SCHOOL OF DIVINITY, HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

ACADEMIC SESSION 2015-2016

HI305E: LAWYERS AND LECHERS IN THE MIDDLE AGES: THE MEDIEVAL CHURCH COURTS AS EVIDENCE FOR MEDIEVAL LIFE

30 Credits for 11 weeks work

PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY:
The full set of school regulations and procedures is contained in the Undergraduate Student Handbook which is available online at your MyAberdeen Organisation page. Students are expected to familiarise themselves not only with the contents of this leaflet but also with the contents of the Handbook. Therefore, ignorance of the contents of the Handbook will not excuse the breach of any School regulation or procedure. You must familiarise yourself with this important information at the earliest opportunity.

COURSE CO-ORDINATOR/COURSE TEAM
Frederik Pedersen, Tel: (01224 272 464), e-mail: f.pedersen@abdn.ac.uk

Discipline Administration:
Mrs Barbara McGillivray/Mrs Gillian Brown
50-52 College Bounds
Room CBLG01
01224 272199/272454
history-ug@abdn.ac.uk

TIMETABLE
For time and place of classes, please see MyAberdeen.

Students can also view their university timetable at http://www.abdn.ac.uk/infohub/study/timetables-550.php
COURSE DESCRIPTION
Canon law touched the life of every inhabitant of Western Europe in the Middle Ages: it could protect the murderer, it allowed for the speedy resolution of conflicts over debt, it developed an anthropology of human sexuality in its attempts to guarantee that marriage lived up to its high Christian ideals, and in many ways salvation itself was a matter of law. The later medieval papacy functioned increasingly as a source of this law. Between 1200 and 1300, the majority of cardinals and popes were not graduates in theology, but canon law. The personnel of embassies in international diplomacy were selected from university law graduates, such that the very language of inter-state discourse became a legal language, and one of its principal components was canon law. Through combination of lectures, student presentations and reading of primary sources in translation the course investigates and discusses the influence of medieval law on European history and institutions

INTENDED AIMS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES
The course aims:

- To enhance students’ critical analysis and appraisal skills required to inter-relate primary sources (textual, visual, material etc.) with a range of secondary historical analyses.
- To consider an historical topic from a range of contemporary and historiographical angles
- To develop a critical awareness of the complexity of historical concepts and models, and an appreciation of their value or limitations in relation to a given historical period or subject
- To help students develop an awareness of the major issues involved in working with primary materials
- To offer diverse and conflicting explanations on a given historical development or period
- To assess and judge issues which were and remain, controversial and emotionally charged

LECTURE/SEMINAR PROGRAMME
Week 1.
1. What the course is about. How it is organised. What written work is necessary. The presentations. Why are you here?
2. The development of canon law from apostolic times to the Reformation, part 1. (FP)

Week 2.
3. The development of canon law from apostolic times to the Reformation, Part 2. (FP)
4. The development of canon law from apostolic times to the Reformation, part 3. (FP)
Week 3.
5. The development of canon law from apostolic times to the Reformation, part 4. (FP)
6. The education of lawyers (FP)

Week 4.
7. The development of the Legal Profession (FP)
8. The University Law Course (FP)

Week 5:
9. The courts: their organisation and procedure. (FP)
10. The courts: their organisation and procedure. (FP)

Week 6.
11. The litigants. (FP)
12. The litigants. (FP)

Week 7.
Note that Presentation Titles and sequences are to be agreed between presenter and coordinator and may differ from the titles below.
13. Presentation: Animal Trials
14. Reading sources selected by presenter.

Week 8.
16. Reading sources selected by presenter

Week 9.
17. Presentation: The Beckett controversy: Thomas Becket, Henry II and the separation of the jurisdiction of the church and the King
18. Reading sources selected by presenter

Week 10.
19. Presentation: the political becomes personal: Pope Innocent III, Imperial elections and the marriage of Philip II of France and Ingeborg.
20. Reading sources selected by presenter

Week 11:
22. Reading sources selected by presenter

ASSESSMENT
75% = 5,000 word Essay
25% = 1,000 word Presentation Report
In a ‘Presentation Report’ you answer three questions: ‘What did I set out to prove?’, ‘What were the strong points of my presentation?’, and ‘How could my presentation be improved?’

Click to view the University Level Descriptors (ANNEX A).
Click to view the University Assessment Scale Band Descriptors (ANNEX B).

PLEASE NOTE: In order to pass a course on the first attempt, a student must attain a Common Grading Scale (CGS) mark of at least E3 on each element of
course assessment. Failure to do so will result in a grade of no greater than CGS E1 for the course as a whole.

ESSAYS
Essays should be approximately 5000 words long, excluding quotations and references and must conform to an appropriate style sheet which must be named at the end of your essay; students should note that they will be penalised for work which is either too long or too short (i.e. over or under the word length by more than 10 per cent) and for not applying reference and bibliographic formatting consistently. The Presentation Report may include bibliographical references, but these are not required.

ASSESSMENT DEADLINES
Essays are due 15:00 on Thursday of week 10 (19 November 2015). Presentation reports are due a week after the presentation has been given.

SUBMISSION ARRANGEMENTS
The Department requires ONE official electronic copy submitted by the deadline plus ONE paper copy of all assignments with the TurnitinUK receipt, attached as follows:

Electronic Copy: One copy submitted through Turnitin via MyAberdeen.

Hard Copy: One hard copy with the Turnitin receipt attached together with an Assessment cover sheet, typed and double spaced – this copy should have your ID number clearly written on the cover sheet, with no name and no signature but everything else filled in – and should be delivered to the History Department [Drop-off boxes located in CB008, 50-52 College Bounds].

Please note: Failure to submit both to Turnitin, and also one identical hard copy with the Turnitin receipt attached will result in a deduction of marks. Failure to submit to Turnitin will result in a zero mark.

EXAMINATION
The course is continuous assessment only.