

# *Medieval Studies*

## *2016-2017*

Course information for planning your  
Medieval Studies Major or Minor



Website: <http://medieval.arts.ubc.ca/>



### **Advisor:**

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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 around a grasp of the past and present in terms of connections among various phenomena, then medieval studies is central to that education. All three of the required core courses in Medieval Studies emphasize interdisciplinarity.



## The Committee for Medieval Studies

The Committee for Medieval Studies is formed from among 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, offering several 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. A 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 (for example, MDVL 301 this year).
- **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.

# Courses Offered by Medieval Studies in 2015-16

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## MEDIEVAL STUDIES 210 (3 credits) *Introduction to the Middle Ages*

**Term 1: MWF, 2:00-3:00 pm**

**Prof. Robert Rouse**

Department of English

Office: Buchanan Tower 619

Phone: 604-822-4071

[robert.rouse@ubc.ca](mailto:robert.rouse@ubc.ca)



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. The course begins with the fall of Rome and the spread of the migratory tribes of Germanic peoples (Angles, Saxons, Jutes, Franks, etc.) across Northern Europe. Britain will be our case study for this early period, as we examine how the pagan Anglo-Saxons were converted by the Christian missionaries, thus becoming part of a wider medieval Christendom. From here we move to cover the social structure of the medieval world, taking as our guide the Dubyian framework of The Three Orders.

An important aspect of the course is an introduction to the material culture of medieval manuscripts. We spend three weeks in the middle of the course on this, making use of a visit to the UBC Rare Books and Special Collections to view and handle the fourteenth-century *Compendium Theologicae Veritatis*. Students also work with digital facsimiles during this section of the course. Following this we cover a number of themes further exploring medieval culture: the place of women and love; medieval food and medicine; and medieval Europe's contact with the wider world. This last section completes our journey from the fall of Rome to Columbus's voyage westward in 1492. These thematic sections give students interested in medieval studies an exposure to a range of disciplines in the medieval field: history, religion, art, literature, music, and theory. In their research papers students have an opportunity to pursue topics and fields in greater depth.

### **Learning outcomes:**

In the course introducing the Middle Ages, students will become familiar with the basic structure and nature of medieval society. This introduction will prepare students for upper level courses in both the Medieval Studies Program (MDVL 310 and 490), and for disciplinary specific medieval courses within the wider Faculty of Arts. Primary texts and documents (translated into English) will be read in conjunction with secondary literature of scholars so students will learn to critically evaluate how scholarly arguments are constructed based on primary evidence. The final research paper will allow students to explore in further depth an issue or topic that has engaged them during the course.

**MEDIEVAL STUDIES 301: European Literature of the 5th to the 14th Century:  
*The Liberal Arts* (3 credits)**

**Term 1: TTh, 1:00-2:30pm**

**Prof. Juliet O'Brien**, Department of French, Hispanic and Italian Studies

Office: Buchanan Tower 728; phone: 604 822-4009

[juliet.obrien@ubc.ca](mailto:juliet.obrien@ubc.ca)

"The function of freedom is to free someone else." (Toni Morrison)

What is a liberal arts education? A course in the Faculty of Arts? What does it mean to be a student at a university? What's the point of reading? Or of lifelong learning? What are the personal, public, social, and cultural purposes of all these things?

In this interdisciplinary course we will explore some answers to these questions—as current now as they have been over the last several centuries—offered by some Medieval texts written in European vernaculars and in Latin, and having an influence throughout Medieval Europe. While our principal focus will be the study of literary works, we will also explore the historical landscape in which these landmarks are situated; the cultural background against which their actions are staged; and their relationship to an integrated creative and intellectual environment—including visual and plastic arts, music, ideas, and the sciences.

The course starts with a 5th-century text: Martianus Capella, *De nuptiis Philologiae et Mercurii*. It will introduce us to the history of the idea of liberal arts and some of its architects, from the pre-medieval (e.gg. Plato, Aristotle, Cicero, Seneca) to the medieval (e.gg. Alcuin, Charlemagne, Alain de Lille) worlds; to university, scholarly, student, and intellectual cultures; and to the cultural roles of commentary and satire.

The main body of the course centres on a 13th-century work which resonates through the 14th century and beyond, Guillaume de Lorris & Jean de Meun's *Roman de la Rose*, through which "portal-text" we will investigate each of the seven liberal arts of the *trivium* (logic, grammar, rhetoric) and *quadrivium* (arithmetic, geometry, music, astronomy).

