



Institute for Medieval Studies

Fall 2018

Course Offerings

Institute for Medieval Studies
2045 Mesa Vista Hall
277-2252
medinst@unm.edu
<http://ims.unm.edu>



Medieval Studies

Fall 2018 Course Offerings

Medieval Studies Faculty

Justine M. Andrews, M.A. (Southern Methodist University), Ph.D. (UCLA); Dept. of Art and Art History

James L. Boone, M.A., Ph.D. (SUNY, Binghamton); Dept. of Anthropology

Anthony Cárdenas, M.A., Ph.D. (University of Wisconsin); Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese

Jonathan Davis-Secord, M.A., Ph.D. (University of Notre Dame); Dept. of English

Sarah Davis-Secord, M.A. (Trinity International University), Ph.D. (University of Notre Dame);
Dept. of History

Leslie A. Donovan, M.A. (University of New Mexico), Ph.D. (University of Washington);
Honors College

Frederick Gibbs, M.A., Ph.D. (University of Wisconsin); Dept. of History

Timothy C. Graham, M. Phil. (University of London), Ph.D. (University of Cambridge);
Dept. of History

Anita Obermeier, M.A. (Eastern Illinois University), Ph.D. (Arizona State University); Dept. of English

Nikolaus Overtoom, M.A. (University of Maryland), Ph.D. (Louisiana State University); Dept. of History

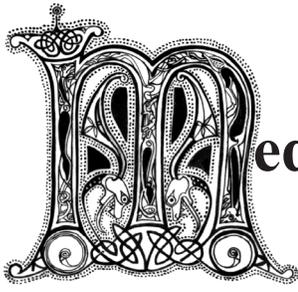
Donna E. Ray, Ph.D. (University of New Mexico); Dept. of History

Michael A. Ryan, M.A. (Western Michigan University), Ph.D. (University of Minnesota); Dept. of History

Medieval Studies Student Association

www.unm.edu/~mssa

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ENGLISH

ENGL 350.001

Medieval Tales of Wonder

Lisa Myers

MWF 9:00–9:50

This course will introduce students to texts from the Middle Ages that are designed to amaze and astonish. The class will place an emphasis on the historical and cultural contexts of these works and approach them through the techniques of literary analysis and theory in order to uncover the ways in which these texts use wonder to explore issues of gender, power, faith, and the fear of the unknown. We will read about heroes and monsters in *Beowulf* and the *Nibelungenlied* and about magic and fairies in medieval romances such as *Sir Degare*. We will examine the ideology surrounding the natural world through bestiaries, maps, and travel narratives like *The Travels of Sir John Mandeville* and we will study the afterlife, ghosts, and demons in religious texts such as *The Life of St. Guthlac*. All texts will be read in modern English translations.

ENGL 447.001

Introductory Old English

Jonathan Davis-Secord

TR 2:00–3:15

Hwæt! In this class, we will return to the earliest recorded form of English and read some of the oldest literature ever written in the language. We will spend the first half of the semester learning the grammar of Old English while working through introductory passages in their original form. We will then move on to reading Old English prose and poems, including some of *Beowulf!* No prior knowledge of Old English required.

ENGL 450.001

Middle English Heroes, Saints, and Lovers

Anita Obermeier

TR 11:00–12:15

This course is an introductory sampling of medieval literature (and some art) produced in England and the immediate Continent between 1066 and 1500. We start this historical, linguistic, and literary enterprise with the Bayeux Tapestry—art with text—fighting alongside Anglo-Saxon warriors. Then we will pray with English saints, sleuth with historians, learn the art of courtly love from medieval knights and ladies, look at the nature of God with mystics, and watch biblical drama unfold. The original texts are in Latin, Anglo-Norman, and various dialects of Middle English, which we will study in modern English, in bilingual facing-page translations, and the easier ones in Middle English. The texts cover various secular and religious genres, including epic, debate, saints' lives, *fabliaux*, *lais*, romance, drama, allegory, and lyrics. The goal of the course is to highlight the variety and range of texts of the Middle English period, and to place those writings in their cultural, linguistic, and historical contexts.

HISTORY

HIST 201.001

The Medieval World

Nikolaus Overtoom

MWF 11:00–11:50

This course offers a broad orientation to Western culture during the Middle Ages by surveying the history, literature, art, and spirituality of the West from the decline of the Roman Empire to the eve of the Renaissance. In this period, ideas, institutions, and forms of cultural expression evolved throughout Europe, forging a cultural legacy that remains influential today. Far from being a long interlude of darkness and stagnation separating Antiquity from the Renaissance, the Middle Ages was a time of vibrant transformation and innovative developments in many areas of human endeavor. Students will engage the

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major political, social, religious, artistic, and military developments of the Middle Ages through a balance of lectures, readings, writing assignments, and in-class discussions. The overall aim of the course is thus to provide a well-rounded assessment and evaluation of the most significant developments during this rich historical period.

