

Scholasticism and Universities

Image: University Class in Bologna, Italy (1350s)

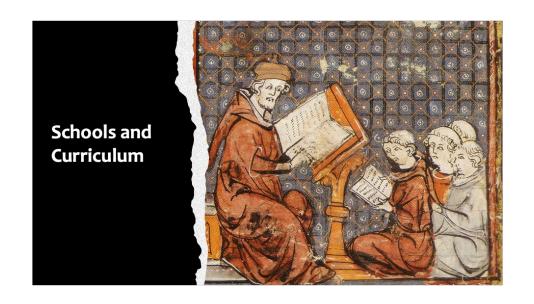
Universitas, atis (f.)

- The whole
- The whole number of things
- A society of persons associated into one body, a society, company, community, guild, corporation

Class Structure

- Focus: Intellectual developments in 12th and 13th centuries and influence of ancient philosophers like Aristotle
 - Consider readings from Abelard and Aquinas
 - Development of Educational Structures and Curriculum: Cathedral Schools and Universities
 - Development of Scholasticism: Thomas Aquinas







Abelard Sic et Non and Aquinas "On Love"

Q: Whether Good is the Only Cause of Love?

"It seems (videtur) that good is not the only cause of love." (argument he disagrees with)

"But on the contrary (sed contra) Augustine says 'Assuredly the good along is beloved.' Therefore good alone is the cause of love." (argument he agrees with)

Then provides evidence: Scripture, Church Fathers (e.g. Augustine), Aristotle "The Philosopher"; Ibn Rushd "The Commentator"

Reply Objection 1... Disproves the videtur points.

Schools and Curriculum



Rediscovery of the Ancient Writings

5th/6th c. 7th to 11th c. 12th C. Translation of Translation of Loss of most ancient Greek and ancient Greek and Ancient Greek Roman works from Roman works to and Roman Arabic to Latin Arabic works Commentaries by Commentaries by Ibn Rushd Ibn Sina (Avicenna): (Averroes): 980-1037 1126-1198

Schools of Translation

- Toledo (Castile)
- Palermo (Sicily)



Translated Authors

- Plato
- Aristotle
- Galen
- Virgil
- Plus Arabic authors

Image: Gerard of Cremona's translation of Al-Razi's medical text, 13th c.

Cathedral Schools: Curriculum

Trivium: grammar, rhetoric, and logic

Quadrivium: arithmetic, geometry, music, and astrology

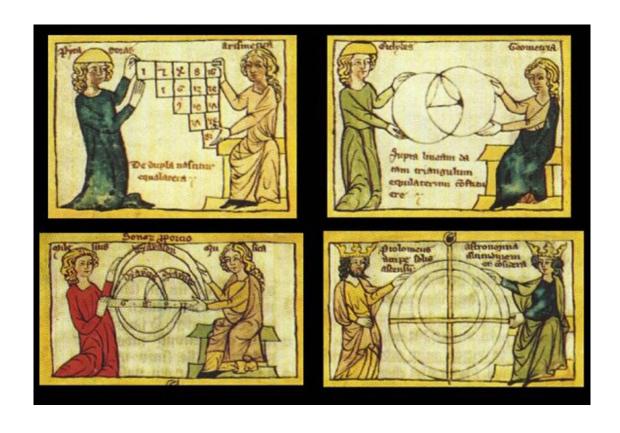
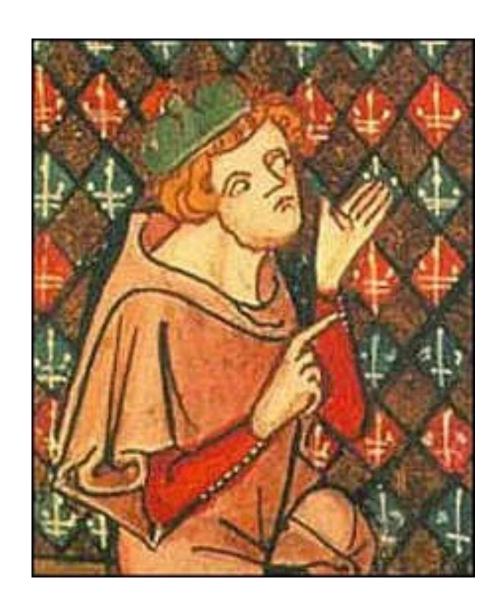


