

History 83

Mystics, Magic, and Witchcraft in Medieval and Early Modern Europe

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Textbooks

Richard Kieckhefer	<i>Magic in the Middle Ages</i>
Guido Ruggiero	<i>Binding Passions</i>
William James	<i>The Varieties of Religious Experience</i>
Marguerite Porete	<i>The Mirror of Simple Souls</i>
Kramer and Sprenger	<i>The Malleus Maleficarum</i> (tr. Montague Summers)
Brian Levack	<i>The Witch-Hunt in Early Modern Europe</i>
Anne Barstow	<i>Witchcraze</i>

Course Outline

1/Tuesday, April 1	Introduction: The Definition and Theory of Magic Reading: Gmelch, "Baseball Magic" (handout)
1/Thursday, April 3	The Rise of Magic in Early Medieval Europe Reading: Kieckhefer, chs. 1-2
2/Tuesday, April 8	The Common Tradition of Medieval Magic Reading: Kieckhefer, chs. 3-5
2/Thursday, April 10	Specialized Magic in the High Middle Ages Reading: Kieckhefer, chs. 6-8
3/Tuesday, April 15	Love and Magic in Renaissance Venice Reading: Ruggiero, chs. 2-3
3/Thursday, April 17	Magic and Power in Renaissance Venice Reading: Ruggiero, chs. 4-5
4/Tuesday, April 22	The Definition and Nature of Mysticism Reading: James, lecture 3 ("Realty of the Unseen")
4/Thursday, April 24	The Origins of Western Mysticism First Paper due
5/Tuesday, April 29	Mysticism in the High Middle Ages Reading: James, lectures 16-17 ("Mysticism"), 20 ("Conclusions"), and Postscript
5/Thursday, May 1	Mysticism and Heresy Reading: Porete, "Introduction"

6/Tuesday, May 6	Mysticism in the Late Middle Ages Reading: Porete, TBA
6/Thursday, May 8	NO CLASS
7/Tuesday, May 13	Witchcraft: Definition and Intellectual Foundations Reading: Levack, chs. 1-2
7/Thursday, May 15	Witchcraft: Legal Foundations Second Paper due
8/Tuesday, May 20	<i>The Malleus Maleficarum</i> Reading: Kramer and Sprenger, TBA
8/Thursday, May 22	Witchcraft: Religious Foundations Reading: Levack, chs. 3-5
9/Tuesday, May 27	Witchcraft: Social and Economic Foundations Reading: Levack, chs. 6-8
9/Thursday, May 29	Witchcraft and Gender I Reading: Barstow, Introduction and chs. 1-4
10/Tuesday, June 3	Witchcraft and Gender II Reading: Barstow, chs. 5-8 and Epilogue
10/Thursday, June 5	The End of Witch-hunting Conclusion

Assignments and Grading

Attendance	10%
Regular writing assignments	15%
First Paper (Magic)	20%
Second Paper (Mysticism)	20%
Two hour final examination	35%
OR Term paper on witchcraft	