Medieval Studies Program

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Preface

Students of the Middle Ages, whatever their special area of interest, should not be surprised to learn that interdisciplinary study is no recent invention but an approach older than the modern system of organizing knowledge by “disciplines.” Through a study of the medieval period, students can come to an understanding of a civilization as a whole in both its unity and diversity. Such a study offers coherence rather than fragmentation. If a liberal education is to be developed round a grasp of the past and present in terms of connections among various phenomena, then medieval studies is central to that education.

Study of the Middle Ages teaches students to critically evaluate the use of the past in the present and provide a necessary corrective to our culturally ingrained misconceptions about the medieval and pre-modern world.

The Committee for Medieval Studies

The Committee for Medieval Studies is formed from the medievalists in the Faculty of Arts. The primary function of the Committee is the development of medieval studies in general at UBC and, as part of that development, the maintenance of programs for undergraduates, including five courses at least three which are offered annually: Medieval Studies 210, 310, and 490. In addition to overseeing the curriculum and undergraduate programs, the Committee holds an annual workshop for scholars in the field, and sponsors frequent lectures on medieval topics.

Information about Medieval Studies at UBC is available at: http://medieval.arts.ubc.ca/
Undergraduate Programs in Medieval Studies

For the undergraduate who wishes to specialize in medieval studies, three approaches are available:

1. **Major program in Medieval Studies.**
   A Major program is designed with the **consultation and approval of the Medieval Studies advisor** to suit the student’s interests as far as possible within the requirements of the Faculty of Arts and the Committee for Medieval Studies (at least 42 credits: 12 lower-division credits and at least 30 upper division credits, including MDVL 210, MDVL 310, and MDVL 490).

2. **A Double Major in Medieval Studies and a discipline/program that integrates well with Medieval Studies.**
   Such a program should be developed in consultation with both the Medieval Studies advisor and the departmental advisor. MDVL 210, MDVL 310, and MDVL 490 are required for the Medieval Studies Major. As many as nine credits may be counted toward both majors.

3. **A Major in a discipline/program with a Minor in Medieval Studies.**
   A minor in Medieval Studies requires 30 credits, with at least 18 credits from upper-level courses. Students interested in pursuing a minor in Medieval Studies should in the first and second years include the same courses recommended for majors; six lower-level credits are required. In students’ third and fourth years at least 18 credits, but no more than 30 credits, should be selected from among courses acceptable for the major in Medieval Studies; MDVL 210 and MDVL 310 are required. **Programs should be developed in consultation with the Medieval Studies advisor and should be designed to complement work in the major field.** As many as six credits may be counted toward both the major and the minor (or nine credits toward an Honours program and a Medieval Studies minor).

**NOTES:**

- **All Medieval Studies courses** (MDVL) count automatically toward the Major or Minor.
- **Departments offer courses** that may sometimes – but not always – deal with topics relevant to Medieval issues but do not automatically count toward Medieval Studies programs. Come see the Medieval Studies program advisor to make sure these courses are counting for your major or minor.
- It is essential for **students interested in a professional career in medieval studies** in any discipline to consult the Medieval Studies advisor as soon as possible for advice about language training.

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The Major in Medieval Studies

Students interested in concentrating work in medieval studies should sample a variety of related disciplines in the first two years and also try to develop some of the needed skills. The student interested in a Medieval Studies Major should consult with the Medieval Studies Advisor in their first year or early in the second year.

First and Second Years

First- and second-year students should select courses that lay the foundation for Medieval Studies. The most useful courses are: HIST 101 (6 credits) World History to Oceanic Contact that puts Medieval Studies in its world and historical context and ENGL 220 (3 credits) Literature in English to the 18th Century. Medieval Studies students are required to complete MDVL 210 (3 credits, see next page).

Additional credits may be selected from the following: CLST 211 and 212 (cross listed as PHIL 211 and 212), CLST 232, ARTH 225, ENGL 230, FREN 220, ITST 231, LATN 101, 102, 201, and 202, MUSC 120, or RMST 221, depending on the student’s interests. Some departments also offer Topics courses that occasionally have a medieval topic (such as HIST 104:201 Topics in World History - Sin Sex and Society in the Premodern World). When this is the case, such a course may also count toward program requirements, but the student must see the Medieval Advisor to make this accommodation. Those students interested in pursuing a professional career in medieval studies should begin taking Latin as soon as possible and improve their proficiency in other useful languages. NOTE: Only 6 credits of language courses may count toward the lower-level Medieval Studies requirements.

The Faculty of Arts requirements for the lower division should also be fulfilled.¹

Third and Fourth Years

Programs are developed by the student in conjunction with the Medieval Studies advisor, who works to integrate the interests of the student into a program which is coherent and manageable. The Faculty of Arts requires at least 30 upper-division credits to complete the major. Courses may be combined in a variety of ways. For example, history courses combine well with courses in art history and literature; courses in philosophy work well with history and literature; courses in music and philosophy combine well, and so on.

MDVL 310 Topics in Medieval Studies and MDVL 490 Research Seminar in Medieval Studies are required courses for all Medieval Studies Majors. MDVL 490 meets the criteria for the Faculty of Arts research requirement. Please consult the Medieval Studies Supplement published annually and the Medieval Studies advisor about the specific topics of MDVL 310 and MDVL 490 each academic year. Seminars offered by Departments that focus on a medieval topic may in addition count toward the Medieval Studies programs, but do not substitute for the program requirement of MDVL 490.

All students must have their Medieval Studies Major approved by the Medieval Studies advisor for graduation.

¹ See Faculty of Arts in the UBC Calendar: http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=12,197,282,55.
Courses Offered by Medieval Studies

For detailed course descriptions of current offerings, see the Medieval Studies webpage http://medievalstudies.arts.ubc.ca/ or the current Medieval Studies Supplement published annually.

