

# How the Crusades Changed History

Course Guidebook

Professor Philip Daileader  
The College of William & Mary



**PUBLISHED BY:**

**THE GREAT COURSES**

**Corporate Headquarters**

**4840 Westfields Boulevard, Suite 500**

**Chantilly, Virginia 20151-2299**

**Phone: 1-800-832-2412**

**Fax: 703-378-3819**

**[www.thegreatcourses.com](http://www.thegreatcourses.com)**

**Copyright © The Teaching Company, 2013**

Printed in the United States of America

This book is in copyright. All rights reserved.

Without limiting the rights under copyright reserved above,  
no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in  
or introduced into a retrieval system, or transmitted,  
in any form, or by any means  
(electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise),  
without the prior written permission of  
The Teaching Company.



## Philip Daileader, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Lyon G. Tyler  
Department of History  
The College of William & Mary

---

Professor Philip Daileader is an Associate Professor in the Lyon G. Tyler Department of History at The College of William & Mary, where he served as Department Chair from 2008 to 2011. He received his B.A. in History from The

Johns Hopkins University and his M.A. and Ph.D. in History from Harvard University. At William & Mary, he has held a University Professorship in Teaching Excellence; he also has received an Alumni Fellowship Award in Teaching and a Phi Beta Kappa Society Award for Excellence in Teaching (Alpha Chapter of Virginia). Before that, Professor Daileader was a four-time winner of the Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching. He also has taught at The University of Alabama and at the State University of New York at New Paltz. In 2012, The Princeton Review named him one of the 300 best professors in the United States.

Professor Daileader's research focuses on the social, cultural, and religious history of Mediterranean Europe. He is the author of *True Citizens: Violence, Memory, and Identity in the Medieval Community of Perpignan (1162–1397)* (translated into French in 2004) and coeditor of *French Historians, 1900–2000: New Historical Writing in Twentieth-Century France*. He has published articles in North American and European journals, including *Archivum historiae pontificiae*, the *Journal of Medieval History*, *Imago Temporis: Medium Aevum*, and *Speculum*. Professor Daileader is finishing a book whose working title is *Valencian Apocalyptic: Saint Vincent Ferrer (c. 1350–1419), His World and Life*.

Professor Daileader's other Great Courses include *Early Middle Ages*, *High Middle Ages*, and *Late Middle Ages*. ■

# Table of Contents

---

## INTRODUCTION

Professor Biography .....	i
Course Scope .....	1

## LECTURE GUIDES

### LECTURE 1

What Were the Crusades? .....	3
-------------------------------	---

### LECTURE 2

Before the Crusades—Deep Background .....	10
---	----

### LECTURE 3

Before the Crusades—Immediate Circumstances .....	18
---	----

### LECTURE 4

The First Crusade and Conquest of Jerusalem .....	25
---	----

### LECTURE 5

The Rise of the Templars .....	33
--------------------------------	----

### LECTURE 6

Defending the Crusader States, 1099–1144 .....	40
--	----

### LECTURE 7

The Second Crusade—False Steps and Failure .....	47
--	----

### LECTURE 8

Saladin—General and Sultan .....	54
----------------------------------	----

### LECTURE 9

The Third Crusade—We Three Kings .....	61
--	----

### LECTURE 10

The Fourth Crusade—Conquest of Constantinople .....	68
---	----

## Table of Contents

---

<b>LECTURE 11</b>	
Crusades in Spain .....	75
<b>LECTURE 12</b>	
The Northern Crusades .....	82
<b>LECTURE 13</b>	
The Children's and Albigensian Crusades .....	89
<b>LECTURE 14</b>	
Fifth and Sixth Crusades—Tragedy and Oddity .....	96
<b>LECTURE 15</b>	
Louis IX—The Crusader Saint .....	103
<b>LECTURE 16</b>	
The Hohenstaufen and Shepherds' Crusades .....	110
<b>LECTURE 17</b>	
The Fall—1291 .....	117
<b>LECTURE 18</b>	
The Crusades and Their Critics .....	124
<b>LECTURE 19</b>	
War and Travel—The Experience of Crusading .....	131
<b>LECTURE 20</b>	
Life in the Crusader East .....	139
<b>LECTURE 21</b>	
Cultural Contact and Exchange .....	147
<b>LECTURE 22</b>	
Crusade and Mission .....	154
<b>LECTURE 23</b>	
The Crusades and the Course of History, Part 1 .....	161

