MEDIEVAL STUDIES

THE SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

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Degree Offered: BA

This interdisciplinary major enables students to compare medieval cultures, noting both their differences and their common traditions, in the period between 500 and 1500 AD. The program combines a broad background in various aspects of medieval culture with more specialized study in a selected field. These fields of emphasis include art history, history, medieval literature (English, French, or Latin), music, philosophy, or religion.

Degree Requirements for BA in Medieval Studies

For general university requirements, see Graduation Requirements in this publication. Students majoring in medieval studies must complete at least 30 semester hours (10 courses); the minimum for double majors is 30 hours. All majors must complete five (5) of these medieval studies courses at the 300 or 400 level.

Required and recommended courses include the following:

A minimum of 30 semester hours (10 semester courses), of which at least five courses must be at the 300/400 level. Double majors must complete a minimum of 24 semester hours.

One course in medieval literature or medieval art or medieval music

Recommended Courses:

- MDST 316 Chaucer
- MDST 317 Arthurian Literature
- MDST 368 Mythologies
- MDST 414 Literature and Culture of the Middle Ages: Saints and Sinners
- MDST 425 Courtly Love in Medieval France
- MDST 330 Early Medieval Art
- MDST 331 Gothic Art and Architecture in Northern Europe, 1140–1300
- MDST 332 Late Gothic Art and Architecture in Northern Europe, 1300–1500
- MDST 222 Medieval and Renaissance Eras
- MDST 429 Music in the Middle Ages
One of the following courses
- MDST 201 History of Philosophy I
- MDST 257/357 Jews and Christians in Medieval Europe
- MDST 382 Classical Islamic Culture

Two semesters of foreign language study, determined in consultation with the medieval studies advisor.

Three courses (at least two at the 300 or 400 level) in the student’s chosen field of emphasis—one of these may be a directed reading course

Recommended Courses:
- MDST 315 Introduction to Medieval Culture

For single majors, 3 additional courses in the medieval period, one of which may be a senior thesis (1 semester) on a topic in the student’s field of emphasis; for double majors, 1 additional course in the medieval period.

Students work out their programs of study in consultation with the program director. Those contemplating graduate work in medieval studies should study at least one foreign language in some depth (as most graduate schools require a reading knowledge of French and German for the PhD). Students may select from among the following to fulfill the course requirements for the major in medieval studies.

Please note that not all courses listed below will be offered during the academic year. For a current list of courses that will be offered in fall 2004 and spring 2005, please visit the Medieval Studies web site at http://medieval.rice.edu.

**Classical Studies**
- MDST 101 Elementary Latin I
- MDST 102 Elementary Latin II
- MDST 211Intermediate Latin I
- MDST 212 Intermediate Latin II

**English**
- MDST 300 Medieval Women Writers
- MDST 310 Dante in Translation
- MDST 311 Old English
- MDST 315 Introduction to Medieval Culture
- MDST 316 Chaucer
- MDST 317 Arthurian Literature
- MDST 318 J. R. R. Tolkien
- MDST 368 Mythologies

**French Studies**
- MDST 410 The Literary and Historical Image of the Medieval Woman
- MDST 414 Literature and Culture of the Middle Ages: Saints and Sinners
- MDST 425 Courtly Love in Medieval France
- MDST 436 Literature and Culture of the Middle Ages: King Arthur

**German Studies**
- MDST 126 Freshman Seminar: The Legend of King Arthur in the Middle Ages
- MDST 330 Mapping German Culture: Courtship, Love and Marriage in the Age of Chivalry

**History of Art**
- MDST 108 Art in Context: Late Medieval and Renaissance Culture
- MDST 111 Introduction to the History of Western Art I: Prehistoric to Gothic
- MDST 238 Special Topics in Medieval Art
- MDST 239 Independent Study in Medieval Art
- MDST 330 Early Medieval Art
- MDST 331 Gothic Art and Architecture in Northern Europe, 1140–1300

**The Age of Cathedrals**
- MDST 332 Late Gothic Art & Architecture in Northern Europe, 1300-1500
- MDST 440 Jan van Eyck: Problems of Interpretation
- MDST 457 Bosch and Bruegel

**History**
- MDST 168 The World of Arabian Nights
- MDST 223 Medieval Empires
- MDST 257 Jews and Christians in Medieval Europe
- MDST 281 Pre-Modern Middle East History: The Middle East from the Prophet Muhammad
to Muhammad Ali
MDST 303 Undergraduate Independent Reading
MDST 304 Undergraduate Independent Reading
MDST 308 The World of Late Antiquity
MDST 321 Directed Readings in Medieval History
MDST 322 Directed Readings in Medieval History
MDST 323 Medieval Empires (enriched version)
MDST 345 Humanism and Expansion
MDST 357 Jews and Christians in Medieval Europe (enriched version)
MDST 358 European Intellectual History from Augustine to Descartes
MDST 382 Classical Islamic Cultures
MDST 384 The Crusades: Holy War in Medieval Christendom and Islam
MDST 387 Life on the Nile
MDST 438 Women and Gender in Medieval Islamic Societies
MDST 444 Memory and Commemoration in the Middle Ages
MDST 446 Jewish and Christian Communities in the Middle Ages

MDST 447 The Age of the Crusades
MDST 488 Topics in Medieval History

Linguistics
MDST 311 Old English

Music
MDST 222 Medieval and Renaissance Eras
MDST 429 Music of the Middle Ages
MDST 441 Hildegard of Bingen
MDST 456 Collegium
MDST 486 Illuminated Music Manuscripts

Philosophy
MDST 201 History of Philosophy I
MDST 301 Ancient and Medieval Philosophy
MDST 481 Seminar in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy

Religious Studies
RELI 443 Maimonides' Guide for the Perplexed

See MDST in the Courses of Instruction section.