MEDIEVAL STUDIES: MDVL 210 (3)

Introduction to the Middle Ages

This course introduces students to both the Middle Ages as a subject, and to the interdisciplinary nature of the study of the period. Through a progression of thematic sections, students encounter a range of historical, literary, and artistic material from medieval Europe and the issues that engage scholars. Students become familiar with the basic structure and nature of medieval society in preparation for upper-level courses in Medieval Studies (MDVL 301 and 302 as well as the required courses MDVL 310 and 490) and for disciplinary specific medieval courses within the wider Faculty of Arts. Primary texts and documents (translated into English) are read in conjunction with secondary literature of scholars so students learn to analyze how scholarly arguments are constructed based on primary evidence. Research projects allow students to explore in further depth an issue or topic that has engaged them during the course. An important aspect of the course is an introduction to the material culture of medieval manuscripts. Assessment includes a midterm and a final exam.

(Historical surveys of the medieval period are offered in a series of three courses in the upper division by the History department. HIST 363: Europe in the Early Middle Ages, HIST 364: Europe in the Late Middle Ages, and HIST 365: Europe in the Renaissance.)

MEDIEVAL STUDIES: MDVL 301 (3)

European Literature of the 5th to the 14th Century

MDVL 301 studies European literature of the Middle Ages up to the fourteenth century in its cultural and socio-historical context. Topics covered include relations between religious and secular literatures, oral and written culture, Latin and the vernaculars, historical epic and chronicle, translation and adaptation of romances, lyric poetry (text, music, image), and liturgical theatre and its secular offshoots. All required reading is provided in the original language and in modern English translation. Though the course does not require previous knowledge of any medieval language, students from language departments who have had previous instruction in a medieval language are encouraged to work on texts in the original language for papers and any oral presentations, if they so desire. More generally, students may study the texts and prepare assignments from a perspective that suits them (for example, Music, History, Religion, or Art History). Comparative outlooks and interdisciplinary approaches are stressed in the teaching of the material and students are encouraged to attempt such links in their own work.
MEDIEVAL STUDIES: MDVL 302 (3)

European Literature of the 14th to the 16th Century

MDVL 302 studies European literature of the late Middle Ages or Renaissance in its cultural and socio-historical context and focuses on tradition and innovation in prose, poetry, drama, music, and in literary theory. The course is taught in English, and all readings are provided in the original languages as well as in Modern English translation. The term paper may be written in English, French, Spanish, Italian or German, according to each student's preference or program requirements. Interdisciplinarity is an integral part of this course and interdisciplinary angles may be chosen for the term paper; however, students may also focus on their own field of study, such as literary analysis, linguistics, history, philosophy, musicology, history of art, provided that the paper is clearly based on a literary text dated between 1300 and 1600.

MEDIEVAL STUDIES: MDVL 310 (3/6) D

Topics in Medieval Studies

This course integrates interdisciplinary approaches to specific topics that vary from year to year. Themes explored in this course give students an exposure to a range of disciplines in the medieval field: history, religion, art, literature, music, sociology, anthropology, and theory. In their research projects students have an opportunity to pursue topics and fields in greater depth. Students are required to write a substantial research paper relying largely on primary sources. Primary texts and documents (translated into English) are assigned in conjunction with secondary literature to analyse how scholars construct arguments based on primary evidence. Evaluation is based on a final research paper, a midterm, and a final exam. MDVL 310 is a required course for students completing the Medieval Studies Major or Minor.

MEDIEVAL STUDIES: MDVL 449 (6/12) C

Graduating Essay or Supervised Study

This course is designed to suit students willing and able to undertake independent study. The course may be taken for 3, 6, or 12 credits. In the latter case, the 12 credits may be spread over two years: 6 credits in the third year and 6 credits in the fourth year, or they may be taken together. It is possible that the Supervised Study credits might be combined with the Medieval Seminar or another of the courses so that more systematic and intensive work might be undertaken. Students typically prepare a lengthy paper reporting on the results and work done in the course. For further information, consult the Medieval Studies advisor.

MEDIEVAL STUDIES: MDVL 490 (3/6) D

Research Seminar in Medieval Studies

This intensive research seminar is a required course for the Medieval Studies Major and fulfills the Faculty of Arts research requirement. It focuses on a specific period, area, or issue integrating topics in medieval history, literature, and the arts. Topics vary from year to year, but the course employs an interdisciplinary perspective and explores material from a variety of disciplines. Students should consult the Medieval Studies advisor. Students are required to write a substantial research paper relying on primary sources. Evaluation is based on class discussions as well as the written assignments that culminate in the final research project. For detailed course descriptions of current offerings, see the Supplement.
Other Approved Courses in Medieval Studies

The following courses are offered by various departments in the Faculty of Arts. Students are advised to check the current year’s Medieval Studies to plan their third and fourth years together, since not every course is offered every year.

ARABIC: ARBC 101 (3)
Introduction to the Grammar and Vocabulary of Classical Arabic
An introduction to the grammar and vocabulary of Classical Arabic. This Course emphasizes grammar and vocabulary and introduces the student to select texts from Arabic literature including the Qur’an.

ARABIC: ARBC 102 (3)
Introduction to the Grammar and Vocabulary of Classical Arabic II
NOTE: Only 6 credits of language courses may count toward the lower-level Medieval Studies requirements. Prerequisite: ARBC 101.

ARABIC: ARBC 201 (3)
Classical Arabic (Intermediate) I
Increased reading ability as well as learning the further essentials of grammar. Prerequisite: ARBC 102

ARABIC: ARBC 202 (3)
Classical Arabic (Intermediate) II
Increased reading ability as well as learning the further essentials of grammar. Prerequisite: ARBC 102

ARABIC: ARBC 300 (6)
Introduction to Classical Arabic
An introduction to the grammar and vocabulary of Classical Arabic. This Course emphasizes grammar and vocabulary and introduces the student to select texts from Arabic literature including the Qur’an.

ARABIC: ARBC 400 (6)
Intermediate Classical Arabic
Second year of Classical Arabic with extensive reading of poetry and prose drawn from religious and historical texts. Prerequisite: ARBC 300

ARABIC: ARBC 420 (3/12)
Supervised Study in Classical Arabic
Religious and literary Arabic texts pertaining to the early and medieval Islamic world. Prerequisite: ARBC 400.
ART HISTORY: ARTH 225 (3)

Art in Europe to the Sixteenth Century

This course is a selective survey of painting, sculpture, and architecture in Europe to the sixteenth century.

