The Medieval and Early Modern Studies program enables students to study medieval and early modern cultures in the period between 500 and 1700 A.D.

As an interdisciplinary major, the program combines a broad background in various aspects of medieval and early modern culture with more specialized study in a selected field. These fields of emphasis or specialized study include medieval and early modern art history, history, literature (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, or Latin), music, philosophy, or religion.

Bachelor’s Program

- Bachelor of Arts (BA) Degree with a Major in Medieval and Early Modern Studies (ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/humanities/medieval-early-modern-studies/medieval-early-modern-studies-ba)

Medieval and Early Modern Studies does not currently offer an academic program at the graduate level.

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For Rice University degree-granting programs:

To view the list of official course offerings, please see Rice’s Course Catalog (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat?p_action=cata)

To view the most recent semester’s course schedule, please see Rice’s Course Schedule (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat)

Medieval and Early Modern Studies (MDEM)

MDEM 100 - ROMANCING RELIGION: NARRATIVES OF THE SACRED

Short Title: ROMANCING RELIGION

Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Distribution Group: Distribution Group I

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course examines links between religious experience and romance narrative taking the grail as a focal point. We start with grail legends in the middle ages, explore historical associations of the grail with medieval Christianity, and end with quest narratives and grail motifs in modern occultism, fiction and film. This course is limited to first-year students only, any others will be removed from this course. Cross-list: FSEM 100, RELI 100.

MDEM 101 - ELEMENTARY LATIN I

Short Title: ELEMENTARY LATIN I

Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Lecture

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: Study of the fundamentals of Latin grammar with emphasis on acquisition of reading skills. Cross-list: LATI 101.
MDEM 102 - ELEMENTARY LATIN II  
Short Title: ELEMENTARY LATIN II  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Prerequisite(s): LATI 101 or MDST 101 or MDEM 101  
Description: Continuation of LATI 101 and MDEM 101. Graduate students require permission of instructor. Cross-list: LATI 102.  

MDEM 103 - INTRODUCTION TO JEWISH MYSTICISM  
Short Title: INTRO TO JEWISH MYSTICISM  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: Surveys the historical development and central themes of Jewish mysticism. From the bible to ancient mysticism to medieval Kabbalah to modern expressions, we will critically reflect the ideas such as divine presence in the world, the cultivation of insight and magical powers, contemplative and restorative practices, and charismatic authority. Cross-list: RELI 104.  

MDEM 105 - INTRODUCTION TO MEDIEVAL CHRISTIAN THOUGHT  
Short Title: MEDIEVAL CHRISTIAN THOUGHT  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: Survey of major medieval Christian thinkers. Primary focus on high and late middle ages (12th-15th century), with some attention to spiritual and apocalyptic writings and dissenting thought in this period. Cross-list: RELI 105.  

MDEM 108 - ART IN CONTEXT: LATE MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE CULTURE  
Short Title: LATE MEDIEVAL & RENAISSANCE  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: This course will be concerned with art, architecture, and history of the late Middle Ages and Renaissance. We will employ historical texts, literature, and illustrations of works of art, showing how historical documents and sources can illuminate the cultural context of art and architecture. Cross-list: HART 240, HUMA 108.  

MDEM 111 - INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF WESTERN ART I: PREHISTORIC TO GOTHIC  
Short Title: INTRO TO HIST OF WESTERN ART I  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I  
Credit Hours: 4  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: A survey of painting, sculpture, and architecture from Antiquity through the 15th century. Students will also attend a one-hour weekly tutorial with a teaching assistant. Cross-list: CLAS 102, HART 101.  

MDEM 116 - MYSTICISM THROUGHOUT THE AGES  
Short Title: MYSTICISM THROUGHOUT THE AGES  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: This course examines the historical development of mysticism in Western thought, placing the Christian experiential traditions in comparison with Jewish developments. Through mystical texts, we will explore key concepts, such as visions of God and spiritual journeys, as developed during late antiquity, the middle-ages, and into the early modern period. Cross-list: RELI 116.  

