

Popular Rebellion in Late Medieval Europe

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The course will analyse and compare rebellion, popular movements, and violence in Western Europe from circa 1200 to 1430. In addition to the best-known of these rebellions—the Revolts of Flanders 1297-1304 and 1323-8, the Jacquerie of 1358, the Tumult of the Ciompi, 1378, the English Peasant Uprising 1381, and the Hussites--the course will investigate the sweep of many other revolts to address questions such as what different did the Black Death make to the history of popular rebellion, consciousness, and state formation? What was the role of religious ideas in fomenting rebellion? What was the character of the leadership, organisation, and ideology of late medieval revolt? Did popular rebellion change fundamentally over time; did it differ from one region to the next? In addition to informing students about the particularities of late medieval history through the lens of insurrection and conflict, the course will introduce comparative history as a method for understanding societies past and present.

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