



HIST 4654: Medieval London

Prof. Maryanne Kowaleski

Fall 2019

Office Hours:

Mondays 2:30-4:00 pm in Dealy 627

Thursdays 10:15-11:20 am in FMH 405G

and by appointment

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Course Aims:

This interdisciplinary capstone course draws on archaeological and historical evidence and methods to study medieval London. By the end of the course, students should:

- Understand the economic, political, religious, and social influences on the development of medieval London's landscape of buildings, streets, and public spaces
- Understand the economic, social, administrative, and religious history of medieval London from the Anglo-Saxons through the Wars of the Roses
- Have experience analyzing the chief primary sources for medieval London, particularly its charters, chronicles, court rolls, ordinances, guild records, contracts, and wills
- Be able to interpret material evidence for medieval London, particularly human skeletal material, ceramics, clothing, small finds, and the architectural features of buildings
- Be able to compare, contrast, and coordinate archaeological and documentary evidence on specific aspects of London's medieval past in class discussions and an online report
- Become familiar with digital tools and communication by contributing to an online (Omeka) curated exhibition on the material culture of medieval London and to a prosopographical database of medieval Londoners

Grading:

Discussion:	20%
Online exhibition report (10% for drafts)	25%
Medieval Londoners report (10% for drafts)	25%
Presentation (5% for preliminary bibliography & outline):	20%
Pop quizzes	10%

Note that all grading is numerical and translates as follows: 100-94=A; 93-90=A-; 89-87=B+; 86-84=B; 83-80=B-; 79-77=C+; 76-74=C; 73-70=C-; 69-60=D; 59-0=F.

Required Texts to Buy (all are also on 2-hour Reserve at the Walsh Circulation Desk)

FitzStephen, William. *Norman London*. New York: Italica Press, 1990, 2nd edn 2008 [ISBN 978-0934977197, paperback, c. \$11 on Amazon]. You can also buy the first edition. [Also on Blackboard]

Mount, T. *Everyday Life in Medieval London*. Amberley Publishing, 2015. [ISBN 978-1-4456-4700-5 (paper) \$5-\$16 on Amazon].

Schofield, J. *London 1000-1600: The Archaeology of a Capital City*. Equinox Publishing, 2011 [ISBN 978-1908049728 (paper) \$20-\$31 on Amazon]. The assigned readings only are on Blackboard: **I**: pp. 60-69, 74-77, 80-108. **II**: pp. 114-23, 136-46, 152-54. **III**: pp. 198-205; **IV**: pp. 159-89, 194-6; **V**: pp. 23-34, 205-19

Required Texts on Blackboard (those marked [R] are also on two-hour reserve at the Walsh Circulation Desk):

Barron, C.M. in *London in the Later Middle Ages*. Oxford, 2004 [R]

Ch. 1: "The Demands of the Crown," (pp. 9-29)

Ch. 2: "The Needs of the City," (pp. 30-42);

Ch. 7: "Annually Elected Officials: Mayors and Sheriffs," (pp. 147-72);

Ch. 10: "Urban Environment," pp. 255-66 only

BBC. "Filthy Cities: Medieval London" (BBC 2 production: <http://www.dailymotion.com/video/x1bq71r>)

Hanawalt, B. "Servants," in *Growing Up in Medieval London*. Oxford, 1993, pp. 173-98

McIntosh, J. *The Practical Archaeologist: How We Know What We Know About the Past*. 2nd edition. New York: Checkmark Books, 1999: I: pp. 74-91. In two parts on Blackboard. [R]

Milne, G. *The Port of Medieval London*. Stroud: Tempus, 2003, pp.11-20, 103-4, 115-29, 147-56, In two parts on Blackboard [R]

Morgan, J. "Black Death Skeletons Unearthed by Crossrail Project," BBC News (29 March 2014) at <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-26770334>

Museum of London, Centre for Human Bioarchaeology. "Medieval Cemeteries:" at <https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/collections/other-collection-databases-and-libraries/centre-human-bioarchaeology/osteological-database/medieval-cemeteries> .

Primary Source Reader on Medieval London: You should download, print out, read, and mark-up the chapter for Discussion well in advance of the session for which the chapter is assigned [we are skipping Chapter 8]

Steane, J. M. "The Tower of London," *The Archaeology of Medieval England and Wales*. London, 1984, pp. 8-11

Thrupp, S. L. *The Merchant Class of Medieval London [1300-1500]*. Ann Arbor, 1948 [R]

"Standards of Comfort," pp. 130-54

"Economic and Social Position of London Merchants," pp. 1-33

A Research Bibliography for the online reports and the Presentations will also be made available.

Omeka Online Exhibition Report:

Each student is required to post on the course online Omeka exhibition website, *Medieval London* (<https://medievallondon.ace.fordham.edu/>) a short report (750-1000 words) on a medieval object in the Museum of London, with at least three images, downloaded or scanned. Further instructions, including a list of objects to choose from and suggested sources, will be made available in a separate handout; a class will also be devoted to the subject of Digital Humanities that includes directions on how to log onto the class Omeka site and upload your metadata and report.

