GENERAL REFERENCE


What is the historical evidence with which medieval historians recreate medieval legal history? This book examines the sources.

[St. Michael's Library 1st Floor Reference Area – CB351 .C76 1983]

Although dated, this book is useful for providing a comprehensive list of key Medieval Studies sources arranged by topic, place, and time.

[St. Michael's Library 1st Floor Reference Area – D114 .D5]

Volume 7 of this standard encyclopaedia contains several articles related to Mediaeval law. These articles include summaries of various aspects of the law, along with bibliographies.

[St. Michael’s 1st Floor Reference Area – D114 .O94 2010]

Up to date, and intended for both novices and specialists, this 4-volume set covers European history, society, religion, and culture between A.D. 500 to 1500. Articles number about 5,000. They range from brief to lengthy, include bibliographies, and often unearth material you can only find elsewhere with difficulty. Women and children, for example, get substantial attention. The set contains a thematic listing of entries, a general index, a list of medieval popes and antipopes, and an index of alternative place names.


Discussion of customary law in medieval Europe as related to local governments.

Examines the influence of Roman law on the codification of civil law in Western Europe.


Covers European history from 1300 to 1700, and includes a section on law.

**University of Toronto Library Research Guide: Online Resources for Medieval Studies.** [http://eir.library.utoronto.ca/MyUTLguides/index.cfm?guide=medieval]

This guide lists all the web resources available within the University of Toronto, such as online indexes, journals and other resources.

**Internet Medieval Sourcebook.** [http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/sbook.html]

Visit this website for hundreds of online translations of medieval primary sources.

**ORB: Medieval Source Book** [http://www.the-orb.net/]

An excellent source with many translated and full-text sites.

**NetSerf – Law Section** [http://www.netserf.org/Law/]

Links to over twenty medieval-related resources in the area of law.

**The Timetable of World Legal History** [http://www.duhaime.org/Law_museum/hist.aspx]

Covers the period from 2350 BC to 1948.

**Centre of Islamic and Middle Eastern Law** [http://www.soas.ac.uk/cimel/]

Numerous sources available in full-text.

**EARLY LAW CODES**


This short, readable study of the survival of Roman law after the fall of the Roman Empire is a good introduction to the beginnings of European law.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author/Translator</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Includes a bibliography and English-Latin glossary.</td>
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<tr>
<td>An outline of the development of Roman law. It includes a bibliography.</td>
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<td>An English translation of the Roman Common Law Code with an index.</td>
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<td>Latin and English text; includes an English commentary, bibliographical references and index.</td>
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<td>Includes a glossary, bibliography, and index.</td>
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**REGIONAL STUDIES**

**ENGLAND**

**The Treatise on the Laws and Customs of the Realm of England Commonly Called Glanvill.**


### Dictionary of legal terms.

[Robarts Library 13th Floor – PR2017 .L38A44 1988]

Dictionary of legal terms.

[Bora Laskin Law Library – KF346 .A2M4]

Transcriptions of documents found in the Public Record Office in London. Includes court records from 1066-1485 with an introduction and commentaries in English. Texts are in Latin and Middle English.

[St. Michael's Library 2nd Floor – JN137 .L9]

A general history of medieval English law.

[Trinity Library – KD 671 .H83 1996]  
[Robarts Library 11th Floor – KD671 .H83 1996X]

An introductory work for the general reader.

[St. Michael's Library 2nd Floor – KD3938 .P6]


A general history of the development of English legal history. Bibliographies appended to the chapters outline the literature of the field.

[Bora Laskin Law Library - KF385 .B7 1968]

A translation of the 13th century *De Legibus*.

### FRANCE

[Victoria University E.J.Pratt Library – KJV263 .E8613 1996]  
[Robarts Library 11th Floor – KJV263 .E86 1996X]

Customary law in thirteenth century France. Includes an index and bibliography.
**GERMANY**

[Robarts Library 11th Floor – KK195 .O66 1990]

A reference to the sources, literature and history of legal literature in medieval Germany.

