

History 589.001
ELITE WOMEN IN ENGLAND, 1350-1600
Fall 2013

Instructor: Dr. Judy Ann Ford
Office Location: SS 113
Office Hours: Mon. & Wed. 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM; Tues. 9:30 AM - noon;
or by appointment
Office Phone: (903) 886-5928
Office Fax: (903) 468-3230
University Email Address: Judy_Ford@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials--Required:

1. Mavis E. Mate, *Women in Medieval English Society*, New Studies in Economic and Social History (Cambridge, Eng.: Cambridge University Press, 1999). ISBN: 0521587336
2. Rosemary Horrox, *Fifteenth-Century Attitudes: Perceptions of Society in Late Medieval England* (Cambridge, Eng.: Cambridge University Press, 1997). ISBN: 0521589864
3. Jennifer C. Ward, *English Noblewomen in the Later Middle Ages*. The Medieval World (New York: Routledge, 1995). ISBN: 0582059658
4. Alison Weir, *Mistress of the Monarchy: The Life of Katherine Swynford, Duchess of Lancaster*, rpt. ed. (New York: Ballantine Books, 2010). ISBN: 0345453247
5. Carole Levin, ed., *High and Mighty Queens of Early Modern England: Realities and Representations. Queenship and Power* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010). ISBN: 023062118X
6. Kevin Sharpe, *Selling the Tudor Monarchy: Authority and Image in Sixteenth-Century England* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2009). ISBN: 0300140983.

Course Description:

This course consists of a focused study on the topic of elite women in England during the late Middle Ages and the start of the early modern period.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the historiography of late Medieval England as it pertains to women and society and women and power.
2. Students will be able to research and write a thesis-driven paper of at least fifteen pages on an historical topic, using appropriate sources.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance and Participation

Attendance at all class meetings is strongly encouraged.

Assessment

A. Class Discussions

The students and instructor will meet periodically to discuss the assigned material.

B. Research paper

The students will write a thesis-driven research paper containing approximately fifteen pages of text and notes, plus a cover page and bibliography. The essay will incorporate the assigned readings as appropriate and other readings of the student's choice.

Grading

Discussions	50%
Essay	50%

The grading scale used for this course is as follows:

900-1000	=	A
800-899.9	=	B
700-799.9	=	C
600-699.9	=	D
599.9 or less	=	F

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS, ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Word Processing:

You will need access to a word processor and printer to prepare the proposal and research paper. You should be able to insert footnotes in your papers.

eCollege:

This course is web-enhanced through eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To access eCollege you will need an internet connection, preferably high speed, and your CWID and password. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, please contact Technology Services at 903-468-6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu. To get started with the course, go to: <https://leo.tamuc.edu/login.aspx>. eCollege will be used to send you announcements and reminders, to post grades, and to provide access to course materials (except required readings) such as handouts and assignments. In addition, eCollege will be the primary means for me to communicate with you outside the classroom. Be sure that you can access the email account the university has on record for you.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you cannot see me during office hours, please send me an email so that we can make an appointment. I am quite happy to see students at any time as long as I don't have a prior commitment.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Classroom Behavior

All students are expected to observe basic tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (See Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).

Academic Honesty

In all courses, I expect that all work that you do and turn in is your own. It is the policy of the University, the History Department, and myself that no form of plagiarism, cheating, collusion, or any other form of academic dishonesty will be tolerated. Plagiarism is defined as deliberately taking the words or ideas of someone else and passing them off as your own. Cheating is obtaining unauthorized assistance on any assignment. Collusion is the selling of academic products with the intention that they be submitted to satisfy an academic requirement. Students are expected to uphold and support the highest academic standards at all times. Any student found guilty of academic dishonesty will automatically fail the assignment in question, will likely fail the entire course, and will be subject to disciplinary action by the University (See Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b[1,2,3]). Further information on the History Department plagiarism policy can be found on the History Department web page. If you are even unclear about what constitutes plagiarism or academic dishonesty, please ask me.

Writing Center

Students are encouraged to take advantage of the resources of the Writing Center for assistance with drafting their papers. The Writing Center is a resource for you. They will not write your paper; they will help you improve your writing skills. If you use the Writing Center, please plan ahead. They can only help you if you see them in advance and have time to incorporate their suggestions into the final paper. More information can be found at <http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/litlang/CSC/>.

ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library
Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook).

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

WEEK ONE

Aug. 26 - 30 Introduction

WEEKS TWO & THREE

Sept. 2 – 13 Read and discuss Mate, *Women in Medieval English Society*. Preliminary discussion of paper topics.

WEEKS FOUR & FIVE

Sept. 16 - 27 Read and discuss Horrox, *Fifteenth-Century Attitudes: Perceptions of Society in Late Medieval England*. Read and evaluate primary sources.

WEEKS SIX & SEVEN

Sept. 30 – Oct. 11 Read and discuss Ward, *English Noblewomen in the Later Middle Ages*.
Establish research question and hypothesis.

WEEKS EIGHT & NINE

Oct. 14 - 25 Read and discuss Weir, *Mistress of the Monarchy: The Life of Katherine Swynford, Duchess of Lancaster*. Read and evaluate primary sources.

WEEKS TEN & ELEVEN

Oct. 28-Nov. 8 Read and discuss Levin, ed., *High and Mighty Queens of Early Modern England: Realities and Representations*.

WEEKS TWELVE & THIRTEEN

Nov. 11 - 22 Read and discuss Sharpe, *Selling the Tudor Monarchy: Authority and Image in Sixteenth-Century*.

WEEKS FOURTEEN & FIFTEEN

Nov. 25 – Dec. 6 Discuss issues with papers.

WEEK SIXTEEN

Dec. 11 Submit Research paper.