ART HISTORY: ARTH 253 (3)

Asian Architecture: Sacred and Urban Spaces

This course studies select built forms in Asia, such as temples, tombs, palaces, cities and gardens, and their relation to cultural, social and political systems.

distinguishes the northern Renaissance.

ART HISTORY: ARTH 310 (3)

Art and the Christian Transformation of the Roman West

This course considers the diverse roles of visual culture and changing modes of viewing art in areas that comprised the Roman Empire from the first to the sixth century, including the cultural transformations that came about with the move from a pagan to a Christian world in the wake of the conversion of the emperor, Constantine, in the early fourth century and on a major stylistic change in art from the Classical naturalism of the earlier centuries to the more hieratic forms of the Late Antique style. The course throughout will attend to what is particular about the visual, about the nature of images in a diverse range of contexts: Public ceremonies; Roman imperial triumphant art and architecture; the art of private dwellings in first-century Italy; art and care for the dead in both pagan and Christian contexts; the development and decoration of Early Christian Churches; pilgrimage to Jerusalem and other holy sites; early Christian book painting, icons and icon veneration. (Formerly ARTH 330. Credit will be granted for only one of ARTH 310 or ARTH 330.)

ART HISTORY: ARTH 311 (3)

Art in the Early Medieval West

ARTH 311 deals with multiple forms and roles of art produced in Western Europe from about the end of the fifth century to about 1030. The impact of Germanic migrations and the dissolution of Roman Imperial civilization in Western Europe at the end of the fifth century produced major transformations in the culture of Europe. Different religious beliefs and social structure inspired new forms and especially a very different style of art. Reflecting on all this, students examine the multiple ways that images functioned and how art was used to serve both devotion and personal status in the midst of the construction of Christian kingdoms and empires, often in threat of disarray and under attack by still pagan Vikings from the North and a vibrant Islamic culture in the south of Spain. (Formerly ARTH 331. Credit will be granted for only one of ARTH 311 or ARTH 331.)
ART HISTORY: ARTH 312 (3)

*Medieval Art in the Age of Monasticism*

This course addresses the visual arts of medieval Western Europe between 1000 and 1200 and the role of monasteries as leading institutions and patrons of art and large-scale architecture. We consider art historical method and categories of interpretation; medieval debates about the value and purposes for art; characteristics of particular genres of work and selected themes in a variety of media. (Formerly ARTH 332. Credit will be granted for only one of ARTH 312 or ARTH 332.)

ART HISTORY: ARTH 313 (3)

*Art, Church, Society and their Margins in the Later Middle Ages*

Students examine the diversification of the arts and architecture and the expansion of patronage in late medieval society in Medieval art in the later Middle Ages (c. 1150-1500). This era is characterized by a tremendous growth in the production of visual images and art of all kinds due to the greater range of people commissioning art for a wider range of purposes, especially as urban wealth increases. The course examines the impact on art and its meaning as new groups of laity--rich aristocrats, rulers, and the growing numbers of bourgeois--as well as a whole range of new religious orders and university teachers were involved in both viewing and commissioning works. (Formerly ARTH 333. Credit will be granted for only one of ARTH 313 or ARTH 333.)

ART HISTORY: ARTH 321 (3)

*Early Modern Italian Art and Culture (ca. 1350-1550)*

Students examine Italian visual art and culture within the social, political, and religious contexts of the Papacy and the city-states.

ART HISTORY: ARTH 323 (3)

*Northern European Art and Culture (1400-1600)*

This course focuses on painting, sculpture, and the graphic arts from the great fifteenth-century devotional triptychs through the Reformation to the emergence of a secular art.

ART HISTORY: ARTH 351 (3/6) *Islamic Art and Archaeology* Cross listed RELG 341.

ART HISTORY: ARTH 352 (3)

*Historic India: Images, Temples and the Construction of Indian Art History*

This course addresses North and South Indian art and architecture with an emphasis on Buddhism and Hinduism.
ART HISTORY: ARTH 353 (3)

_Nepal and Tibet: Art, Ritual, and Performance_

Art of the Himalayan region in the context of social and religious rituals, festivals, and performances.

ART HISTORY: ARTH 359 (3)

_The Pursuit of Realism: Figurative Art in China before 1400_

Examines the making of realistic representations that describe society, cultural practice and family relationships in China between 3000 BCE and 1400 CE.

ART HISTORY: ARTH 360 (3)

_The Rise of Literati Painting in China: 1100-1700_

Chinese literati art and theory are analyzed through careful study of relationships between visual and textual productions.

ART HISTORY: ARTH 362 (3)

_Art in Japan: Objects and Spaces_

Historically, the objects now considered Japanese art held an interdependent relationship with the built environment. This course explores the relationship between spaces and things in the Japanese archipelago across different historical moments. Typologies examined include prehistoric Jōmon pit-dwellings, Buddhist temples and Shintō shrines, palaces and castles, tea pavilions, gardens, and modern institutional buildings, as well as non-monumental vernacular architecture (e.g. houses and hair salons). Objects examined include Jōmon-era vases, Buddhist icons, tea bowls, courtly painting, prints, the “fine arts” and photography. The medieval content from the mid-12th century to 16th century comprises the bulk of the first half of the course. Students will learn to account for the co-imbrication of art objects and architectural typologies within changing social contexts. Classes will be held in biweekly lecture format with time left for discussion.

ART HISTORY: ARTH 363 (3)

_Art in Japan: The Problem with Painting_

This class revisits some of the main sites of the history of painting in Japan, introducing their formal aspects as well as examining some of the debates they have served to ground. The subject of this course is thus both the objects comprised in the modern category “Japanese painting,” and the category “Japanese painting” itself. "Medieval" in Japanese art history is considered to run from mid-12th century to 16th century, and this is the bulk of the first half of the course. The structure of the course is diachronic and thematic. Issues examined include influence, narrative, style, verisimilitude and modernity/modernism. Classes will be held in a lecture format with time left for discussion.
ART HISTORY: ARTH 432 (3)

Seminar in Art of the High Middle Ages

Topics to be announced each year, when offered.

ASIAN STUDIES: ASIA 314 (3)

Premodern Japan

This course surveys the political, economic, social and cultural history of Japan to 1600.

