

Crusade in the north

Date	17 January 2016	Time	10.00 – 16.45
Venue	Madingley Hall Madingley Cambridge		
Tutor	Dr Thomas Williams	Course code	1516NDX014

Director of Programmes Emma Jennings

For further information on this course, please contact Clare Kerr, Public Programmes Coordinator
01223 746237 clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk

To book See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746262

Tutor biographies

Thomas Williams is a medieval historian, archaeologist and writer. His PhD project investigated the relationship between landscape and warfare in early medieval Britain and he is the former Project Curator of the 2014 exhibition *Vikings: Life and Legend* at the British Museum. His research is focused on the interdisciplinary study of early medieval warfare, in particular the role of religion and mythology in shaping responses to landscapes of conflict. He is also interested in the post-medieval reception of the medieval past, and warrior ideologies in the later Middle Ages in Britain, Scandinavia, Russia and the Eastern Baltic.

Day school content:

Few people are aware of the series of Holy Wars that were fought against the pagans and Orthodox Christians of the eastern Baltic. The results, however, would have profound implications for the future of Europe. This course will provide an introduction to the region and its geographical and prevailing culture at the outset of the Crusades. We will consider the background to the crusading movement and what propelled (primarily) German and Scandinavian emigrants to attempt to colonise and convert the Baltic and Slavic peoples of Europe's north-eastern frontier. Central to this will be the role of the knightly orders – especially the Teutonic Knights – and how this militaristic Christian power exerted control, enlisted foreign allies and waged a perpetual war against its pagan

and Orthodox Christian neighbours. Finally, we will consider how the Northern Crusades have been remembered and used in more modern times in propaganda and nation building.

Programme:

09:30	Terrace bar open for pre-course tea/ coffee
10:00 – 11:15	Session 1 - Introduction: background to and the concept of crusading; geographical familiarisation; the Baltic region c. 1100; sources for the Northern Crusades
11:15	Coffee
11:45 – 13:00	Session 2 - Conquest and Colonisation: early 'crusades' in the Baltic; the conquest and settlement of the eastern Baltic by Germans and Scandinavians; the advent of the Sword-brothers and Teutonic Knights in Prussia and Livonia
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:15	Session 3 - Monks of War: The theocratic states of Prussia and Livonia (monastery-castles, the organisation of the knightly orders, towns, coinage and economy)
15:15	Tea
15:30 – 16:45	Session 4 - The Perpetual Crusade: the war against Lithuania and the Russian principalities; English and Scottish involvement in the crusades; the legacy of the Northern Crusades to the modern day
16:45	Day school ends

Reading and resources list

Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course.

Author	Title	Publisher and date
Eric Christiansen	<i>The Northern Crusades</i>	Penguin 1997
Aleks Pluskowski	<i>The Archaeology of the Prussian Crusade</i>	Routledge 2014
William Urban	<i>The Teutonic Knights: a military history</i>	Frontline 2011

These are (relatively) inexpensive titles which provide a good overview of the period in all its dimensions. Christiansen's book, in particular, is excellent. There are also a number of books in the Osprey series that deal with crusader castles and the Teutonic Knights which represent some of the

only accessible English language books on this subject. A number of volumes published by Ashgate and edited by Alan V. Murray are also excellent, but VERY expensive.

Additional information

Venue

Details of how to find Madingley Hall can be found on our website:

<http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk/who-we-are/how-to-find-the-institute>

Refreshments

Tea and coffee and lunch will be provided. If you have any specific dietary requirements or allergies and have not already advised us, please inform our Admissions Team on

ice.admissions@ice.cam.ac.uk or +44 (0)1223 746262.

Note Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

Information correct as of: 05 January 2016