The last three weeks will conclude in medievalist epilogue: looking forward to the 16th-c. *studia humanitas*, the post-medieval liberal arts & humanistic education, post-humanism and ecocriticism, emancipation and social justice, utopias, rethinking the university, speculative futures ... and student final presentations.

Classes consist of interactive lectures interspersed with discussions. Assessment is based on a midterm short commentary paper; a round-table short presentation followed by a student-led discussion or debate; a final research project and its presentation; and, throughout the course, class participation and regular short writing on the course blog. The course is taught in English. Work may be written in English or another language according to preference or program requirements. There is no pre-requisite for this course.



**MEDIEVAL STUDIES 310B: Topics in Medieval Studies:**

***The Medieval Town*** (3 credits)

**Term 2: TTh 2:00 – 3:30pm**

**Prof. Arlene Sindelar**, Department of History

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[arlene.sindelar@ubc.ca](mailto:arlene.sindelar@ubc.ca)



Just as cities are magnets for the restless, ambitious, and marginalized today, so were they in the Middle Ages. Our general notions about this European period has been shaped more by myth, movies, and romances than by historical sources. Popular descriptions of medieval society has tended to focus more on kings and lords, duels and damsels, rather than on business owners, entrepreneurs, prostitutes, journeymen, beggars, and urban aldermen. But this interdisciplinary course examines the problems and prosperity of cities and the people who lived there from the tenth century through the challenges of war, plague, and politics to the fifteenth. Weekly topics include charters and citizenship, merchants and crafts; governance and revolt; art and architecture; customs and laws, households and housing, foreigners and Jews, urban spaces and boundaries, poverty and plenty, universities and religious institutions, gender and crime, life and death.

Classes consist of lectures interspersed with workshops on the sources and discussions over the readings. Reading assignments include not only secondary scholarship and primary documents, but also digitized manuscripts, illuminations, architecture, and artefacts. Assessment is based on a midterm test, a short document analysis, two brief article reports, and a research project and essay. (This course is required for the Medieval Major and Minor. It also eligible to count as upper-level credit toward the **History** Major or Minor.)

**Learning Objectives:**

**Through the study of available primary and secondary sources of the medieval period, students use** appropriate methodologies across the disciplines to explore the history, culture, representation, dynamics, and diversity of the European town from late Antiquity until the Reformation; investigate how the town and its governance changed over time and place; analyse how the town fostered medieval art and literature, law, and economic innovation; explain how the town shaped society; employ an interdisciplinary perspective in researching the medieval town and city; exhibit analytical and writing skills of university scholarship: generating a research topic related to the course, developing a research topic, developing a working bibliography of appropriate primary and secondary sources, constructing an argument, and presenting it both in the form of an original written research project or essay and to the class in a presentation.



## Pre-Approved Courses for the Medieval Studies Major and Minor

*These courses are offered by various departments in the Faculty of Arts in 2015W.*

*This is based on information available on 1 July 2015 may be subject to change.*

*There will be additions, deletions or changes before registration begins. Check the official UBC Schedule.*

