Powis, Aristocracy (Oxford, 1984), pp. 1-22, 63-102.

T. Reuter, "Assembly Politics in Western Europe," in The Medieval World, ed. P. Linehan and J.L. Nelson (London, 2001), 432-50.

#### Special Topics:

##### A. Confronting and Baronial Community in England

F. Kern, The Divine Right of Kings and the Right of Resistance in the Early Middle Ages, tr. S. B. Chrimes, pp. 85-97, 149-180.

J.C. Holt Maga Carta (Cambridge, 1965), 1-18, 63-104. 201-41,

H. Vollrath, "Rebels and Rituals: From Demonstrations of Emnity to Criminal Justice," in Medieval Memories of the Past: Ritual, Memory, and Historiography, ed. G. Althoff et al. (Cambridge, 2004), pp. 89-110.

##### B. Consultation and Persuasion:

A. Marongiu, Medieval Parliaments: A Comparative Study, tr. S.J. Woolf (London, 1968),

T. N. Bisson, Assembly and Representation in Languedoc in the Thirteenth Century (Princeton, 1964), pp. 1-101. 2899-99.

J. Everard, "Aristocratic Assemblies in Brittany, 1066-1203," in Political Assemblies in the Earlier Middle Ages, eds. P. S. Barnwell and M. Mostert (Turhout, 2003), pp. 115-32.

A. Kosto, "Reasons for Assembly in Catalonia, 900-1200," ibid., pp. 133-50.