MDEM 120 - MEDIEVAL CIVILIZATIONS  
Short Title: MEDIEVAL CIVILIZATIONS  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: Focusing on the period between 300-1500 CE, the course will survey political institutions, society, and culture in medieval European, Byzantine, and Islamic civilizations. Topics include Christianization of Europe, the rise of Islam, the Crusades, scholastic theology, persecution of heretics, bubonic plague, and the rise of centralized monarchies. Cross-list: HIST 120.  

MDEM 171 - THE BODY AND THE COSMOS IN THE MIDDLE AGES  
Short Title: BODY & COSMOS IN MIDDLE AGES  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: What shaped medieval Christian notions of the body? How did common experiences of pain, sexuality, childbirth, and death refract the grasp of larger concepts - God, time, and the cosmos? This seminar will explore the issues connecting body to cosmos through close reading of medieval literary, mystical, and autobiographical texts. This course is limited to first-year students only, any others will be removed from this course. Cross-list: FSEM 171, RELI 171. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for MDEM 171 and FWIS 150.
MDEM 201 - HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY I  
Short Title: HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY I  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: Survey of the major philosophers and philosophical systems of ancient Greece, from Parmenides to the Stoics. Cross-list: CLAS 201, PHIL 201.

MDEM 205 - MEDIEVAL MEDITERRANEAN WORLD  
Short Title: MEDIEVAL MEDITERRANEAN WORLD  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: Course examines the political, institutional, military, and cultural development of the societies that successively dominated the "Middle Sea" from AD 500-1500 in Europe and the Islamic World. It highlights the Mediterranean legacy of commercial, cultural, and religious exchange and coexistence, as well as its history of confrontation and warfare. Cross-list: HIST 205.

MDEM 210 - MEDIEVAL VIOLENCE  
Short Title: MEDIEVAL VIOLENCE  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: Discussion course looks at private and large-scale warfare during the European Middle Ages. It considers how violence was legitimized and carried out, and examines attitudes towards violence and its effects on society. Topics include theoretical approaches to violence, crusading, chivalry, Truce of God, rituals of violence, military technologies, and cinematic portrayals of medieval warfare. Cross-list: HIST 211.

MDEM 211 - INTERMEDIATE LATIN I: PROSE  
Short Title: INTERMEDIATE LATIN I: PROSE  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: Review of grammar and readings in Latin prose. Cross-list: LATI 201.

MDEM 212 - INTERMEDIATE LATIN II  
Short Title: INTERMEDIATE LATIN II  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Prerequisite(s): LATI 201 or MDST 211 or MDEM 211  

MDEM 222 - MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE ERAS  
Short Title: MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE ERAS  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Prerequisite(s): MUSI 211 or MUSI 317  
Description: Introduction to the study of Western music history, with emphasis on music before 1600. Score reading ability required. Cross-list: MUSI 222.

MDEM 271 - MEDIEVAL POPULAR CHRISTIANITY  
Short Title: MEDIEVAL POPULAR CHRISTIANITY  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: For much of the Middle Ages, literacy was a luxury that ordinary people could not afford. How could peasants participate in Christian traditions? Course surveys devotional practices engaged by the laity, including penance, pilgrimage, plays, charms and spells, as well as traditions of lay interaction with dead saints and ghosts. Cross-list: RELI 271.

MDEM 281 - THE MIDDLE EAST FROM THE PROPHET MUHAMMAD TO SULAYMAN THE MAGNIFICENT  
Short Title: PREMODERN MIDDLE EAST HISTORY  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: Introduction to the Middle East from the rise of Islam to the middle of the 16th century. Topics include conquests and classical Islamic states, Arabization, Jewish and Christian communities, impact of Turkic peoples, and the Ottoman Empire, with emphasis on social, cultural, political, and religious trends that shaped the region's history. Cross-list: HIST 281.
MDEM 301 - ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY
Short Title: ANCIENT & MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Topics in the history of philosophy from the 4th century B.C. through the 14th century. Graduate students require permission of instructor. Credit may not be received for both MDEM 301 and MDEM 481. Cross-list: CLAS 301, PHIL 301. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for MDEM 301 and MDEM 481. Repeatable for Credit.