ASIAN STUDIES: ASIA 320 (3) History of Early China Cross listed as HIST 378.

ASIAN STUDIES: ASIA 328 (3)

Medieval India

Students study the history, culture, and social and economic organization of South Asia from the decline of the classical Hindu empires through the Sultanate period.

ASIAN STUDIES: ASIA 340 (3) History of Later Imperial China Cross listed as HIST 379

ASIAN STUDIES: ASIA 344 (3)

Topics in Japanese Cultural History I: Aristocrats and Warriors

This course focuses each year on a specific topic related to the courtly or warrior culture of Japan and provides a thematic survey of major works (myth, historiography, religious tracts, poetry, drama, and fiction) from the earliest courts to the battle fields of medieval Japan.

CLASSICAL STUDIES: CLST 211 (3) Greek Philosophy I Cross listed as Philosophy 211.

CLASSICAL STUDIES: CLST 212 (3) Greek Philosophy II Cross listed as Philosophy 212.

CLASSICAL STUDIES: CLST 232 (3)

Ancient Rome

This class surveys the ancient Roman world from the foundation of the city to the death of Constantine.

CLASSICAL STUDIES: CLST 308 (3)

Roman Law

Constructing one of the earliest complex legal systems, the Romans excelled in creating a formal judicial system and a detailed framework for civil law. It formed the basis of most European law, influenced many aspects of English Common Law, and eventually had impact on legal systems of non-Western countries as well. This course provides exposure to constitutional law and the legal system, then turns to legal categories: the law of persons, the law of property and ownership, and the law of succession, contracts and delicts. The goal is to understand how the law functioned and the means by which the law was applied in daily life.
CLASSICAL STUDIES: CLST 312 (3)

Women in the Roman World of Republican and Imperial Times

This course constructs a nuanced picture of the lives of women in ancient Rome. Encompassing the period from the traditional founding of the city of Rome in 753 BC to the second century AD, the course considers how diverse aspects of women’s lives were affected by the development of Rome from a small city in Italy into an empire encompassing the Mediterranean world. As with all historical study of the ancient world, the surviving information for women is found in a variety of sources. Thus, the course also facilitates the initial exposure to, and the primary development of, the ancient historian’s skill to critically examine archaeological, epigraphical, legal, and literary sources.

CLASSICAL STUDIES: CLST 319 (3)

The Roman Army

This introduction to the history of Rome’s military begins with an examination of its military development through the republican period. The course then turns to examine the reforms made to the army to facilitate its role in controlling the vast empire of the Imperial period. Specific topics examined include; recruitment and training, strategy, discipline, daily life, family life, law, reality of Battle, mutiny and unrest, policing, Praetorian Guard, emperors’ relationship with the army, navy, logistics, engineering, civilian building, and veterans.

CLASSICAL STUDIES: CLST 353 (3)

The Early Roman Empire

The course focuses upon the Roman Empire during the first century AD following its consolidation by the founding emperors Augustus and Tiberius. The performance of certain of their successors is discussed, but the emphasis is upon social, administrative and economic themes. The nature and values of society are probed through exploration of such varied topics as the status and role of slaves and ex-slaves; the work undertaken by men and women; entertainment; and Roman funeral and burial practices. Sensitive exploitation of original source material, both literary and non-literary (all in translation), is an important element throughout. While plenty of guidance will be given, students are expected to read widely for themselves among ancient and modern authors, as well as to take an informed part in class discussions, willing to present their own findings to the class and to respond to those of others. Prerequisite: CLST 232 or permission of the instructor.

ENGLISH: ENGL 220 (3)

Literature in English to the 18th Century

A survey of prose, poetry and drama to the Eighteenth Century. Prerequisite: See calendar.
ENGLISH: ENGL 230 (3)

Biblical and Classical Backgrounds of English Literature

From the Middle Ages to the present English literature has been profoundly influenced by the language, genres, narrative patterns and imagery of Biblical and classical writing. This course surveys a number of the most important works of these two traditions and focuses on Biblical and classical texts as great works of literature that have significantly shaped the English literary tradition. **Prerequisite:** See calendar.

ENGLISH: ENGL 318 (3)

History of the English Language: Early History

This course examines the principles of language change and language typology and the development of the English language from its Indo-European origins to the end of the Anglo-Saxon period. **Prerequisite:** Third-year standing.

ENGLISH: ENGL 319 (3)

History of the English Language: Later History

Continuing the study of principles of language change in the development and spread of the English language from the Norman Conquest to the Modern English period. **Prerequisite:** Third-year standing. Knowledge of the International Phonetic Alphabet. ENGL 318 or ENGL 330 or the equivalent is recommended. **Prerequisite:** Third-year standing.

ENGLISH: ENGL 320 (6)

History of the English Language

This class is a full year course examining the development of the English language from West Germanic to the present; phonology, morphology, syntax and vocabulary.

ENGLISH: ENGL 340 (3/6) D

Introduction to Old English

This course is designed to give students a reading knowledge of Old English. About a third of the course is taken up by a study of Old English grammar; the other two thirds is devoted to reading some Old English prose passages such as Bede’s account of the poet Caedmon or Aelfric’s *Life of St. Edmund*. **Prerequisite:** Third-year standing.

ENGLISH: ENGL 343 (3)

Old English Literature

The best-known and most-read work of Old English literature without doubt is Beowulf, and this Old English epic is the central text for this course. Topics to be examined are e.g. the nature of the hero, the pagan/Christian dichotomy, the role of women, orality and literacy, the Other as monster, re-composing and appropriating earlier tales, etc. Before study of the poem proper begins, the course briefly acquaints students with some Anglo-Saxon elegiac literature (e.g. The Wanderer, The Seafarer) and battle poetry (e.g. The Battle of Maldon, The Battle of Brunanburh), since both elegiac and martial motifs are woven together in the epic. **Prerequisite:** See calendar.
ENGLISH: ENGL 344 (3-12)

Medieval Studies

The English Department typically offers two sections of this course every year, each section worth 3 credits and treating different topics which vary from year to year. Recent and upcoming offerings include such topics as Making Malory; Women Writers of the Middle Ages; the Arthurian Tradition; Medieval Literature and Medievalism. This course usually focuses on non-Chaucerian material from the Middle English period; some readings are in Middle English, others in translation. Prerequisite: See calendar.

