Heresy and Church

History 110WH
Pomona College
Professor Wolf

Description

Heresy, a natural by-product of the Catholic church's insistence on religious conformity, has been a part of Christian history from its inception. This course focuses specifically on the history of religious dissent in Europe from the mid-eleventh to the mid-thirteenth centuries, using it as a way to understand changes in medieval religiosity as well as the evolution of ecclesiastical responses to these changes. As a research seminar, it is intended to provide students with "hands-on" experience in producing historical scholarship based on the use of primary and secondary sources.

Units

1. Heresy and Church in Theory

2. The Beginnings of “Popular Heresy” in Latin Europe (early 11C)
   - Leutard & Vilgard, from Wakefield & Evans, Heresies of the High Middle Ages, pp. 71-73.

3. Papal Reform and its Implications for Religious Dissent (late 11C)
   - Moore, Birth of Popular Heresy, 24-32 (docs 6-9).
   - Cowdrey, "The Papacy, the Patarenes, and the Church of Milan" (1968), pp. 25-48.

4. The Challenges of the Vita Apostolica (12C)
   - Moore, Birth of Popular Heresy, pp. 33-62. (docs 11-17)
   - Moore, Origins of European Dissent, pp. 46-114.
5. The Cistercians (12C)

- Moore, Birth of Popular Heresy, document 22, pp. 74-77.

6. The Cathars (12C)

- Moore, Birth of Popular Heresy, documents 29, 30, 35, 36.

7. Innocent III (1198-1216) and the Dominicans

- Innocent III, Fourth Lateran Council, canons 1-3.
- Jordan of Saxony, On the Beginnings of the Order of Preachers

8. The Albigensian Crusade (1208-1229)

- Peter of les Vaux-de-Cernay, The History of the Albigensian Crusade.

9. The Papal Inquisition (beginning 1233)

10. Cathars or no Cathars?

- Pegg, "Historians and Inquisitors: Testimonies from the Early Inquisitions into Heretical Depravity," pp. 98-112.