HIST 395.003

Medieval Women in Text and Film

TR 9:30–10:45

Sarah Davis-Secord

Medieval women played a wide variety of important social and political roles—as nuns, queens, fighters, writers, lovers, mystics, etc.—and there are more written texts by and about women from the Middle Ages than from any previous society. This course will present the history of several significant medieval women through a comparison of the primary source texts either by or about them with the modern film versions of their lives and works. The study of historical women's lives and the roles they played in past societies demonstrates how written texts helped shape and confirm views about women, gender, and sexuality in the Middle Ages. Comparison of these historical texts with contemporary film representations allows us to think carefully about the differences between medieval and modern approaches to women's lives and about how we today view women of the past. We will spend class time discussing the written texts and viewing and discussing the films. Students will write essays about each woman, comparing the representations in the medieval texts with those in the modern films.

HIST 318.001

Spain and Portugal to 1700

Michael Ryan

MWF 2:00–2:50

“Spain is different” was the slogan used by the *caudillo* Francisco Franco to encourage tourism to Spain in

the 1970s, as the country had been effectively isolated by the international community due to Franco's fascist rule. The slogan was designed to evoke the “exotic” qualities of Spain and its history. Of course, this elided the historical nuances of centuries' worth of encounter and exchange among the many peoples—particularly Christians, Jews, and Muslims—who called the peninsula home in the pre-modern past. In this class, we will study the history of Spain and Portugal until roughly the end of the seventeenth century. Among some of the many themes investigated will be the waves of settlers of the peninsula, the formation of the Iberian kingdoms, social and cultural exchanges among Christians, Jews, and Muslims, and cultural and intellectual innovations.

HIST 326.001

History of Christianity to 1517

Donna Ray

TR 11:00–12:15

This course covers the history of Christianity from its beginnings in Palestine to the eve of the Protestant Reformation in the sixteenth century. This was a period of major growth and development for Christianity, but also a time in which the Church faced significant crises and underwent fundamental changes. We will see Christianity emerge from early challenges to become the official religion of the Roman Empire and then define many aspects of life during the Middle Ages. Primary focus will be on the rich variety of forms—doctrinal, liturgical, artistic, intellectual, and institutional—that Christianity assumed throughout this period. Also of concern will be Christianity's contributions to Western culture and its significance as a “civilizing” force.

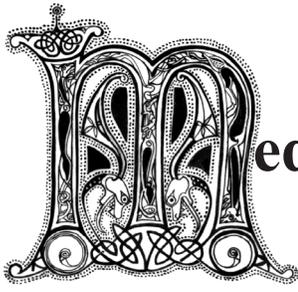
HIST 395.006

Late Antiquity

Nikolaus Overtoom

MWF 9:00–9:50

In this class we will cover the transitional period between

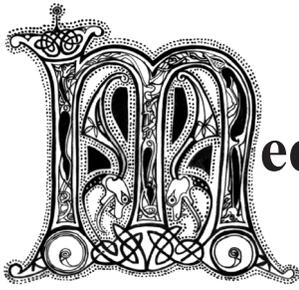


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Classical Antiquity and the Middle Ages known as Late Antiquity. We will address the decline and fall of the Roman world in the West and the continued power of Rome in the East from the second to the eighth century A.D. This was a period of great political and military turmoil; however, it was also a period of great social and religious change. As Christianity became the dominant force in Western civilization, new societies emerged to replace the traditional Roman order. Despite the best efforts of the Romans to maintain their unrivalled position in Europe, North Africa, and the Near East, new powers and ideas created a new world.



Medieval Studies

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Courses of Interest

LATN 101.001
Elementary Latin I
Staff
10:00–10:50

LATN 101.002
Elementary Latin I
Staff
11:00–11:50

LATN 101.003
Elementary Latin I
Staff
1:00–1:50

LATN 101.004
Elementary Latin I
Staff
12:00–12:50

LATN 101.005
Elementary Latin I
Staff
9:00–9:50

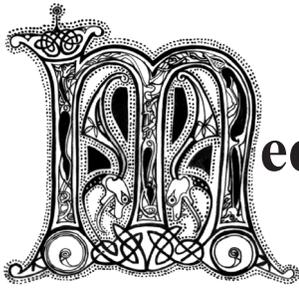
Latin 201.002
Intermediate Latin I
Staff
MWF 3:00–3:50

ENGL 445.001
History of the English Language
Nicholas Schwartz
MWF 2:00–2:50

Ever wonder where “bad words” come from? Have you ever looked at a passage from Chaucer or Shakespeare and wondered why everything seems misspelled? This course is for you! The English language has a long and fascinating history, but to many students the most ancient form of English—Old English—looks practically nothing like the Present-day English we are all familiar with today. Have no fear! This course will trace the development of the English language from its very earliest Indo-European beginnings all the way up to the present. Students will learn about important historical and linguistic influences on English and develop skills for analysis and an appreciation of the English language. No previous experience with linguistics or Old or Middle English is needed for this course.