ENGLISH: ENGL 346 (3-6)

Chaucer and the Middle Ages

When offered for 6 credits, this course surveys Chaucer's entire career, including the dream visions and lyrics, *Troilus and Criseyde*, and the *Canterbury Tales*. When 3 credits, the course focuses on the *Canterbury Tales*. In either case, the course includes attention to Chaucer's literary and historical contexts, with readings in translation from sources and analogues of his works, and to the range of scholarship on his work, with selective readings in criticism. Readings from Chaucer in Middle English; some class time is devoted to pronouncing and understanding Chaucer's language. Prerequisite: See calendar. Offered every year.

ENGLISH: ENGL 352 (3)

Middle English

The course studies the forms and development of the language, considering such aspects of Middle English as the shift from a synthetic to an analytic language; sound changes from Old English; regional variation; the influence of Latin, Anglo-Norman and French, and Old Norse; and the literary uses of the language. Prerequisite: See calendar. Rarely offered.

ENGLISH: ENGL 356 (3)

Chaucer

For Honours Students. Focusing upon a selection of Chaucer's major works (*Troilus and Criseyde*, *The Book of the Duchess*, 'The Knight's Tale', and others), drawn from both the *Canterbury Tales* and his wider oeuvre, this course will examine both the traditions and texts that influence Chaucer's poetry (Boethius, Boccacio, Dante, Popular English Romance) and the considerable influence that his writing had on the later Chaucerian poets (Lydgate, Henryson, Dunbar, and others). By examining Chaucer's poems in the context of wider medieval poetry, we illuminate both his literary transformation of his sources and the lasting impact of his literary legacy on the work of his literary descendants. Prerequisite: See calendar.
ENGLISH: ENGL 417 (6)

**Literature of the Bible**

This course focuses on the close reading of representative Biblical texts (particularly Genesis, Exodus, Judges, Samuel, Job, Psalms, Canticles, Isaiah, the Gospels, the letters of Paul and Revelation) in the light of ancient analogues (such as *The Epic of Gilgamesh*), later interpretations (such as the Catholic Middle Ages, the Protestant Reformation, Evangelism, the Oxford Movement, American denominations and the United Church of Canada), recent challenges (such as Darwinism, feminism, postcolonialism, and lesbian and gay movements) and representative works of English literature (such as medieval mystery plays, Milton, Blake, Browning, Eliot, Timothy Findley, Toni Morrison, Thomas King and Tony Kushner). **Prerequisite:** See calendar.

ENGLISH: ENGL 490 (3)

**Literature Majors Seminar**

Occasionally, when this course has a medieval topic, it may be counted toward the Medieval Studies Major or Minor. Please discuss this course with the Medieval Studies Advisor who determines whether the course is eligible for the Medieval Studies Program. **For English Majors.**

FRENCH: FREN 220 (3)

**Introduction to Early French Literature and to Textual Analysis**

Students familiarize themselves with techniques of literary analysis, as applied to representative works from the Middle Ages to the 17th century, including theatre, fiction, poetry and non-fiction prose. To be taken by all students intending to proceed to the Minor, Major or Honours program. **Language of instruction:** French. **Pre-requisite:** FREN 123.

FRENCH: FREN 348 (3)

**French Literature in Translation I**

Literary works from the Middle Ages to the French Revolution. Not available for credit towards a Minor, Major or Honours program in French. May be taken up to two times for a total of 6 credits with different content. **Prerequisite:** 6 credits of first-year English, ARTS 001, or Foundations, and at least second year standing.

FRENCH: FREN 360 (3)

**Introduction to Old French**

A basic introduction to the grammar, phonetics, semantics and syntax of Old French in literary texts from the ninth to the fourteenth centuries. **Taught in French and English.** **Prerequisite:** FREN 223.
FRENCH: FREN 407 (3/6)  
**Medieval French Literature**
Representative literary texts from the eleventh to the fifteenth centuries. Topics and authors may include epic, Tristan texts, Arthurian texts, the short narrative, satirical texts, religious dramas, secular drama, lyric poetry, didactic poetry, and François Villon. **Prerequisite:** One of FREN 320, FREN 321, FREN 328, FREN 329, or FREN 330.

FRENCH: FREN 419A (3/6)  
**Studies in Women's Writing**
Occasionally, when this course has a medieval topic, it may be counted toward the Medieval Studies Major or Minor. Please discuss this course with the Medieval Studies Advisor who will determine whether the course is eligible for the Medieval Studies Program. **Taught in French. Prerequisite:** One of FREN 320, FREN 321, FREN 328, FREN 329, or FREN 330.

FRENCH: FREN 460 (3)  
**Studies in Historical French Linguistics**
Topics may include historical phonetics and phonology, morphology and syntax, lexicology. **Taught in French. Prerequisite:** FREN 360.

FRENCH: FREN 468 (6)  
**Romance Linguistics**
The Indo-European background; Classical and Vulgar Latin; the origin development and spread of the Romance Languages, their vocabulary, phonology, morphology, syntax; vernacular Latin texts and Romance texts. **Prerequisite:** See calendar. Cross listed as SPAN 468, RMST 468.

GERMAN: GERM 360 (3)  
**Heaven and Earth: German Culture and Literature before 1700**
Masterpieces and major trends of the German literature of the Middle Ages, Renaissance and Baroque are studied against the background of political and social developments.

HISTORY: HIST 101 (6)  
**World History to Oceanic Contact**
This World History course provides a world context to the European Middle Ages, emphasizing the development of conscious communities and civilizations around the globe and how encounters between them shaped history from the first written records to the fifteenth century. Through the study of primary and secondary sources, students explore civilizations’ cultural wealth, challenges, and diversity. Topics include the emergence and diffusion of the world's great religions, cultural contact, the ordering of societies and their political development.
HISTORY: HIST 202 (6)

**Gateway to the Middle Ages**

Not a survey of the medieval period, this course is an introduction to some of the major problems of medieval studies (e.g., literary, artistic, historical, archaeological) and the methods by which such problems may be resolved. It examines specific periods and places, and treats various aspects and expressions of medieval society in both depth and detail. Topics vary from an examination of how ninth-century European authors reacted to the perceived social and moral decline of the Carolingian realm, to the investigation of the concepts of forgery and authenticity in the Middle Ages and Renaissance and the ways in which the practice of forgery led to the advancement of critical skills in dealing with evidence from the past and its impact upon historical consciousness.