Medieval Londoners Report:

You will be required to do a report (1000-1200 words) on the craft or trade associated with the medieval object you choose or on Londoners who are involved in that craft or trade. Instructions will be available in a separate handout. Students who receive an A on this assignment will have their reports uploaded and attached to their medieval object report at our Omeka *Medieval London* website.

Discussion:

Students are expected to complete the assigned readings for each class (or watch/consult the video/website assigned that day) and come ready to discuss them at that class. Use these questions as a guide when you read: (1) what types of sources are employed to present information about medieval London? (2) what do these sources tell us about the topic under discussion? (3) what interpretations are offered about the topic? (4) can you discern the methodologies employed by the author to discover information and offer interpretative analysis? Class meetings marked Discussion below are mainly devoted to discussing the Primary Source chapter and secondary source readings assigned since the last Discussion. It is crucial that students complete the assigned readings before the Discussion and, in particular, that they have downloaded, printed out, read, and marked up the Primary Source chapter reading assigned for that class. *Please remember to bring your copy of the Primary Source chapter with you to the Discussion class.*

Quizzes:

Three to four 5-10 minute pop quizzes will be given based on the lectures and readings. Students who are absent without an excuse on the day when a quiz is given will receive a 0 for that quiz.

Presentations:

Each student is required to do one 8-10 minute oral presentation on topics related to medieval London but not covered in depth during a particular class; the presentation topics are noted in the weekly schedule, below. The talk should be informational and consider the types of sources and methodologies (both historical and archaeological) that scholars have employed to understand the topic. Students are encouraged to use powerpoint but will need to

remember to email the instructor the powerpoint the night before the presentation. Questions from other students will follow each presentation (the ability to ask questions is counted towards the Discussion grade). A week before your Presentation (by midnight), you are required to email Dr Kowaleski the following, which is worth 5% of your Presentation grade: 1) a list of bibliographies, websites, or specific publications (with full bibliographic information) on where you found relevant scholarship on your topic; 2) a bibliography of at least three items (with full bibliographic information) that you can use for your presentation; 3) a one-page outline of your presentation. Failure to turn in this material by the due date will result in a 0 for this portion of the Presentation grade.

Class Meetings and Readings:

Students are expected to read the assigned works (or view the assigned videos) before they come to class. All items except Mount, *Medieval London*, are available on Blackboard.

Aug. 29: **An Introduction to the Interdisciplinary Study of Medieval London**

Sept 2: No classes. Labor Day.

Sept. 4: (Monday schedule) **The Topographical Development London I: Romans and Anglo-Saxons**

Reading: Mount, *Medieval London*, 9-28, 41-45, 50-63.

Sept. 5: **The Topographical Development of London II: Norman, Medieval and Tudor London**

Reading: Mount, *Medieval London*, 63-69, 83-97.

Sept. 9: DISCUSSION: **William FitzStephen's *A Description of London***

Reading: William FitzStephen, *Norman London*, pp. vii-xv, 1-90 and note Glossary on pp. 97-102.

Sept. 12: **Introduction to Archaeological Techniques and Assessment**

Reading: McIntosh, *Practical Archaeologist*, pp. 74-91

Sept. 16: DISCUSSION: **Interpreting Archaeological Finds: Methods and Techniques**

Reading: Consider the archaeological techniques at the heart of all ten discoveries in: "Top Ten Discoveries of 2016," *Archaeology* (December 12, 2016), online at: <http://www.archaeology.org/issues/240-1701/features/5125-top-10-archaeological-discoveries-of-2016>

Presentation 1: Faunal Analysis: How it Works and What It Tells Us

Sept. 19: **Introduction to Digital Humanities and the Omeka Platform**

Presentation 2: DNA Analysis: How it Works and What It Tells Us

Presentation 3: Stable Isotope Analysis: How It Works and What it Tells Us

Sept. 23: **Domesticity in Medieval London I: The Material Culture of Everyday Life**

Reading: Schofield, *London: Archaeology*, I: pp. 60-69, 74-77, 80-108

Sept. 26: **Domesticity in Medieval London II: The Material Culture of Everyday Life**

Reading: Mount, *Medieval London*, 219-32, 174-87

Presentation 4: Diet in Medieval London

DUE, at 11:30 am: hard copy in class and electronic copy by email: draft of Medieval Object Report, including outline of text, bibliography, copies of images, and metadata for images (5% of Report grade)

Sept. 30: DISCUSSION: **Documentary Evidence for Everyday Life in Medieval London**

