This is a semester-long module, consisting of two hours of classes a week during Michaelmas Term.

**HI4302 - Learning Outcomes**

On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- Analyse political, religious and intellectual developments during Charlemagne’s reign
- Identify and search for relevant secondary literature
- Engage with relevant theoretical and critical approaches to the history of Carolingian Europe
- Apply different techniques of evaluation and interpretation to relevant primary sources
- Critique relevant historiography in the light of study of primary sources
- Present and discuss analysis of questions relating to the history of Charlemagne and his reign
- Analyse the impact of different aspects of early medieval European politics, society and culture.
Special Subject III: The Reign of Charlemagne, 768-814

LECTURES

The Conquests of Charlemagne
1. The creation of the Carolingian royal dynasty
2. The succession of Charles to the Frankish kingdom and the Lombard war
3. The conquests of Charles: the Saxon wars to 777
4. The Saxon wars from the Paderborn assembly to the Nordalbingian campaign
5. The Avar wars and Bavaria; the itinerary of Charles

Charles, the Papacy and Byzantium
6. Italy in the eighth century: the retreat of Byzantine power
7. The papacy: the regime of Stephen III and the accession of Hadrian I
8. Hadrian I and Charles: the implications of the conquest of the Lombard kingdom
9. Hadrian I, Charles and the Frankish-Byzantine alliance
10. Hadrian I, the Frankish Church and the Byzantine general council
11. Charles, the papacy and Byzantium in a period of transition, 795-9
12. The origins of the imperial coronation: the thesis of the 'Alcuin school'
13. The origins of the imperial coronation: Leo III and the 'Heldmann thesis'
14. The imperial coronation: reconstruction of events, 23 – 25 December 800
15. Influences on the coronation ceremony of 25 December 800
16. Frankish interpretations of the imperial coronation
17. The development of Charles's imperial ideas, 801-806
18. The Frankish-Byzantine war, 806-814

Government in the reign of Charlemagne
19. Carolingian government: the capitularies
20. The royal authority of Charles
21. The governmental officials of the Carolingian empire
22. The office of the count in the Carolingian empire
SPECIAL SUBJECT III

ESSAY SCHEDULE AND EXAMINATION

Moderatorship Essay
The written work for List III modules (as set out in the course Handbook) includes a compulsory Moderatorship essay. This should be no longer than 3,000 words.

The Moderatorship Essay is to be submitted on the date stated in the course Handbook.
The essay must be delivered to the Departmental Office (Room 3118).
Please note that the Moderatorship essay cannot be accepted late unless there is (a) a medical certificate covering the entire period of the delay or (b) an extension granted in advance by the Head of Department.

Examination
The examination consists of two elements:
(1) Examination Paper (an essay paper of three hours, consisting of twelve questions, three to be answered).
(2) Moderatorship Essay.
Special Subject III: The Reign of Charlemagne, 768-814

The Moderatorship Essay: suggested titles

1. The value of the Royal Frankish Annals as a source for the reign of Charlemagne.

2. The date and purpose of Einhard's Life of Charles the Great.

3. The distortion of the image of Charlemagne in Einhard's Life of Charles the Great.

4. An analysis of the presentation of the Saxon wars in the primary sources for the reign of Charlemagne.

5. The aims and methods of Carolingian government as presented in the capitularies of Charlemagne.


7. The political ideas of Alcuin, as expressed in his letters.

8. An analysis of the primary sources for the imperial coronation of Charlemagne.

9. The structure of the aristocracy in the Frankish kingdom in the reign of Charlemagne.

10. The office of bishop in the Carolingian empire during the reign of Charlemagne.

11. The reform of the Frankish church in the reign of Charlemagne.

12. The importance of the written word in the territories of Charlemagne either in literary composition or in government.
Special Subject III

The reign of Charlemagne, 768-814

BIBLIOGRAPHY

General Surveys
2. C. Wickham, The inheritance of Rome: a history of Europe from 400 to 1000 (2010)
4. L. Halphen, Charlemagne and the Carolingian empire (English translation, 1977)
5. H. Fichtenau, The Carolingian empire (English translation, 1957)
10. J. Fleckenstein, Early medieval Germany (English translation, 1978)
11. R. Latouche, Caesar to Charlemagne: the Beginnings of France (English translation, 1968)
19. E.S. Duckett, Carolingian Portraits (1962) contains essays on Charlemagne and Einhard


22. P. Stafford, *Queen, concubines and dowagers: the king's wife in the early Middle Ages* (1990)


**The reign of Charlemagne: warfare and politics**


27. A. Barbero, *Charlemagne: father of a continent* (California, 2004)


32. F.L. Ganshof, *Frankish Institutions under Charlemagne* (1968)

F.L. Ganshof (no. 7) also includes essays on specific problems in the reign of Charlemagne.