Image: Visual representation of Quadrivium

Schoolmasters





Peter Abelard, 1079-1142

- born in Brittany
- "wandering scholar"
- Move to Paris to become a professional teacher
- Taught theology in Latin
- Students from across Europe

Abelard and Heloise

Image: 15th century French manuscript

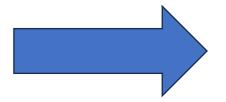
Universities



Universities as collective bodies

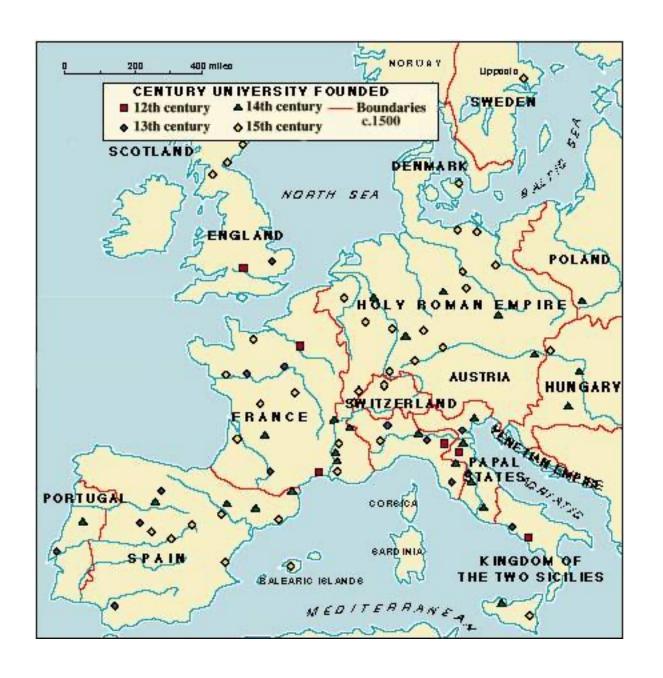
Students were:

- Outsiders
- "strangers"
- Without local citizenship or status
- Facing price and rent gouging
- Had lack of legal protection



Formed "universitas"

"universitas societas magistorum discipulorum" (1200-1220)



By the end of the 13th c....

- Paris
- Bologna
- Naples
- Montpellier
- Oxford
- And more...

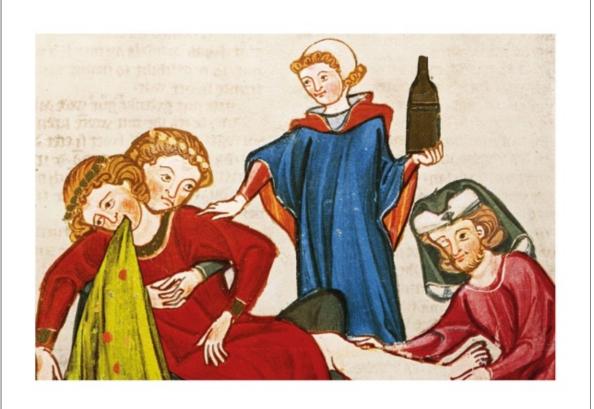
University Life



Class, University of Bologna, 1350



Faculty Meeting, Univ of Paris, 14th c.



University of Paris

- 17 years old
- lesser landholders and "middling" urban families
- 5/6 a.m. start

Student Letters

"The city is expensive, and makes many demands: I have to rent lodgings, buy necessities, and provide for many other things that I cannot specify. Therefore I beg your paternity that by the prompting of divine pity you may assist me, so that I may be able to complete what I have so well begun."

"I have recently learned that you live dissolutely, preferring play to work, and strumming your guitar while others are at their studies."

Scholasticism and Thomas Aquinas



Sources of Scholastic Thought

- 1. Ancient Greeks: Plato, Aristotle
- 2. Commentaries on Plato, Aristotle and other Greek philosophers and scientists by Arab scholars
- 3. Church Fathers
- 4. Early Medieval Writers
- 5. Scripture

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Thomas Aquinas, 1225-1274

- Dominican (1244)
- University of Paris (1245)
- Summa Theologiae (1265-1274)

Aquinas' Arguments

 Distinguished between revelation and reason BUT argued that they cannot contradict one another

Human reason valid avenue to truth



Christian revelation authoritative



All Philosophy and Christian doctrine is compatible and complementary

Truth was one

"for faith rests upon infallible truth, and therefore its contrary position cannot be demonstrated"

-- Aquinas, Summa Theologiae, Pt 1. Q 2.