HISTORY: HIST 259 (3)

**Science, Medicine, and Technology in the Ancient and Medieval Worlds**

This course intends to provide a foundation in the global history of science, medicine, and technology in the ancient and medieval worlds. Students are introduced to the early science and medicine of European and Chinese classical antiquity before moving to the science and medicine of the medieval period, incorporating material from European, Chinese, Arabic and Persian sources. Moving chronologically through the semester, the course pays special attention to the connections and translations that enabled knowledge to circulate and transform. Students are introduced to methods of historical practice, including primary-source analysis, historical writing, library and research skills, and public history. No prior work in history of science is required or expected.

HISTORY: HIST 341 (3)

**Medieval Jewish History**

A survey of the political, social, economic, and cultural history of the Jews from the beginning of the sixteenth century to the present, with special emphasis on changing attitudes to Jews and Judaism, and social and cultural transformations. *Cross listed as RELG 331.*

HISTORY: HIST 347 (3)

**Medieval and Imperial Russian History, 998-1800**

This survey covers the history of Russian politics, society, culture, and empire, beginning with the medieval period and extending through the era of Peter the Great’s modernization efforts and the Enlightenment.

HISTORY: HIST 363 (3)

**Europe in the Early Middle Ages**

This course is designed as a topical introduction to the formative period of western medieval history, roughly from the fourth through the tenth centuries. It traces the processes by which Roman, Germanic, and Christian political and intellectual traditions coalesced into a new civilization. Emphasis is placed on the reading, analysis, and discussion of primary sources in a wide variety of genres, including works by Tacitus, St. Augustine, St. Perpetua, Jordanes, Gregory of Tours, St. Benedict, Einhard, and Agobard of Lyons.
HISTORY: HIST 364 (3)

Europe in the Late Middle Ages

This historical survey deals with the development in the institutions of society, economics, government and law across Europe during the Central and Late Middle Ages from 1000 to the beginning of the fifteenth century. The course emphasizes the important issues in the interpretation of the Middle Ages to provide an introduction to medieval historiography.

HISTORY: HIST 365 (3)

Europe during the Renaissance

The primary focus of this course is the history and culture of Europe 1350-1600 in Italy and northwest Europe. Although the concept of Renaissance is still the topic of heated academic debates, it is undisputed that this was a time of significant change. Spearheaded by Italy during the course of the fourteenth century, traditional medieval values in culture and society underwent transformations revealed in literature, art, and learning. The printing press was invented, reducing the production time of books and opening up the market for a wide scope of philosophical exposes, political statements and literary experiments.

HISTORY: HIST 378 (3)

History of Early China

This course examines the history of China from antiquity to the fall of the Tang empire (618-907). Its goals are to help students develop the tools to understand the origins and foundations of Chinese society and to initiate them to the art and techniques of historical analysis. Like History 381 this course too challenges the stereotype of a monolithic and static China and encourages the development of a critical understanding of the internal and external forces integrating and dividing this geo-cultural unit. Cross listed as ASIA 320.

HISTORY: HIST 379 (3)

Late Imperial China

This course explores its history from the Tang empire through the mid-Qing dynasty, paying special attention to some of the major non-Chinese languages and peoples that have shaped that history. The assignments are intended to help students understand how to creatively and rigorously interpret the primary documents (including texts and objects) and the best of recent historical writing about Chinese history. Rather than taking the existence of a timeless and monolithic “China” for granted, students explore the various ways in which late imperial lands and peoples have been formed and re-formed in order to situate the period within broader narratives of global history. Students will gain experience in the art and techniques of advanced historical analysis, using both traditional and non-traditional sources. Cross listed as ASIA 340.
HISTORY: HIST 387 (3)

**Voices from Medieval India**

This course explores the history of medieval India (ca.500-1500) as a tale of two temples. The first temple was the showpiece of the powerful Vijayanagara empire, which is often seen as the champion of Hindu culture and revivalism in medieval South India. The destruction of the second temple at Somnath, by contrast, has come to symbolize the Islamic conquest of North India. This course probes the deeper history behind these two sites and the historical dynamics that have led to the particular stories told about them—as well as their continuing repercussions today. In the process, we examine developments in society, religion, politics, and material life of this formative period of Indian history.

HISTORY: HIST 424 (3)

**Economic History of Pre-Modern Europe**

The course explores the background to economic change, both growth and contraction, in Europe from the end of the Roman Empire to the beginning of the Industrial Revolution in the eighteenth century. Topics include causes and effects of economic development, evolution of economic institutions, changes in the distribution of income, roots and effects of technical change, the relationship of changes in the economy to changes in the environment, and the relative performance of the European and Chinese economies.

HISTORY: HIST 470 (6)

**Seminar in Medieval History**

Changing topics of medieval studies with special attention to research methods on primary sources. Offered occasionally.

HISTORY: HIST 473 (3)

**Women in the Middle Ages**

This course investigates the cultural, social, legal, and economic roles of women in the Middle Ages. We begin with Classical, Judeo-Christian and Germanic traditions that provided the basis for medieval European concepts of women and continue to 1500. The course examines the lives and history of women in the Middle Ages, historical interpretations which have shaped modern conceptions, and gender as an important aspect in studying history and society. Weekly readings include scholarly articles as well as monographs, and a range of primary sources from literature and treatises to legal records and letters.

HISTORY: HIST 474 (3)

**Ideas and Religions of the Middle Ages**

This course provides a survey and exploration of the development, interpretation, conflict, and transformation of various intellectual and religious traditions during the Middle Ages.
HISTORY: HIST 476 (3)

Law and Society in the Middle Ages

Medieval Legal History focuses on the development of the western legal tradition during the Middle Ages from customary law to statute law with an emphasis on English common law, civil (Roman) law, and canon law and how it changed in its social and political contexts. The course also recognizes how other legal traditions operated in Europe such as Jewish and Islamic law, and how they related to the dominant legal and political system. Students examine and explain actual legal cases and government acts to understand the law as an important aspect in studying Medieval history and society.

