Medieval Studies

Chair
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Coordinator
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Undergraduate certificate: medieval studies
Web site: http://clas.uiowa.edu/classics/undergraduate-program/medieval-studies-program

The Medieval Studies Program offers an undergraduate program of study and a selection of courses open to students in all majors.

Undergraduate Program of Study

• Certificate in Medieval Studies

Certificate

The Certificate in Medieval Studies requires a minimum of 21 s.h. in medieval studies course work. The certificate program is open to current University of Iowa undergraduate students and to all individuals who hold a bachelor's degree and are not enrolled in a graduate or professional degree program. Students must maintain a g.p.a. of at least 2.00 in work for the certificate.

The program enables students to combine study in three or more disciplines into an organized investigation of the Middle Ages, a rich historical period that continues to influence today's culture. Students may earn the Certificate in Medieval Studies as a distinct interest or combine it with focused study in areas such as art history; classics; comparative literature; gender, women's, and sexuality studies; languages (e.g., French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish); music; philosophy; religion; and theater.

Students must include courses from at least three different departments in their work for the certificate; they may count a maximum of 10 s.h. from a single department or program. Courses used to fulfill General Education Program requirements or the requirements of a major or minor may be counted toward the certificate in most cases. Up to 6 s.h. of transfer credit may be counted toward certificate requirements, with the Certificate in Medieval Studies coordinating committee's approval; contact the certificate program's coordinator.

All certificate students must complete one of the following two courses and should do so early in their program of study.

MDVL:3409 Medieval Civilization I 3 s.h.
MDVL:3410 Medieval Civilization II 3 s.h.

Remaining courses may be chosen from the lists under "Associated Courses" and "Courses" below. Students should consult regularly with a medieval studies advisor while planning and completing their program of study.

The Medieval Studies Program strongly encourages students to complete course work in a language relevant to the medieval period. Latin is recommended for anyone intending to pursue graduate study in the field. Many language courses have prerequisites, and some are offered irregularly, so students should complete their language course work as early as possible. The following language courses are approved for the medieval studies certificate.

ENGL:3256 Elementary Old English 3 s.h.
RELS:4001-RELS:4002 Biblical Hebrew I-II 8 s.h.

Sample Study Plans

Both of these sample study plans fulfill the certificate's requirements.

Sample plan for a student planning graduate work in medieval studies:

MDVL:3226/ENGL:3226 Literature and Culture of the Middle Ages 3 s.h.
MDVL:3410/HIST:3410 Medieval Civilization II 3 s.h.
ARTH:2420 Introduction to Medieval Art 3 s.h.
CLSL:2001 World of Cicero 3 s.h.
CLSL:2002 Golden Age of Roman Poetry 3 s.h.
HIST:4418 Medieval Intellectual History 3 s.h.
HIST:4418 Medieval Intellectual History 1150-1500 3 s.h.
RELS:1225 Medieval Religion and Culture 3 s.h.

Sample plan for a student with a general interest in medieval studies:

MDVL:3409 Medieval Civilization I 3 s.h.
ENGL:3256 Elementary Old English 3 s.h.
ENGL:3286 Chaucer 3 s.h.
HIST:4412 History of the Medieval Church 3 s.h.
HIST:4426 Women, Power, and Society in Medieval Europe 3 s.h.
MUS:2301 History of Music I 3 s.h.
SPAN:3700 The Cid in History and Legend 3 s.h.

Associated Courses

The following courses are approved for the medieval studies certificate. Other courses may be approved for satisfaction of certificate requirements; students who wish to have a course approved should make a request to the Certificate in Medieval Studies coordinating committee. The coordinating committee revises the list of approved courses as necessary.

ARABIC LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

ARAB:2001 Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic I 5 s.h.
ARAB:2002 Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic II 5 s.h.

ART AND ART HISTORY

ARTH:2420 Introduction to Medieval Art 3 s.h.
ARTH:3391 Themes in Medieval Art 3 s.h.
ARTH:3990 Topics in Art History (when topic is medieval) 3 s.h.

CENTER FOR THE BOOK

UICB:4910/HIST:4910 The Book in the Middle Ages 3 s.h.
UICB:4920/HIST:4920/SLIS:4920 The Transition from Manuscript to Print 3 s.h.

CLASSICS
CLSL:2001 World of Cicero 3 s.h.
CLSL:2002 Golden Age of Roman Poetry 3 s.h.

ENGLISH
ENGL:2216 Selected Works of the Middle Ages 3 s.h.
ENGL:3226 Literature and Culture of the Middle Ages 3 s.h.
ENGL:3256 Elementary Old English 3 s.h.
ENGL:3257 Old English Beowulf 3 s.h.
ENGL:3266 Medieval Celtic Literature 3 s.h.
ENGL:3276/THTR:3276 Medieval Drama 3 s.h.
ENGL:3286 Chaucer 3 s.h.

FRENCH
FREN:3110 French Civilization 3 s.h.