<i>Arabic Studies</i>		<p><b>ARBC 101 (3)</b>    <b>Introduction to the Grammar and Vocabulary of Classic Arabic I</b> Term 1, Section 001: TT 9:30-11:00am, S. Ghazi Term 1, Section 002: MWF 2:00-3:00pm, TBA</p> <p><b>ARBC 102 (3)</b>    <b>Introduction to the Grammar and Vocabulary of Classic Arabic II</b> Term 2, TT 9:30-11:00am, S. Ghazi</p> <p><b>ARBC 201 (3)</b>    <b>Classical Arabic (Intermediate) I</b> Term 1, TT 11:00am-12:30 pm, S. Ghazi</p> <p><b>ARBC 202 (3)</b>    <b>Classical Arabic (Intermediate) II</b> Term 2, TT 11:00am-12:30 pm, S. Ghazi</p>
<i>Art History</i>		<p><b>ARTH 253 (3)</b>    <b>Asian Architecture: Sacred and Urban Spaces</b> Term 2, MWF 10 -11pm, K. Hacker</p> <p><b>ARTH 313 (3)</b>    <b>Art, Church, Society and their Margins in the Later Middle Ages</b> Term 2, TTh 2:00-3:30 pm, C. Knicely</p> <p><b>ARTH 322 (3)</b>    <b>Nepal and Tibet: Art, Ritual and Performance</b> Term 1, TTh 11:00-12:30pm, K. Hacker</p>
<i>Asian Studies</i>		<p><b>ASIA 314 (3)</b>    <b>Premodern Japan</b> Term 1, TT 9:30-11:00am, P. Nosco</p> <p><b>ASIA 315 (3)</b>    <b>Japan from Feudal to Modern State</b> Term 2, TTh 11:00-12:30 pm, P. Nosco</p> <p><b>ASIA 318 (3)</b>    <b>Premodern India</b> Term 2, MWF 11:00-12:00 pm, F. Harlow</p> <p><b>ASIA 340 (3)</b>    <b>History of Later Imperial China (Register for the Cross listed HIST 379)</b> Term 2, 3:30-5:00 pm, L. Shin</p> <p><b>ASIA 344 (3)</b>    <b>Topics in Japanese Cultural History I: Aristocrats and Warriors</b> Term 1, 3:30-5:00 pm, J. Mostow</p> <p><b>ASIA 347 (3)</b>    <b>Traditional Korean Literature in Translation</b> Term 1, 3:30-5:00 pm, B. Fulton</p> <p><b>ASIA 358 (3)</b>    <b>Literature of Medieval India in Translation</b> Term 1, TTh 11:00-12:30 pm, A. Murphy</p> <p><b>ASIA 370 (3)</b>    <b>The Sanskrit Cosmopolis: India and the World, 200-1500 CE</b> Term 1, TTh 12:30-2:00 pm, T. Hunter</p> <p><b>ASIA 398 (3)</b>    <b>Narrative Literature in Premodern India</b> Term 2, TTh 11:00-12:30 pm, A. Sathaye</p>
<i>Classical Studies</i>		<p><b>CLST 111 (3)</b>    <b>Golden Age of Athens</b> Term 1, MWF 1:00-2:00 pm, C. Gorrie</p> <p><b>CLST 112 (3)</b>    <b>Late Republican and Early Imperial Rome</b> Term 2, MWF 10:00-11:00 pm, TBA</p> <p><b>CLST 211 (3)</b>    <b>Greek Philosophy I (Cross listed with PHIL 211)</b> Term 1, MWF 1-2 pm, M. Griffin</p> <p><b>CLST 212 (3)</b>    <b>Greek Philosophy II (Cross listed with PHIL 212)</b> Term 2, MWF 1-2 pm, M. Griffin</p>

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	<b>CLST 232 (3)</b>	<b>Ancient Rome</b> , two sections Term 2, MWF 1-2 pm, L. Bablitz	
	<b>CLST 308 (3)</b>	<b>Roman Law</b> Term 1, MWF 1:00-2:00 pm, L. Bablitz	
	<b>CLST 319 (3)</b>	<b>Roman Army</b> Term 2, MWF 2:00-3:00 pm, L. Bablitz	
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<i>English</i>	<b>ENGL 220 (3)</b> 5+ sections	<b>Literature in English to the 18th Century</b> Various Sections in each term by various instructors	
	<b>ENGL 319 (3)</b>	<b>History of the English Language: Early History</b> Term 2, TTh 2 -3:30 pm, W. Biermann	
	<b>ENGL 340</b>	<b>Introduction to Old English</b> Term 1, TTh 12:30 -2:00 pm, L. Arnovick	
	<b>ENGL 343 (3)</b>	<b>Old English Literature</b> Term 2, TTh 2:00-3:00 pm, TBA	
	<b>ENGL 344 (3)</b> 2 sections	<b>Medieval Studies</b> ENGL 344A Term 1, Warriors and Wizards at King Arthur's Court, TTh 11:00-12:30 pm, S. Echard ENGL 344B Term 2, MWF 12:00 -1:00pm, S. Partridge	
	<b>ENGL 346B (3)</b>	<b>Chaucer and the Middle Ages</b> Term 1, MWF 11:00 -12:00 pm, S. Partridge	
			