**IBERIAN PENINSULA**

[Bora Laskin Law Library – KKT 142 2001]  
[Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies Library – KKT142 .2001]

A five volume work that contains a complete translation of the Siete Partidas, a law code developed in the thirteenth century by Alfonso X, king of Castile and Leon.

*Hispanic Law until the End of the Middle Ages: with a note on the continued validity after the fifteenth century of medieval Hispanic legislation in Spain, the Americas, Asia, and Africa.* By E.N. van Kleffens. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1968.  

Includes bibliographical references and index.

[Robarts Library 11th Floor – K .P8575S7]  
[Bora Laskin – X451 .P68]

See the article G.Post wrote "Roman Law and Early Representation in Spain and Italy, 1150-1250".

[St. Michael's Library 2nd Floor – KKT500 .V34 1977]

Civil law codes in Spain during the middle ages. The text includes bibliographical references.

[Robarts Library 12th Floor – PC4781 .P47 1995]

Laws governing the medieval kingdom of Navarre in Spain until the fourteenth century. Written in Spanish.

*Léxico jurídico en documentos notariales aragoneses de la Edad Media: siglos XIV y XV.* By V. Lagüéns Gracia. [Aragón]: Gobierno de Aragón, Departamento de Cultura y Educación, [1992].  

Law codes governing the province of Aragon until the fifteenth century and a reference to Spanish legal terms during this period.
IRELAND


Includes an index and bibliography.


Penitentials and bibliographic references and index.


Includes an appended list of manuscripts of penitentials, bibliography and index.

ITALY


Medieval laws and sources from Siena, Italy. Articles in Italian, accompanied by documents in Latin. Includes bibliographical references and indexes.

RUSSIA


Includes an index and glossary.


Covers 13th-15th century law and society in Russia.

SCANDINAVIA


Ancient law and ecclesiastical laws in medieval Denmark from the thirteenth century.
SCOTLAND

[St. Michael's Library 2nd Floor – DA775 .D5 1977]

With genealogical tables, maps, and an index.

[Bora Laskin Law Library – Rpts. Scot. C2 S23 no.1]

[Bora Laskin Law Library – KF349 .S35M32 1993]
[Robarts Library 11th Floor – KDC397 .M32 1993]

Discussion of feudal and common law in Scotland c. 1066-1485.

WALES

[St. Michael's Library 2nd Floor – KD1752 .S73 1994]

Includes an index and bibliography.

[Data, Maps and Gov. Documents (5th Floor Robarts) – KD9405 .M38 1996X]

[Robarts Library 11th Floor – KD9430 .E44 1982]

Customary laws in Wales.

[St. Michael's Library 2nd Floor – KD9405 .A3 1967]

Introduction in English; text in Latin.

[Robarts Library 11th Floor – KF 478 .W17 1980]

Discusses the legal status of women with bibliographical references and index.


Includes an English translation of the Welsh text, some Latin transcripts from the Dimetian code.

**CANON LAW**


The introductory section of a medieval textbook on church law.


Contains original Greek or Latin text with a facing English translation of all the decrees of the twenty-one councils (Nicaea I in 325 - Vatican II in 1962-1965). The introduction provides an excellent overview of the councils and gives definitions for "decrees" and "acts" and "ecumenical". Each council begins with a brief historical overview and bibliography.
"Law, Canon: to Gratian" By R. Reynolds and "Law, Canon: after Gratian" By S.Chodorow.  
*Dictionary of the Middle Ages* volume 7: 395-413, 413-418.  
[St. Michael’s Library 1st Floor Reference Area – D114 .D5 1982]

[Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies Library – BQV116 .K87]

[St. Michael's Library 1st Floor Reference Area – BX1936 .D5 1935]

[St. Michael’s Library 2nd Floor – D160 .B72]

[Robarts Library 11th Floor – K .D8664T8]

Ecclesiastic law and sources in Great Britain.

