Europe in the Postclassical Era
I. The Byzantine Empire**: Eastern Europe
The Byzantine Empire in 814. By the ninth century, the Empire had lost all its territories but Asia Minor, Greece, the boot of Italy, and the islands of Sardinia and Sicily.
Byzantine Hallmarks

• *Caesaropapism***:
  – Began with Constantine
  – Emperor involved in religious affairs
  – Council of Nicaea (325)
  – Highly centralized & *byzantine* bureaucracy
East vs. West: Religious split

• Roman Catholic Church**:
  – Latin language
  – Reject secular interference
  – Religious images encouraged
  – Celibate priesthood

• Greek Orthodox Church**:
  – Greek language
  – Emperors as superior
  – Iconoclasm
  – Married priesthood

Mutual Excommunication in 1054CE
Justinian** and Roman Law
Justinian and Theodora

The Hagia Sophia**
Byzantium and Eastern Europe
Byzantine Missionary Efforts

- Conversion to Orthodox Christianity by Slavs
- Cyrillic** alphabet

Saints Cyril and Methodius
Russia: Kingdom of Kiev

Prince Vladimir
II. Western Europe: the Middle Ages
Feudalism**

Feudal Hierarchy & Obligations

- King
- Powerful Lords
- Lesser Lords
- Knights
- Peasants and Townspeople

Loyalty and military support

Land and Protection
Feudalism (cont.)

- In absence of central authority
- Local military and political relationships
- Lords and "retainers"/vassals supported by surplus agriculture of serfs who get security
Manorialism**

- With decline of towns and trade
- Subsistence agriculture
- Subdivision of a fief
- Worked by serfs
- Lord of manor provides security, government, justice
The High Middle Ages (c.1000-1300CE)

- Boom in agriculture via crops and technology
- Variation in diet
- Rapid population growth: from 29m in 800 to 79m by 1300
- Revival of towns and trade
High Middle Ages: towns and trade

- Supported by food surplus
- Artisans, merchants, professionals
- Centers of trade linked to Mediterranean and beyond . . .
Medieval Trade Networks. Italian, Flemish, and German merchants tied northern and southern Europe to the eastern Mediterranean and beyond through networks of trade routes and markets that crossed religious, cultural, and political boundaries.
The Hanseatic League**
The Guild System**

- Form of self-governance
- Goals??
- Is it capitalism??
Women in late Middle Ages

Christine de Pisan**
The Roman Catholic Church & Political Power: The Franks

Baptism of Clovis

Coronation of Charlemagne**
Charlemagne’s Empire
The Church and Power: the Holy Roman Empire**
Church and HRE (cont.)

- Pope Gregory VII** and “lay investiture”
- Showdown with Emperor Henry IV**
Monasticism**

- Origins in Egypt
- Rule of St. Benedict (6th Century)
- Celibacy, poverty, obedience to abbot
- Monasteries as central to social and cultural life
The Church and Education

- Demand for educated individuals
- Cathedral schools
- Academic guilds
- The first universities: Bologna, Paris, Salamanca, Oxford, etc.
The Church and Aristotle

Thomas Aquinas**

Anselm of Canterbury**
The Crusades

- Goal of recapturing Palestine and Jerusalem
- Only the 2\textsuperscript{nd} is successful
- Cultural and commercial consequences
The Black Death** (Bubonic plague)

- From SW China and along trade routes
- Appears in Europe during “little ice age”
- Population decline
- Social/economic effects
Europe in Postclassical: key terms & concepts

- Byzantine Empire
- Caesaropapism
- Roman Catholic vs. Greek Orthodox Church
- Justinian
- Hagia Sophia
- Cyrillic
- Kingdom of Kiev

- Feudalism
- Manorialism
- Hanseatic League
- Guild
- Christine de Pizan
- Charlemagne
- Holy Roman Empire
- Pope Gregory VII & Emperor Henry IV
Key terms (cont.)

- Thomas Aquinas
- Anselm of Canterbury
- Crusades
- Black Death