HIST 201 Approaches to History  
The Islamic Near East during the Crusader Period  
(MW 3:00-4:15; Clark C-360)

Professor Lindsay  
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Office Hours  
Monday & Tuesday 10:30-12:00

HIST 201 Approaches to History satisfies the AUCC 3D Historical Perspectives requirement.

**Course Description**
This seminar examines approaches to history and the skills involved in its practice. Students will use the foundations of historical methodology (especially careful analysis of primary sources and modern historiography) to explore the interactions between Muslims and Franks in the Islamic Near East during the Crusader period. In the process, students will gain a greater understanding of the complexity of some of the personalities and motivations that animate this fascinating period in world history.

**Required Readings**
- Paul M. Cobb, *The Race for Paradise: An Islamic History of the Crusades*
- James E. Lindsay & Suleiman A. Mourad, *Muslim Sources of the Crusader Period: An Anthology*
- Various supplementary readings (Available via Canvas)

**Methods of Evaluation**
- Attendance and Participation (15%)
- Analytical essays based on the readings in *Muslim Sources of the Crusader Period* (60%)
- Final Exam (25%)

**Weekly Topics & Readings**
1. August 23 & 25: Approaches to History—Course Overview
   - Monday Readings
     - Lewis, “Why Study History?”
     - Lindsay & Mourad, Introduction, pp. xiii–xxiii
     - Lindsay & Mourad, Appendix C, pp. 225-227
     - (Have these read, especially Lewis, before the first day of class)
   - Wednesday Readings
     - Cobb, Prologue & ch. 1, pp. 1–23

2. August 30 & September 1: The Abode of Islam, Part 1
   - Monday Readings
     - Cobb, ch. 1, pp. 23–35
   - Wednesday Readings
     - Crawford, “The First Crusade: Unprovoked Offense or Overdue Defense?”
3. September 6 & 8: The Abode of Islam, Part 2

**Monday—September 6, Labor Day, No Class**

Wednesday Readings
Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 1, pp. 1–14

Analytical Essay 1—Wednesday


Monday Readings
Cobb, ch. 2, pp. 36–57
Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 3, pp. 59–61

Wednesday Readings
Cobb, ch. 2, pp. 57–70

5. September 20 & 22: The Frankish Conquests of the First Crusade

Monday Readings
Cobb, ch. 3

Wednesday Readings
Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 3, pp. 62–70

Analytical Essay 2—Wednesday

6. September 27 & 29: The Islamic Near East in the Wake of the First Crusade

Monday Readings
Cobb, ch. 4

Wednesday Readings
Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 3, pp. 71–79

7. October 4 & 6: Zangi, Edessa, and the Second Crusade

Monday Readings
Cobb, ch. 5, pp. 124–142

Wednesday Readings
Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 3, pp. 80–88
Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 4, pp. 157–164

Analytical Essay 3—Wednesday


Monday Readings
Cobb, ch. 5, pp. 142–165

Wednesday Readings
Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 4, pp. 165–173
Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 2, pp. 41–53
Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 3, pp. 89–90
9. October 18 & 20: Saladin, the Franks, and the Conquest of Jerusalem
   Monday Readings
   Cobb, ch. 6

   Wednesday Readings
   Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 1, pp. 15–27
   Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 3, pp. 91–98
   Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 5, pp. 191–193
   Analytical Essay 4—Wednesday

10. October 25 & 27: Saladin, the Franks, and the Third Crusade
    Monday Readings
    Cobb, ch. 7, pp. 194–204

    Wednesday Readings
    Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 1, pp. 28–39
    Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 3, pp. 99–106
    Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 5, pp. 194–195

11. November 1 & 3: Saladin’s Heirs: The Ayyubids
    Monday Readings
    Cobb, ch. 7, pp. 204–218

    Wednesday Readings
    Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 3, pp. 107–133
    Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 4, pp. 174–190
    Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 5, pp. 196–199
    Analytical Essay 5—Wednesday

    Monday Readings
    Cobb, ch. 8, pp. 219–231

    Wednesday Readings
    Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 3, pp. 134–143

    Monday Readings
    Cobb, ch. 8, pp. 231–245

    Wednesday Readings
    Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 2, pp. 54–57
    Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 3, pp. 144–155
    Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 5, pp. 200–203

   November 20–28—Thanksgiving Break—No Class
14. November 29 & December 1: Inscriptions
   Monday Readings
   Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 6, pp. 205–209

   Wednesday Readings
   Lindsay & Mourad, ch. 6, pp. 210–214

15. December 6 & 8: Islamdom and Christendom in the 14th and 15th Centuries
   Monday Readings
   Cobb, ch. 9

   Wednesday Readings
   Cobb, Epilogue

16. Final Exam—Monday, December 13, 4:10–6:10pm