[St. Michael's Library 2nd Floor – K .S94 1952]

A 12th century commentary on Gratian’s *Decretum*, a medieval textbook on church law.

[Robarts Library 11th Floor – K446 .C36P46 1993]

Includes texts in Latin, bibliographic references and indexes.


From the History of Canon Law series. Includes indexes.


From early church history to the 20th century.
**SYNODS AND COUNCILS**

[Emmanuel College Library – BV761 .A65B7]
[Robarts Library 9th Floor – BV761 .A65B75]

[St.Michael’s Library 3rd Floor – BQV11 .S3]

The original texts (p. [510]-549) are in Greek or Latin. Includes index and bibliographical references.

[St. Michael's Library 3rd Floor – BQ310 .C6 v. 149]

[Robarts Library 9th Floor – BV761 .A65M86 1987]


**Canones apostolorum et conciliorum saeculorum IV.-VII.** Bruns, Hermann Theodor.Berolini, Typis et sumptibus G. Reimeri, 1839.
[Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies Library – BQV 11 .B89]
[Robarts Library 9th Floor – BR200 .C3 1839A]

[Trinity College Library – BR742 .A2P6 1964]
[Robarts Library 9th Floor – BR742 .A2P6]
[Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies Library – BQX2006 .H22]

[St. Michael's Library 3rd Floor – BQX779 .C7]

[St. Michael's Library 3rd Floor – BQX426 .S56]
**JUDAISM AND THE LAW**


European sources for the legal status of Jews in the Middle Ages.


Jewish attitudes toward the popes in the Middle Ages.


A study of the legal status of Jews in Christian Spain from 1096 to 1800.


23 contratos comerciales escritos por los judíos de Toledo en los siglos XIII y XIV: edición completa y estudio lingüístico de los datos judeo-árabes y andalusíes. By Ignacio Ferrando. Zaragoza: Universidad de Zaragoza, 1994

Contracts outlining relations between Christians, Jews, and Arabs in 13th and 14th century Spain.


A study of the legal status of Jews in Germany from 1096 to 1800.


A study of the legal status of Jews in England from 1154 to 1216.


Jewish life in France during the 10th to the 14th centuries.

This book presents a comprehensive comparative study of Jewish-Islamic law on a particular topic during the early Middle Ages. It is an in-depth study of Islamic law--its sources, legal schools, and extensive legal literature—that shows the influence of Muslim practice on geonic custom. In both systems of law the growth of custom was a reaction to the general culture. The book shows how custom in both systems of law served as a conduit for the absorption of changes, thus helping to bridge the gap between the authoritative legal systems and the practical realities of the environment.


There are more sites connected to this URL address concerning edicts and legislation affecting Jews in the Roman Period.

### ISLAMIC LAW


A study of Islamic commercial laws in the Middle Ages.

### FAMILY, MARRIAGE, AND THE LAW


Provides a historical overview of the development of family law. Includes bibliographical references and index.


A historical overview of the laws and legislations concerning child abuse, infanticide and children in the early middle ages.
### Love and Marriage in Late Medieval London
Documents of practice series.
[Robarts Library 11th Floor – KD753 .L68 1995]
Sources and documents concerning matrimonial actions, marriage customs and rites in England. Includes translations from the Latin.

### Covert Operations: The Medieval Uses of Secrecy
[St. Michael's Library 2nd Floor – PR275 .W6L63 1999]
Medieval law, secrecy, gossip, sodomy and social conditions about marriages in literature during the middle ages. Includes extensive bibliographical references.

### Marriage, Family, and Law in Medieval Europe: Collected Studies
[St. Michael's Library 2nd Floor – HQ611 .S54 1996]
Essays on marriage laws, wills and family relationships during the middle ages.