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<i>French</i>	<b>FREN 220 (3)</b> 3 sections	<b>Introduction to Early French Literature and to Textual Analysis</b> Taught in French. Pre-requisite: FREN 123 Various sections in both terms.	
	<b>FREN 407 (3)</b>	<b>Studies in Medieval French Literature: Mysteres de la chronique medievale</b> ( <i>See note below**</i> ) Term 2, MWF 11:00-12:00pm, C. Phan	
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<i>German</i>	<b>GERM 407 (3)</b>	<b>Heaven and Earth: Studies in German Culture and Literature before 1700</b> Term 1, TTh, 11:00-12:30 pm, F. Gassner	
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<i>History</i>	<b>HIST 104:201 (3)</b>	<b>Topics in World History: Sin, Sex and Crime in Pre-Modern Societies*</b> <i>See advisor to count for Medieval Studies Program.</i> Term 2, MWF 9:00-10:00 pm, A. Sindelar	
	<b>HIST 202 (3)</b>	<b>Gateway to the Middle Ages</b> Term 2, MWF 3:00-10:00, C. Booker	
	<b>HIST 363 (3)</b>	<b>Europe in the Early Middle Ages</b> Term 1, MWF 2:00-3:00pm, C. Booker	
	<b>HIST 364 (3)</b>	<b>Europe in the Late Middle Ages</b> Term 2, TTh 9:30-11:00 am, A. Sindelar	
	<b>HIST 365 (3)</b>	<b>Europe During the Renaissance</b> Term 1, 3:30-5:00 pm, J. Christopoulos	
	<b>HIST 366 (3)</b>	<b>Europe During the Reformation</b> Term 2, 3:30-5:00 p., J. Christopoulos	
	<b>HIST 378 (3)</b>	<b>History of Early China</b> Term 1, TTh 3:30-5:00 pm, L. Shin	
	<b>HIST 379 (3)</b>	<b>History of Later Imperial China</b> Term 2, TTh 3:30-5:00 pm, L. Shin	
	<b>HIST 473 (3)</b>	<b>Women in the Middle Ages</b> Term 1, MWF 11:00-12:00pm,, A. Sindelar	
	<b>HIST 476 (3)</b>	<b>Law and Society in the Middle Ages</b> Term 1, MWF 9:00-10:00pm,, A. Sindelar	
	<b>HIST 490P (3)</b> Seminar 2 sections	<b>Seminar for Majors in History: The Early Modern Mediterranean.</b> Explores topics and debates in Mediterranean history, 1450-1750 <i>(See advisor to count for Medieval Studies Program: equivalent to MDVL490)</i> Term 2, Section 201: W 10:00-12:00 am, J. Christopolos Term 2, Section 202: F 10:00-12:00 am, J. Christopolos	
			

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<i>Italian Studies and Italian</i>	<b>ITST 231 (3)</b>	<b>Introduction to Italian Literature and Culture of the Middle Ages and Early Modern Period</b> Term 1, TTh, 11:00-12:30 pm, D. Boccassini
		<b>ITST 414 (3)</b>
<i>Latin</i>	<b>LATN 101 (3)</b> 5 Sections	<b>First-Year Latin I</b> Various Sections by various instructors
	<b>LATN 102 (3)</b> 3 Sections	<b>First-Year Latin II</b> Various Sections by various instructors
	<b>LATN 201 (3)</b> 2 Sections	<b>Second-Year Latin I</b> Term 1, Two Sections by different instructors
	<b>LATN 202 (3)</b>	<b>Second-Year Latin II</b> Term 2, MWF, 4:00-5:00pm, A. Rae
<i>Music</i>	<b>MUSC 120 (3)</b>	<b>History of Music I</b> Term 1, TTh 9:30-11:00 am, A. Fisher
<i>Philosophy</i>	<b>PHIL 211A (3)</b>	<b>Greek Philosophy I</b> (Cross listed with CLST 211) Term 1, MWF 1:00-2:00, M. Griffin
	<b>PHIL 212A (3)</b>	<b>Greek Philosophy II</b> (Cross-listed with CLST 212) Term 2, MWF 1:00-2:00 pm, M. Griffin
	<b>PHIL 310A (3)</b>	<b>The Philosophy of Plato</b> Term 1, MWF 11:00-12:00 pm, S. Berryman
<i>Religious Studies</i>	<b>RELG 207 (3)</b>	<b>Classical Islam</b> Term 1, MWF 4:00-5:00 pm, TBA
<i>Romance Studies</i>	<b>RMST 420 (3)</b>	<b>Studies in Romance Languages and Literature</b> Cross listed with ITAL 405 and ITST 414 Term 1, TTh 2:00-3:30 pm, D. Boccassini
<i>Scandinavian Studies</i>	<b>SCAN 415 (3)</b>	<b>The World of the Sagas</b> (in English) Term 1, TTh 3:00-4:30 pm, K. Frackman
<i>Spanish</i>	<b>SPAN 357 (3)</b>	<b>Survey of Peninsular Literature from the Origins to 1700</b> Taught in Spanish. Term 2, MWF 9:00-10:00 pm, R. Alvarez-Moreno

**Transfer credits from medieval courses completed at other institutions and accepted by UBC are also eligible for lower-level credit in Medieval Studies Major and Minor Programs. See the Medieval Advisor to apply the credits to your program.**

**\*\*FREN407 Studies in Medieval French Literature: Mysteres de la chronique medievale.**  
Taught in French but term papers can be accepted in English from non-French majors.