# Table of Contents

---

## LECTURE 24

The Crusades and the Course of History, Part 2.....	168
---	-----

## SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

### MAPS

The End of the Christian Empire .....	175
The Reign of Bassle II .....	176
Arrival of the Seljuk Turks.....	177
1099: The March to Jerusalem.....	178
The First Crusade: Advance to Antioch .....	178
The People's Crusade .....	179
The Crusader States, c. 1100.....	180
The Aftermath of Hattin .....	181
The Rise of Saladin .....	182
The "Splinter Empress," 1214 .....	183
The Crusade of Louis IX.....	184
Bibliography.....	185

# How the Crusades Changed History

---

## Scope:

Few images of the Middle Ages are as enduring as that of the crusader knight traveling to the Holy Land. Yet the origins, nature, and consequences of the crusades remain lively topics of debate. What motivated people of every social status, from kings and nobles to peasants and hermits, to take part in the crusades? What was it like to go on a crusade and to live in a crusader society? Why and how did Europe suddenly intrude so forcefully in the affairs of the two established powerhouses of the Mediterranean, the Byzantine Empire and the House of Islam? How did the crusades shape the internal development of the medieval West, and how did the crusades affect East–West relations? Crusades to the Holy Land are the central focus of this course, but we will also examine the crusades in all their geographical manifestations. From Spain to the Baltics, the successes, failures, and unintended consequences of the crusading movement played a crucial role in determining the future shape and identity of Europe.

The course begins by examining the novel combination of holy war and pilgrimage embodied in the crusades, along with the crusading indulgence, a spiritual benefit that most likely did not exist before the First Crusade. We then explore the background and context of the First Crusade, launched in November 1095, in order to show why there were any crusades at all. From there, we move on to examine the narrative history of crusading between the launching of the First Crusade and the fall of the Christian kingdom of Jerusalem in 1291. These narrative lectures cover the crusader conquest of Jerusalem in 1099; the struggle between Richard Lionheart and Saladin during the Third Crusade; the crusader conquest of Constantinople, capital of the Byzantine Empire, during the Fourth Crusade; and the failed crusading expeditions of King Louis IX (later, Saint Louis) in the later 13<sup>th</sup> century. As we will see, the startling success of the First Crusade initiated two centuries of crusading in the Holy Land, but subsequent crusades tended to be ineffectual at best and, at least for the crusaders themselves, occasionally disastrous. Crusading to the Holy Land rightly holds a central place in any account of the medieval crusades, but these narrative lectures

will also examine how crusading spread all along Christendom's frontiers in the Middle Ages and then to Christendom's interior.

Following this narrative examination of the crusades, we then address various questions and issues that pertain to crusading. What was it like to travel and to fight on a crusade? Did crusading hinder or facilitate cultural exchange between the Islamic world and medieval Europe? And, perhaps most importantly, what was the legacy of the crusades? To what extent and how did they change history?

The crusades changed medieval Europe and the Near East in many ways: through the European conquest of Jerusalem and the temporary establishment of Crusader States in Syria and Palestine and through the permanent conquest of Islamic Spain and of pagan lands in eastern Europe. But the crusading movement proved hard to control, as was evident during the famous Children's Crusade of 1212 and the less well-known Shepherds' Crusades of 1251 and 1320. Crusaders sometimes put crusades to purposes far removed from the interests of those who summoned them. Most importantly, the crusades' longest-lasting consequences were unintended and self-defeating ones that affected the internal history of medieval and postmedieval Europe as much as Eurasian geopolitics. ■