### The Marriage Exchange: Property, Social Place, and Gender in Cities of the Low Countries, 1300-1550
[Robarts Library 11th Floor – KJC1162 .H69 1998X]
Legal status of women concerning marital property in Flanders and France.

### Karaite Marriage Documents from the Cairo Geniza: Legal Tradition and Community Life in Mediaeval Egypt and Palestine
Includes sources and bibliographical references and indexes.

### JUSTICE AND CRIME

#### Sanctuary and Crime in the Middle Ages, 400-1500
[Bora Laskin Law Library - KJ1010 .S54 2011]

#### Politics and Justice in Late Medieval Bologna
[Robarts Library - KKH9850 .B57 2010]

### TEACHING LAW IN THE MIDDLE AGES

#### The Medieval English Universities: Oxford and Cambridge to c. 1500
[St. Michael's Library 2nd Floor – LA636.3 .C6 1988]
An examination of the origins and developments of the universities at Oxford, Cambridge and others in England during the years 1066-1485.
[St. Michael's Library 2nd Floor – LA177 .R25 1958]

[St. Michael's Library 2nd Floor – LA177 .W5]

[St. Michael's Library 2nd Floor – K144 .C59]

A guide to the university teachers who reshaped Roman law.

SCHOLARLY JOURNALS

Traditio. v.1 (1943) - v.63 (2008)  
[PIMS Library - Journal Area, 4th Floor, Kelly Library]

A section in each issue is dedicated to the study of medieval law. Published by the Institute of Research and Study in Medieval Canon Law.

The Review of Rabbinic Judaism: Ancient, Medieval and Modern.  
[Robarts Library 9th Floor – BM1 .A56]

FINDING SCHOLARLY JOURNAL ARTICLES

International Medieval Bibliography.  
[Available online (1967 – present), for UofT use: http://www.library.utoronto.ca. Search “all e-resources” for IMB. Click on “go.”]

This is a huge bibliography of articles on medieval studies written since 1969. All articles have been indexed by subject, date and other criteria.

Iter: Gateway to the Middle Ages and Renaissance.  
[Available online (1842 – present) for UofT use: http http://www.library.utoronto.ca. Search “all e-resources” for ITER. Click on “go.”]

Bibliography of books, articles and book reviews related to medieval and early modern Europe. Covers items written in the early 20th century. Not as in-depth or wide-ranging as the International Medieval Bibliography, but is very useful to find book reviews.

This research guide is maintained by Richard Carter (richard.carter@utoronto.ca). It was last updated August 2011.
Law can surely be regarded as one of the staples of Medieval Civilisation in Europe. It permeated through virtually all aspects of social life in the Middle Ages from one's relationships with the local lord or his sovereign (the king or the emperor) to one's personal transactions at a marketplace or relations with one's wife and children. Law regulated all that in various ways and through numerous sources, like local and general customs, enactments of the sovereigns, learned common law, court practice. In contrast to modern industrial societies, feudal Europe lacked nation-states and hierarchies. Medieval law. Law and order was very harsh in Medieval England. Those in charge of law and order believed that people would only learn how to behave properly if they feared what would happen to them if they broke the law. Even the smallest offences had serious punishments. The authorities feared the poor simply because there were many more poor than rich and any revolt could be potentially damaging as the Peasants Revolt of 1381 proved. By the time of Henry II, the system of law in England had been improved because Henry sent out his own judges from London to listen to cases throughout all England.

References:
- University of Toronto Library Reference Guide: Medieval and Byzantine Art. [http://main.library.utoronto.ca/MyUTL/guides/index.cfm?guide=medart]. This guide provides a selective list of major reference resources in the field of Medieval and Byzantine Art History.
- The Bulletin of Medieval Canon Law (Berkeley Institute of Research and Study in Medieval Canon Law), Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 1971-.
- Journal of Catholic Legal Studies, Jamaica, N.Y.: St. John's University School of Law, 2005-.
- The Jurist: Studies in Church Law and Ministry, Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 1941