



## Departing for War in the Age of the Crusades

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How have men and women prepared to go to war in the long duration of human history? The question is pertinent today, not only because war is always present somewhere on the globe, but also because proper preparations for war have a major impact on the morale of the fighting force. Perhaps we may learn something from the medieval Crusades in this respect.

We know that a crusade required extensive planning and accumulation of resources. But what of the social and psychological preparations? In what ways did a crusader encourage his family to come to grips with his long absences from home and homeland? How should he reward the monasteries and parish churches of which he was a patron? What arrangements did a thoughtful crusader make about being formally ‘remembered’ back home if death played its trump card? These and similar issues will be the focus of “Departing for War in the Age of the Crusades.”

**William Chester Jordan** has taught history at Princeton for over 20 years, and has been awarded the university’s Presidential Distinguished Teaching Award. His books include the prize-winning *The Great Famine: Northern Europe in the Early Fourteenth Century*, as well as *Louis IX and the Challenge of the Crusade; Europe in the High Middle Ages*; and *Women and Credit in Pre-Industrial and Developing Societies*. His current research focuses on the history of church-state relations.

The new **Medieval Matters** lecture series explores the relevance of medieval history and culture to understanding the modern world. It is sponsored jointly by Stanford Continuing Studies, the Program in Medieval Studies and the Sarum Seminar, with additional support from the Stanford Center for Medieval and Early Modern Studies and the Center for European Studies.

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**Cubberley Auditorium, Stanford University**  
**Free and open to the public**