

Topics HST102 (Western Civ: Medieval/Early Modern)

You are not restricted to these topics. This list represents topics students have done in the past. You must choose a focused, specific topic and one that goes beyond information in the textbook (you must consult several outside sources---I will give you guidelines on finding good historical sources). Some topics in history are the subjects of great controversy and debate. If you chose such a topic you must consult sources that represent the most credible views on the topic (consult with me if you have any doubts). if you have an idea for a topic not on this list, just run it by me to make sure that it is appropriate for the class and the format of this assignment. These topics are arranged in rough chronological order:

Castles

The Varangian Guard of Byzantium

Medieval metallurgy

Medieval Agriculture

Food and cuisine of the Middle Ages

The Knights Templar

Battle of Antioch

Knights of Malta

The Order of Teutonic Knights

The Book of Kells

The Arabian Nights

Medieval Cuisine

The Norman Conquest

Eleanor of Aquitaine

Civil War between Empress Maude and King Stephen

Alchemy

Gothic Cathedrals

Historical basis of the Legend of King Arthur

History of the legend of Robin Hood

Mythic Objects in Medieval Culture

William the Conqueror

Richard the LionHeart

The Mongols Impact on Eastern Europe

Joan of Arc

The 100 Years War

Cistercian Monasteries

Peter Abelard

Oxford University

The Black Death (plague) choose a specific aspect of it (medical practices, artwork inspired by, etc)

Pope Alexander VI (Rodrigo Borgia)

Renaissance music

Medieval or Renaissance musical instruments

Battles: Crecy or Agincourt (many other possibilities)

Battle of Lepanto

Technology: long bow

The Alahambra Palace in Cordoba

Beguines and Beghards

gunpowder

Alexander Nevski

A European Explorer (Magellan, de Gama, Columbus, etc.)

Witch Hunts

Ivan the Terrible

John Calvin,

Henry VIII

Elizabeth I

Charles V

The Hapsburgs

Galileo

Choose a Scientific Discovery from this period

Jesuits

Changes in Everyday life (Houses, family life, etc.)

English defeat of Spanish Armada

Music (must focus on particular era, composer, genre, etc)

Little Ice Age

English Civil War

Pope Julius II

30 Years War

Florence

The Duomo in Florence

Renaissance Architecture

Contrast between Medieval and Renaissance Art

The Art of Michelangelo

Catherine the Great

Peter the Great

Medieval agriculture

Artwork of the plague

Legend of King Arthur

Windsor Castle

The Scots Rebellion

Leonardo D'Vinci

Women's status in Medieval Europe

Literacy and literature in England

Chaucer

The V.O.C. and the Dutch Trading Empire

William Wallace

Palace of Versailles

Tower of London

Vlad Dracula

Shakespeare

Versailles

Galileo

Mary Wollstonecraft

The new Novels of the eighteenth century

J.S. Bach

Coffee and Coffee house culture

John Locke

Voltaire