34. J. France, 'The composition and raising of the armies of Charlemagne', *Journal of Medieval Military History* 1 (2003), 61-82


37. D.H. Green and F. Sigmund (ed.), *The continental Saxons from the migration period to the tenth century: an ethnographic perspective* (Studies in Historical Archeoethnology 6, 2003)


41. **C. Gillmor**, 'The 791 equine epidemic and its impact on Charlemagne's army', *Journal of Medieval Military History* 3 (2005), 23-45

42. **M. Innes**, 'Franks and Slavs c. 700-1000: the problem of European expansion before the millennium', *Early Medieval Europe* 6 (1997), 201-16


46. **R. Folz**, *The concept of empire in Europe from the fifth to the fourteenth century* (English translation, 1969)

47. **D.A. Bullough**, 'Empire and emperordom from late antiquity to 799', *Early Medieval Europe* 12 (2003), 377-87


49. **H. Mayr-Harting**, 'Charlemagne, the Saxons and the imperial coronation of 800', *English Historical Review* 111 (1996), 1113-33

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**The Carolingians and the Frankish Church**


52. **W. Levison**, *England and the Continent in the eighth century* (1946)


54. **R.A. Fletcher**, *The conversion of Europe from paganism to Christianity* (1998)

56. **B. Effros**, 'De partibus Saxoniae and the regulation of mortuary custom: a Carolingian campaign of Christianization or the suppression of Saxon identity?', *Revue Belge de philologie et d'histoire* 75 (1997), 267-86

57. **M.R. Karras**, 'Pagan survivals and syncretism in the conversion of Saxony', *Catholic Historical Review* 72 (1986), 553-72


59. **R. McKitterick**, *The Frankish Church and the Carolingian Reforms*, 789-895 (1977)

60. **E.S. Duckett**, *Alcuin, friend of Charlemagne* (1951)

61. **L. Wallach**, *Alcuin and Charlemagne* (1959)


63. **L. Wallach**, *Alcuin and Charlemagne: studies in Carolingian history and literature* (1959)


**The Carolingians and the Papacy**

66. **E. Ewig**, 'The papacy's alienation from Byzantium and rapprochement with the Franks'; 'The age of Charles the Great, 768 to 814' in *Handbook of Church History* 3 ed. H. Jedin (English translation, 1968), 3-25, 54-103


68. **J.T. Hallenback**, 'The election of Pope Hadrian I', *Church History* 37 (1968), 261-70


71. **P. Partner**, *The Lands of St. Peter* (1972) chapters 1, 2


73. **P. Llewellyn**, *Rome in the Dark Ages* (1971)

**Carolingian Government**

See especially **D. Bullough** (nos. 3, 30) and **F.L. Ganshof** (nos. 7, 32)


75. **R. McKitterick** (ed.), *The Carolingians and the written word* (1989)

76. **C.E. Odegaard**, 'Carolingian oaths of fidelity', *Speculum* 16 (1941)

77. **C.E. Odegaard**, The concept of royal power in Carolingian oaths of fidelity', *Speculum* 20 (1945)

78. **C. Wickham**, *Early medieval Italy* (1981)

79. **K.F. Drew**, The immunity in Carolingian Italy', *Speculum* 37 (1962)

80. **K.F. Drew**, The Carolingian military frontier in Italy', *Traditio* 20 (1964)


85. **M. McCormick**, 'The liturgy of war in the early Middle Ages: crises, litanies and the Carolingian monarchy', *Viator* 15 (1984), 1-23


89. **T. Reuter** (ed.), *The medieval nobility* (1978), especially the essay by **K.-F. Werner**


91. **J. Martindale**, *Aquitaine from the eighth to the eleventh centuries* (1996)

**Carolngian Political Thought**


95. **K.F. Morrison**, *The two kingdoms: ecclesiology in Carolingian political thought* (1964)


97. **J. Story**, 'Cathwulf, kingship and the royal abbey of St Denis', *Speculum* 74 (1999), 3-21

**Carolngian Culture**


99. **R. McKitterick** (ed.), *Carolingian culture, emulation and innovation* (1994)

100. **R. McKitterick**, *The Frankish kings and culture in the early Middle Ages* (1995)


105. **J. Marenbon**, *From the circle of Alcuin to the school of Auxerre: logic, theology and philosophy in the early Middle Ages* (1981)

**Primary Sources in Translation**


**For additional reading** see the bibliographies in *The New Cambridge Medieval History volume 2* ed. **R. McKitterick** (1995).
Special Subject III  The Reign of Charlemagne, 768-814

STYLE SHEET

These guidelines refer to the presentation of the Moderatorship Essay (see above) and are offered as a supplement to the Departmental Guidelines for Essay Writing in the Sophister Handbook.

Bibliography and Footnotes
The bibliography should include all the works consulted in the course of writing the essay. It should be divided into two categories:

(A) Primary Sources

(B) Secondary Works

A. The following examples indicate the different ways in which primary sources may be cited in footnotes:

1. Einhard, Life of Charlemagne Book 2, trans. L. Thorpe (Harmondsworth, 1969) p. 79. [It is recommended to give both the book 9 (or chapter) of a primary source and the page reference in the translation.]

2. Royal Frankish Annals 799, trans. B.W. Scholz and B. Rogers (Nebraska, 1970) p. 108. [In the case of annals and chronicles, cites the year as well as the page.]


B. The following examples indicate how to cite different categories of secondary work in the bibliography:

1. A monograph:

T. Reuter, Germany in the early Middle Ages c. 800-1056 (London, 1991) [title in italics; place and date of publication in brackets]

2. An article in a collection of articles:


3. An article in a journal:
R. McKitterick, 'The illusion of royal power in the Carolingian annals', *English Historical Review* 115 (2000), 1 – 20 [title of article in plain text and single quotation marks; title of journal in italics; volume number in Arabic numerals; pagination is not preceded by the abbreviation pp. where there is a volume number]

In footnotes each work should be cited *in full* on its *first* appearance. Thereafter it may be cited in an abbreviated form.

e.g. using the example from B(1) above on its second or subsequent appearance:


Use the Latin abbreviation *Ibid.* when citing the same work in consecutive footnotes:


In the text always use the following simple form for dates: 25 December 800 [day, month, year – *not* month, day, year].