HISTORY: HIST 477 (3)

Constitutional History of Medieval Europe

This course examines in depth the evolution of political institutions and political classes, the emergence of royal governments, including representative assemblies and urban republics, and conflicts within and among them, shaping modern structures. Examples are drawn from across Europe from the time of the late Roman Empire to the sixteenth century, emphasizing contemporary interpretation of primary sources’ images, and other monuments as well as their subsequent meaning in later eras.

HISTORY: HIST 478 (3)

Medieval Portraits and Personalities

The focus of this class is a study of the lives of leading and controversial figures in the Middle Ages and the means by which they have portrayed themselves and been portrayed by others.

ITALIAN STUDIES: ITST 231 (3)

Introduction to Italian Culture I: From the Middle Ages to the Early Modern Period

A thematic approach to Italian literary works considered in a broad cultural context that ranges from the origins to the sixteenth century. Taught in English. Offered every year. Precludes credit for ITAL 303 (taught in Italian).

ITALIAN STUDIES: ITST 413 (3)

Dante Alighieri’s Divine Comedy in Translation

A close reading of Dante’s masterpiece, along with excerpts from some of his other works: Vita Nuova, Convivio, Monarchia, Epistles. Precludes credit for ITAL 403 (taught in Italian) which may also count toward Medieval Studies. Offered every year.
ITALIAN STUDIES: ITST 414 (3)

*Topics in the Italian Literature and Culture of the Middle Ages in Translation*

Italian literature of the Middle Ages in its intellectual, socio-political and cultural context. *Taught in English.* This course alternates with Italian Studies 415 (Topics in the Italian Literature and Culture of the Renaissance in Translation). For material to be covered in any given year, consult the Department of French, Hispanic and Italian Studies. *Precludes credit for ITST 404 (taught in Italian) which may also count toward Medieval Studies. Offered alternate years.*

ITALIAN STUDIES: ITST 415 (3)

*Topics in the Italian Literature and Culture of the Renaissance in Translation*

Italian literature of the Renaissance in its intellectual, socio-political and cultural context. *Taught in English.* This course alternates with Italian Studies 414 (Topics in the Italian Literature and Culture of the Middle Ages in Translation). For material to be covered in any given year, consult the Department of French, Hispanic and Italian Studies. *Precludes credit for ITST 405 (taught in Italian) which may also count toward Medieval Studies. Offered alternate years.*

LATIN: LATN 101 (3)

*First-Year Latin I*

For students with no previous knowledge of Latin. NOTE: Only 6 credits of language courses may count toward the lower-level Medieval Studies requirements.

LATIN: LATN 102 (3)

*First-Year Latin II*

*Prerequisite: LATN 101.* NOTE: Only 6 credits of language courses may count toward the lower-level Medieval Studies requirements.

LATIN: LATN 201 (3)

*Second-Year Latin I*

*Prerequisite: LATN 102.* NOTE: Only 6 credits of language courses may count toward the lower-level Medieval Studies requirements.

LATIN: LATN 202 (3)

*Second-Year Latin II*

*Prerequisite: LATN 201.* NOTE: Only 6 credits of language courses may count toward the lower-level Medieval Studies requirements.
LATIN: LATN 300 (6)

*Introduction to Latin for Senior Students*

An intensive course in the fundamentals of Latin grammar and syntax. Designed for students who wish to acquire a knowledge of basic Latin in one year for background in their own discipline or who plan to proceed to Medieval Latin (Latin 305). Not a credit towards a major in Medieval Studies or a major or honours degree in Classics. *Students may not receive credit for both Latin 100 and 300.*

LATIN: LATN 305 (6)

*Medieval Latin*

Introduction to medieval Latin language and literature. Development of a reading knowledge of medieval Latin through selections from major authors and genres after 400 AD. For Latin major and honors students, approval of the departmental advisor is required. *Offered intermittently. Prerequisite:* Latin 200 or 300. *Cross listed as RELG 320.*

MUSIC: MUSC 120 (3)

*History of Music I*

An overview of Western music from antiquity through the Middle Ages and Renaissance, providing a framework for understanding musical styles and practices, and examining selected compositions in greater analytical and historical depth.

MUSIC: MUSC 352 (3)

*History of Medieval Music*

Medieval Music. Music and musical culture of the Middle Ages in Western Europe, from the emergence of written notation in the ninth century to the end of the fourteenth century. *Prerequisite:* Music 120 and 121.

NEAR EASTERN STUDIES: NEST 310 (3)

*History of Women in Early to Late Medieval Muslim Societies*

This course introduces students to the history of Muslim women, examining their roles, images and experiences in the social, political, economic and legal contexts of Muslim societies from the rise of Islam to the late medieval period (7th-17th c. C.E.). Adopting a topical approach, emphasis is placed on the variety of Muslim women’s experiences, to analyze the ways Muslim culture defined the place of women during different historical periods and how women worked to comply or resist these definitions.

PHILOSOPHY: PHIL 211 (3)

*Greek Philosophy I*

Focuses on the study of the Presocratics, Socrates, and Sophists. *Cross listed as Classical Studies 211.*
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PHILOSOPHY: PHIL 212 (3)

Greek Philosophy II

Focuses on the study of Plato, Aristotle, and selections from Hellenistic philosophers. Cross listed as Classical Studies 212.

PHILOSOPHY: PHIL 310 (3/4)

The Philosophy of Plato

A study of Plato's writings and his influence on subsequent philosophy.

PHILOSOPHY: PHIL 311 (3/4)

The Philosophy of Aristotle

A study of Aristotle's writings and his influence on subsequent philosophy. Prerequisite: PHIL 310.

PHILOSOPHY: PHIL 313 (3)

Medieval Philosophy

A survey of western European thought, in its social and cultural setting, from Augustine to the fourteenth century. Possible topics include: the interaction of Christianity and paganism; Augustine; Anselm; Abelard and the twelfth-century Renaissance; the influence of Islam; the rediscovery of Aristotle; Aquinas, Scotus; Ockham. No prerequisites, but some familiarity with philosophy or with classical or medieval studies is recommended. Cross listed as RELG 328.