HIST 395.005
History of Rome: The Republic
Nikolaus Overtoom
MWF 1:00–1:50

This is a student-driven course based on readings, research, and in-class discussions covering the development of ancient Rome from a minor city-state to a world power between the tenth and first centuries B.C. During this period the Romans created a system of government that became an intellectual influence on numerous modern nations, including the United States. We will investigate the political, social, and military developments that allowed the Romans to create the strongest and most prosperous state in the ancient world. Through innovation and determination, the Roman Republic overcame the great powers of Carthage in the West and the successors of Alexander the Great in the East. Yet the Republic fell victim to its own success. Social, economic, and political turmoil allowed Roman generals, such as Marius, Sulla, Pompey, Caesar,



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Courses of Interest

Mark Antony, and Octavian to subvert the Republic and bring it to its knees.

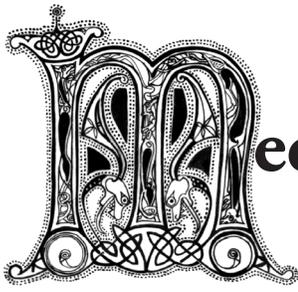
UHON 301.015

Mythmaking and Tolkien

Leslie Donovan

TR 3:30–4:45

J. R. R. Tolkien's epic novel *The Lord of the Rings* has been considered the foundation of modern fantasy literature, the basis for immensely popular film adaptations, and even identified in several international surveys as the single most influential or popular work of the twentieth century. Yet, while millions of readers have enjoyed and treasured *The Lord of the Rings* and its precursor *The Hobbit*, few have gone much beyond the field of popular literature to integrate other approaches and fields of study in connection with Tolkien and his works. But Tolkien was not only a writer of popular fiction; he was also a mythologist, visual artist, musical composer, philologist, playwright, and scholar of medieval literature. In this course, we will survey not only Tolkien's original fiction, but also some of his scholarly works, invented languages, paintings and drawings, and music. We will explore how several world myths contribute to the mythic tales he created for Middle-earth. In addition, we will touch on topics seldom discussed in Tolkien literature courses from such fields as astronomy, ecology, natural sciences, linguistics, and cultural studies. Perhaps most important, we will seek to understand what Tolkien's works have to say to people in the twenty-first century about issues such as gender, warfare, friendship, interactions between cultures, hospitality, loyalty, keeping one's oaths, and the nature of good and evil.



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ENGLISH

ENGL 547.001

Introductory Old English

Jonathan Davis-Secord

TR 2:00–3:15

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ENGL 550.001

Middle English Heroes, Saints, and Lovers

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HISTORY

HIST 518.001

Spain and Portugal to 1700

Michael Ryan

MWF 2:00–2:50

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HIST 595.003

Medieval Women in Text and Film

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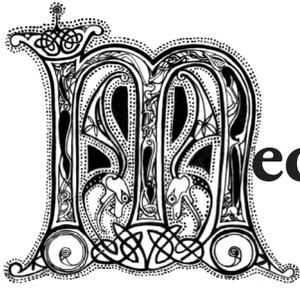
HIST 668.001

The Medieval Mediterranean

T 4:00–6:30

Sarah Davis-Secord

During the Middle Ages, the Mediterranean Sea was the meeting point of three major civilizations: Latin Europe, the Byzantine Greek Empire, and the Islamic world. In this geographical arena, many of the fundamental aspects of the pre-modern world found their expression. Christians, Jews, and Muslims lived in the Mediterranean along shifting frontiers, at times in both conflict and cooperation. Merchants, pilgrims, diplomats, and warriors traveled across the sea, often bringing with them cultural, intellectual, or economic products that contributed to a larger framework of commerce and communication. This course will examine the Mediterranean Sea, both as a geographical concept and as a stage for such complex relationships, from the ancient to the early modern periods. Themes running throughout the course will include the following: the creation, maintenance, and crossing of boundaries; the balance between violence and cooperation in cross-cultural dialogue; commercial and cultural exchanges; and both micro- and macro-level relations between the three major civilizations of the Mediterranean world.



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