Reading: Thrupp, "Standards of Comfort" *Merchant Class*, pp. 130-54

Primary Source Reader: Chapter 1

Presentation 5: Education in Medieval London

Oct. 3: **London and the Crown**

Reading: Barron, *London*, "Ch. 1: The Demands of the Crown," pp. 9-29

- Oct. 7: DISCUSSION: **City and Crown: The Reality of Royal Power**
 Reading: Barron, *London*, “Ch. 2: The Needs of the City,” pp. 30-42
Primary Source Reader: Chapter 2
 Presentation 6: The Tower of London
- Oct. 10: **Governing London: Mayors, Aldermen, the Common Council, and Wards**
 Reading: Barron, *London*, “Ch. 7: The Annually Elected Officials: Mayor and Sheriffs,” 147-72
 Mount, *Medieval London*, 112-14, 121-24
- Oct. 12: (Saturday) **DUE**, by 6 pm (via email): *Draft of Medieval Object Report, including full report, and bibliography, followed by images and captions in images, all in one Word file (5% of Report grade)*
- Oct. 14: No Class: Columbus Day
- Oct. 17: DISCUSSION: **Government and the Civic Bureaucracy**
 Reading: *Primary Source Reader*: Chapter 3
 Presentation 7: The 1381 Revolt in London
- Oct. 21: **Making Money in Medieval London: Guilds, Trade, and Finance**
 Reading: Mount, *Medieval London*, pp. 115-118, 141-49
- Oct. 24: DISCUSSION: **The Merchant Class of Medieval London**
 Reading: Thrupp, “Economic and Social Position of London Merchants,” pp. 1-33
Primary Source Reader: Chapter 4
 Presentation 8: Geoffrey Chaucer as a Londoner
- Oct. 28: **Working in Medieval London: The Other 90%**
 Reading: Schofield, *London: Archaeology*, II: pp. 114-23, 136-46, 152-54
 Mount, *Medieval London*, 149-56, 191-205
- Oct. 31 DISCUSSION: **The Manufacturing, Retail, and Service Sectors of the London Economy**
 Reading: Hanawalt, “Servants,” pp. 173-98
Primary Source Reader: Chapter 5
 Presentation 9: Shops and Shopping in Medieval London
DUE, by 6 pm: *final Medieval Object Report, including text, notes, bibliography, images, captions to images, and metadata must be uploaded; send a Word copy of your written report, notes, bibliography, and captions to your images to kowaleski@fordham.edu (15% of Report grade)*
- Nov. 4: **Living and Dying in Medieval London: Reading Human Bones**
 Reading: Museum of London, “Medieval Cemeteries”: read “Medieval Period Summary,” and two of the eight cemetery reports (both the summary and data presented in graphs), and look at least three of the photographs for each of your two sites, at <https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/collections/other-collection-databases-and-libraries/centre-human-bioarchaeology/osteological-database/medieval-cemeteries>
 Schofield, *London: Archaeology*, pp. 198-205
- Nov. 7: DISCUSSION: **Living and Dying in Medieval London**
 Reading: Morgan, “Black Death Skeletons Unearthed by Crossrail Project,” BBC News (29 March 2014) at <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-26770334>
Primary Sources Reader: Chapter 6
 Presentation 10: Medieval Burial Practices
 Presentation 11: Determining if the Bubonic Plague was *Yersinia Pestis*

Nov. 11: **Worshipping in Medieval London: The Clergy, Laity and Medieval Devotion**

Reading: Schofield, *London: Archaeology*, IV: pp. 159-89, 194-6

Presentation 12: The Jews in Medieval London

Nov 14: **Introduction to Digital Databases and Prosopography**

Nov. 16 (Saturday): **DUE**: by 6:00 pm by email: (1) MLD spreadsheet with at least ten completed entries relevant to your Medieval Londoners Report; (2) draft of text, notes, and bibliography for your medieval Londoners report (10% of MLD Report grade)

Nov. 18: DISCUSSION: **Religion in Medieval London**

Reading: *Primary Source Reader*: Chapter 7

Presentation 13: Hospitals and Medical Care in Medieval London

Nov. 21: **The Urban Environment: Buildings, Pollution, and Sanitation**

Reading: Barron, *Medieval London*, “Ch. 10: Urban Environment,” pp. 255-66 only

Schofield: *London: Archaeology*, V: pp. 23-34, 205-19

Nov. 25: DISCUSSION: **The Urban Environment**

Watch: “Filthy Cities: Medieval London” (BBC 2 production on YouTube: one hour)

Reading: *Primary Source Reader*: Chapter 9

Presentation 14: The Suburb of Southwark

Presentation 15: The Suburb of Westminster

Nov. 28: No Class. Thanksgiving break

Dec. 3: **Crime and the Underworld in Medieval London**

Reading: Mount, *Medieval London*, pp. 233-46

DISCUSSION: *Primary Source Reader*: Chapter 10

Presentation 16: Justice, Courts, and Punishments in Medieval London

Dec. 5: **London and the Thames**

Reading: Milne, *The Port of Medieval London*, pp.11-20, 103-4, 115-29, 147-56

DISCUSSION: *Primary Source Reader*: Chapter 11

Presentation 17: London Bridge in History and Archaeology

Dec. 13 (Friday): **DUE** by 6 pm by email: (1) Final draft in Word of your Medieval Londoners Report (text, notes, bibliography and images (with captions), and (2) final spreadsheet of entries to MLD (15% of MLD grade)