

LATE MIDDLE AGES

Timeline of Major Events (1300 - 1500)

1315 - 1317

The Great Famine

Crop failures across Northern Europe leading to widespread starvation and economic decline, marking the end of previous medieval expansion.

1337 - 1453

The Hundred Years' War

A prolonged series of conflicts between the House of Plantagenet (England) and the House of Valois (France) over the French throne.

1347 - 1351

The Black Death

The bubonic plague wipes out an estimated 30-60% of Europe's population, fundamentally altering social and labor structures.

1378 - 1417

The Western Schism

A split within the Catholic Church where multiple rival popes claimed authority, significantly weakening the political influence of the Papacy.

1440

Invention of the Printing Press

Johannes Gutenberg introduces movable type to Europe, sparking a revolution in literacy and the rapid spread of information.

1453

Fall of Constantinople

The Ottoman Empire captures the capital of the Byzantine Empire, signaling the end of the Roman imperial continuum and the beginning of the Ottoman rise.

1492

The Reconquista & The New World

The Catholic Monarchs complete the conquest of Granada and sponsor Columbus's first voyage, marking the transition to the Early Modern period.