GERMAN
GRMN:2780 King Arthur Through the Ages 3 s.h.

HISTORY
HIST:2151 Introduction to the History Major (when topic is medieval) 3 s.h.
HIST:3409 Medieval Civilization I 3 s.h.
HIST:3410 Medieval Civilization II 3 s.h.
HIST:4408 The Twelfth-Century Renaissance 3 s.h.
HIST:4411 Economic and Social History of Medieval Europe 3 s.h.
HIST:4412 History of the Medieval Church 3 s.h.
HIST:4417 Medieval Intellectual History 3 s.h.
HIST:4418 Medieval Intellectual History 3 s.h.
HIST:4419 Ancient and Medieval Science 3 s.h.
HIST:4421 The Middle Ages in Film 3 s.h.
HIST:4423 Ireland in the Early Middle Ages 3 s.h.
HIST:4426 Women, Power, and Society in Medieval Europe 3 s.h.
HIST:4910/UICB:4910 The Book in the Middle Ages 3 s.h.
HIST:4920/UICB:4920/SLIS:4920 The Transition from Manuscript to Print 3 s.h.

ITALIAN
ITAL:4633 Medieval Italian Literature 3 s.h.
ITAL:4634 Medieval and Renaissance Italian Literature 3 s.h.

MUSIC
MUS:2301 History of Music I 3 s.h.
MUS:4200 Counterpoint Before 1600 3 s.h.

PHILOSOPHY
PHIL:3112 Medieval Philosophy 3 s.h.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES
RELS:1225 Medieval Religion and Culture 3 s.h.
RELS:4001 Biblical Hebrew I 4 s.h.
RELS:4002 Biblical Hebrew II 4 s.h.

SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE
SPAN:3700 The Cid in History and Legend 3 s.h.
SPAN:4690 Topics in Spanish Literature (when topic is medieval) 3 s.h.

THEATRE ARTS
THTR:3276/ENGL:3276 Medieval Drama 3 s.h.

Courses
MDVL:3226 Literature and Culture of the Middle Ages 3 s.h.

English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Medieval and Early Modern Literature and Culture. PERIOD: Early Literatures Through 17th Century. Same as ENGL:3226.

MDVL:3409 Medieval Civilization I 3 s.h.

Europe from the decline of Roman empire to the eleventh century; cultural, political, economic, artistic and architectural foundations of Western civilization. Same as HIST:3409.

MDVL:3410 Medieval Civilization II 3 s.h.

Europe from the eleventh century to the Italian Renaissance; cultural, political, economic, artistic, and architectural foundations of Western civilization. GE: Historical Perspectives. Same as HIST:3410.

MDVL:4408 The Twelfth-Century Renaissance 3 s.h.

Social, economic, intellectual, and cultural rebirth of Europe in the 12th century; Latin learning and education; developments in vernacular literature, art, architecture, new religious orders and institutions, pilgrimage and Crusade. Same as HIST:4408.

MDVL:4411 Economic and Social History of Medieval Europe 3 s.h.

Changes in western Europe from 300 to 1500 A.D.; feudalism, manorialism, revival of towns, heresy, women, monasticism, agricultural and commercial revolutions, Black Death. GE: Historical Perspectives. Same as HIST:4411.

MDVL:4412 History of the Medieval Church 3 s.h.

Development of Christianity to end of great schism; rise of Roman primacy, development of monasticism, orthodox and heterodox groups. GE: Historical Perspectives. Same as HIST:4412.

MDVL:4417 Medieval Intellectual History 3 s.h.

300-1150

Philosophy, art, literature, religious culture of Europe from waning of classical intellectual modes of culture in late antiquity, to their recovery in 12th century. Same as HIST:4417.

MDVL:4418 Medieval Intellectual History 3 s.h.

1150-1500
European philosophy, religion, literature, art from 12th-century rise of scholasticism; their transformation in period of Copernicus, Luther. Same as HIST:4418.

**MDVL:4419 Ancient and Medieval Science** 3 s.h.
Greens' initiation of scientific inquiry; developments in astronomy, cosmology, optics, mathematics, physics, medicine, psychology in ancient and medieval societies of Middle East, Europe. Same as HIST:4419.

**MDVL:4421 The Middle Ages in Film** 3 s.h.
How films that represent medieval events and literature may be analyzed to reveal the culture and times in which the films were made; Middle Ages and European nationalistic mythmaking as represented in film. Same as HIST:4421.

**MDVL:4423 Ireland in the Early Middle Ages** 3 s.h.
Ireland and the northern British islands 400-1000 C.E., a region of small kingdoms and thin population, lacking natural resources, far from Rome and ancient centers of Mediterranean culture; development of civilization, including monastic, legal, theological, and scholarly traditions that had a major impact on continental Europe; early medieval Irish history; introduction to the world of historical scholarship. Same as HIST:4423.

**MDVL:4426 Women, Power, and Society in Medieval Europe** 3 s.h.
Same as HIST:4426.