


# CONTENTS

## Module 1

### The Church and Christianity in the Middle Ages 1

#### UNIT 1 The role of the Christian Church in the Middle Ages 2

The Medieval Church: a body and a soul 2  
The early history of the Medieval Church  3

#### UNIT 2 Papal authority and the struggle for supremacy 7

Boniface VIII and the defence of papal supremacy. From *Unam Sanctam* (1302) 7  
William of Hundleby's account of the Anagni Outrage  8

#### UNIT 3 Monasticism and Monastic orders 11



Benedictine monasteries  11  
The Cluny Abbey 12

#### UNIT 4 Monasteries and copyists 15

The Book of Kells  15

  **Listening**  
The Luttrell Psalter

#### UNIT 5 The Church Militant 21

The Crusades 21  
Letter to his wife, Adele, 1098  24  
Sibylla, ex-Queen of Jerusalem, letter to Frederick I, 1189  25



The Duke of Lorraine, letter to the Archbishop of Cologne, 1197  26

  **Listening**  
The Crusades


## Module 2

### Life in medieval towns: a European perspective 31


#### UNIT 1 The building of the city 32

The physical environment and social services 32  
Durham in the Middle Ages  34  
Paris: at the heart of the Kingdom of France  37  
Florence between 1000-1300: building and defences  38

#### UNIT 2 Symbols and images 41

Images in the cities 41  
York: city of the Crossed Keys  42  
Symbols of communal strength: *lions* and *carrocci* 43  
Contemporary parallels: Umberto Bossi and the Northern League 45

#### UNIT 3 Trade and fairs 47

Trade routes and trade fairs  47  
The rise of towns: causes and consequences 48  
The different means of payment in the medieval economies 49  
The moneybag: usury in the Middle Ages 51

**Listening**

The essence of money. A medieval tale

**UNIT 4 Food and banquets**

53

From the Mediterranean to Europe 53

Writings on cooking 55

City eating versus country eating 57

The order of a meal 58

Great banquets and etiquette: Dante Alighieri at the court of King Robert 60

Eating habits: the history of the fork 61

Medieval recipes 64

**Research**

Venetian cuisine

**Module 3****Renaissance Europe**

65

**UNIT 1 The Renaissance in continental Europe**

66

The Renaissance: the European dimension 66

Political boundaries 68

Economic and political context: the court 70

Major wars and soldiering 71

**UNIT 2 Education in the Renaissance**

73

A moral education 73

Pedagogical treatises 74

Pier Paolo Vergerio, *The Character and Studies Befitting a Free-Born Youth* 75Leonardo Bruni, *On the Study of Literature* 75**UNIT 3 Art and architecture**

78

Renaissance art and artists 78

Representations of the human body 79

Art competes with nature 81

Renaissance portraits 81

The difficult task of being a sculptor 83

Discovering linear perspective 84

Field armour: a Renaissance technique 87

**UNIT 4 Agriculture and commerce**

90

New plants and methods of cultivation 90

Drinking habits 91

Banking 92

**UNIT 5 The English Renaissance**

94

Humanism and English literature 94

Art in Renaissance Britain, representations of power: Elizabeth I, Queen of England 95

A son of Renaissance England: William Shakespeare 97

Shakespeare and Humanism 98

**Listening**

Margaret More. A Renaissance education • Queen Elizabeth I, biography

**Module 4****European overseas expansion: the exploration of a new world**

101

**UNIT 1 International trading: from ancient roads to new routes**

102

Long-distance trade prior to the 15<sup>th</sup> century 102

Goods of exchange along ancient roots 105

The age of discovery: towards a new world 106

**UNIT 2 Cartography and maritime technology**

109

Picturing the known and the unknown 109

The caravel 112

Maritime technology and navigation 115

**Research**

Old navigational instruments

**UNIT 3 Portuguese expansion in the New World**

117

The Portuguese economy before the age of explorations 117

Portugal: the age of exploration 118

The Portuguese arrival in Brazil and the Brazilian economy in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries 120Brazilian economy in the 18<sup>th</sup> century 121**UNIT 4 Spanish discoveries and colonization**

123

Spain and the New World 123

The Conquistadores 124

Conquering Mexico 125

Conquering South America 126

**Listening**

Los Conquistadores • Cortés and the Aztecs • The pre-Columbian cup

### UNIT 5 Food and culture in the pre-Columbian societies 127

Common food and its origin	127
European accounts of New World products and cuisine	128
Mesoamerican farming practices	129
What native Mesoamericans ate and drank	131
Divine foods and their associated deities	132

## Module 5

### The age of change. Between the modern state and the Reformation 135

<b>UNIT 1 State, nation and sovereignty</b>	136
The beginning of the modern state	136
The dream of a stable government: Ambrogio Lorenzetti's frescoes in Siena	139
State: towards a word etymology	142
The emergence of sovereignty and the modern state	144

### UNIT 2 European states in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries 149

The golden age of Spain	149
The power struggle: France and Britain from the 15 <sup>th</sup> to the 17 <sup>th</sup> centuries	150
A fragmented country: Italy	151
The Holy Roman Empire and the Emperor	152
The unification of the Netherlands	153

### UNIT 3 The Reformation and the modern state 155

Religion and authority from the Middle Ages to modern times	155
The Reformation and the modern world	157

### UNIT 4 Reformers and political thought 159

Martin Luther, <i>Address to the Christian Nobility</i>	159
Propaganda painting and the Protestant Reform	161
The Act of Supremacy	166
Contrasting views: Sir Thomas More and Henry VIII	167
Calvin, <i>On Civil Government</i>	168

**Listening**

The Protestant Reformation • Religious wars: the case of Ireland