PHILOSOPHY: PHIL 412 (3/4) D

Topics in Medieval Philosophy

Advanced study of a medieval philosopher such as Aquinas, or a particular philosophical school. Prerequisite: Philosophy 313.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: RELG 207 (6)

Classical Islam

A history of the culture, values, and achievements of Islamic societies from 700-1500, this course examines the interconnections between power, politics, gender, and the arts in Islamic societies. This course is highly recommended as a basis for all 300- and 400-level Islamic Studies courses.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: RELG 210 (3)

History of Christianity I

A survey of the history of the Christian church from the close of post-Biblical period, through the Middle Ages to the colonial expansion under Spain and Portugal.
RELIGIOUS STUDIES: RELG 315 (6)

History of Christian Thought

A survey of the history of the Christian church from the close of the period of the New Testament to the present day, this course deals with a variety of Patristic writers in the eastern and western traditions of Christianity followed by a sample of medieval and Reformation writers and concludes with a few modern examples, influenced by the renewed interest in patristic resources. In the patristic period there are some significant shifts of perspective to be noted. Authors to be examined include Perpetua, Origen, Arius, Gregory of Nyssa, Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, Luther, Adolph von Harnack, Karl Barth, and Yves Congar. Modern studies have been selected to demonstrate the contribution of research in the earlier resources have contributed to creative reassessment of Christian perspectives.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: RELG 320 (6) Cross listed as LATN 305.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: RELG 321 (3/6)

Prophetic Figures in the Christian Tradition

This course is a formal consideration of four major figures with discussions of other examples decided upon by instructor and students. The required texts include The Confessions by Augustine, Summa Theologiae (selections) by Thomas Aquinas, The Babylonian Captivity, and The Freedom of the Christian by Martin Luther and The Interior Castle by Teresa of Avila.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: RELG 328 (3) Medieval Philosophy Cross listed as PHIL 313.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: RELG 331 (3) Medieval Jewish History Cross listed as HIST 341.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: RELG 335 (3)

Jewish Law: Ancient and Late Antique Traditions

History, sources, theoretical issues and current state of research about early Jewish legal traditions, focusing on close readings of classic primary texts.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: RELG 336 (3)

Jewish Law: Medieval and Early Modern Traditions

History, sources, theoretical issues and current state of research about later Jewish legal traditions, focusing on close readings of classic primary texts.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: RELG 341 (3/6)

Islamic Art and Archaeology

A detailed study of the ideals and artistic embellishments of monuments and artifacts in the Muslim world as expressions of Islamic beliefs, concentrating on the Middle East in its broadest sense into North Africa and Spain addressing specific regional developments. Study begins with the artistic and religious heritage of indigenous cultures prior to Islam, and stresses developments from the rise of Islam (622 AD, AH 1) to the period of Ottoman control of the Middle East (ca. 1516-1798, AH 922-1213). Cross listed as Art History 351.
RELIGIOUS STUDIES: RELG 408 (3)

Topics in Medieval Judaism

The work of Maimonides and other Jewish philosophers, early development of Jewish Mysticism, the Jews as a minority culture in Islamic and Christian lands.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: RELG 448 (3)

Seminar in the History of the Religion of Islam

The course addresses a topic relevant to the study of Islam as a religion. Please discuss this course with the Medieval Studies Advisor who will determine whether the course is eligible for the Medieval Studies Program.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: RELG 485 (3)

Images of Eve

The story of Adam and Eve, and its influence on the role and image of women in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

ROMANCE STUDIES: RMST 221 (3)

Selected Topics in the Literatures and Cultures of the Romance World I: Medieval to Early Modern

An introduction to the main themes that shaped the Western part of Europe as its different national identities emerged in the Mediterranean sphere. Offered in alternate years.

ROMANCE STUDIES: RMST 420 (3)

Studies in Romance Languages and Cultures

Course content varies and when it deals with Medieval topics the Medieval Advisor can approve this course for your program. Usually offered in alternate years.

ROMANCE STUDIES: RMST 468 (3) Romance Linguistics Cross listed as FREN 468 and SPAN 468.

SCANDINAVIAN: SCAN 335 (3)

Vikings and Norse Mythology

Designed to introduce students to the history, literature and mythology of the so-called “Viking Age,” (from the 793 Viking raid on Lindisfarne to the 1066 defeat at the Battle of Stamford Bridge), this course provides necessary historical context for reading the texts produced between the twelfth and the fourteenth century. Almost all the texts about “Vikings” were written after the “Viking Age.” Vikings did not call themselves Vikings, did not wear horned helmets, and did not produce written accounts. The texts were either written by outsiders or by later Scandinavian writers who lived in very different social and religious environments. Students learn about the cultural and political dynamics of the Norsemen as well as the cultural and political dynamics that fuel the cultural construction of the Norsemen and the North. Taught in English.
SCANDINAVIAN: SCAN 501 (3/6)

Old Icelandic

This course deals with the rudiments of Old Icelandic grammar and literature. The reading of texts is started almost immediately, and points of grammar, language and history are treated as students read texts in Norse mythology, legend, and history. Two family sagas are read in English translation and discussed. Permission of the instructor required. Offered rarely.

SPANISH: SPAN 357 (3)

Survey of Peninsular Literature from the Origins to 1700

Students are introduced to the main literary genres and trends of the Middle Ages and the Golden Age in Spain through a study of representative works from both periods. Taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: SPAN 302, and either SPAN 220 or SPAN 221.

SPANISH: SPAN 403 (3)

History of the Spanish Language

Students are introduced to the main literary genres and trends of the Middle Ages and the Golden Age in Spain through a study of representative works from both periods. Taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: SPAN 302.

SPANISH: SPAN 410 (3)

Medieval Literature

Topics in Spanish Literature ranging from its origins to 1500. Taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: One of SPAN 220, SPAN 221 or SPAN 302.

SPANISH: SPAN 468 (3) Romance Linguistics. Cross listed as FREN 468 and RMST 468.