MDEM 305 - PAIN, ECSTASY AND EMBODIMENT IN RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE
Short Title: PAIN, ECSTASY AND EMBODIMENT
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: From exorcism to other worldly visions, we experience religion as embodied human beings. This course explores embodied religion by focusing on connections between pain and transcendence, looking at medieval Christianity as well as contemporary and cross-cultural examples. Cross-list: RELI 305.

MDEM 308 - THE WORLD OF LATE ANTIQUITY
Short Title: THE WORLD OF LATE ANTIQUITY
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Study of the social, religious, and political history of the Roman world from Diocletian to the rise of Islam, with emphasis on the breaking of the unity of the Mediterranean world and the emergence of early medieval societies in the east and west. Cross-list: HIST 308.

MDEM 311 - AFRICAN PREHISTORY
Short Title: AFRICAN PREHISTORY
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Thematic coverage of developments throughout the continent from the Lower Paleolithic to medieval times, with emphasis on food production, metallurgy and the rise of cities and complex societies. Cross-list: ANTH 312.

MDEM 312 - TOPICS IN OLD ENGLISH
Short Title: TOPICS IN OLD ENGLISH
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: A various topics course that includes a wide range of reading of poems, prose, materials from chronicle, myth, and legend. Topics will vary from semester to semester. Cross-list: ENGL 312. Repeatable for Credit.
Course URL: www.english.rice.edu

MDEM 313 - BEOWULF FOR THE 21ST CENTURY
Short Title: BEOWULF FOR THE 21ST CENTURY
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: A close reading of Beowulf with attention to Anglo-Saxon culture and Old English poetics. Cross-list: ENGL 313.
Course URL: www.english.rice.edu

MDEM 314 - DIVINE SEX: GENDER AND DIVINITY IN THE MIDDLE AGES
Short Title: DIVINE SEX
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course will examine key medieval works, with special attention to women’s writing, focusing on gender construction in mysticism and theology. Primary readings will include works by Hildegard of Bingen, Birgitta of Sweden, Margery Kempe, and others. Cross-list: RELI 314, SWGS 314.

MDEM 315 - MEDIEVAL CULTURES THROUGH FILM
Short Title: MEDIEVAL CULTURES THROUGH FILM
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: An interdisciplinary course exploring the literature, art, philosophy, history, music, and science of the Middle Ages, with films by Pasolini, Bergman, Dreyer, Einstein, Annaud, Vigne, and others, and highlighted by a medieval banquet. Cross-list: ENGL 315.
MDEM 316 - CHAUCER
Short Title: CHAUCER
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: An introduction to Geoffrey Chaucer’s The Canterbury Tales, Middle English, and the political and cultural climate of the fourteenth century. Cross-list: ENGL 316, SWGS 305.

MDEM 317 - ARTHURIAN LITERATURE
Short Title: ARTHURIAN LITERATURE
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: A survey of the origins and development of the Arthurian legend from the earliest chronicles in the sixth century and later medieval French, Welsh, Irish, and English Arthurian poems to modern adaptations of Arthurian material, including films. Cross-list: ENGL 317, SWGS 301.

MDEM 319 - MEDIEVAL ROMANCE
Short Title: MEDIEVAL ROMANCE
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: A course that examines the development of romance as a genre during the medieval period. Cross-list: ENGL 314.

MDEM 320 - DIRECTED READING IN MEDIEVAL STUDIES
Short Title: DIRECTED READING MEDIEVAL STDY
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Independent Study
Credit Hours: 1-3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Courses examines the military, political, social and cultural developments on the European frontiers between 500-1500 AD. Topics include colonization and conquest, crusades and Spanish Reconquista, piracy, slavery, encounters with native peoples, spread of Christianity, medieval colonial regimes, map-making and cultural exchanges. Cross-list: HIST 327.

MDEM 324 - COEXISTENCE IN MEDIEVAL SPAIN
Short Title: COEXISTENCE IN MEDIEVAL SPAIN
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Course explores the history of the Iberian Peninsula from late Antiquity to the early 16th century, focusing on coexistence and conflict between medieval Spain’s three religious communities - Christians, Jews, and Muslims. Cross-list: HIST 324.

MDEM 327 - EUROPEAN FRONTIER SOCIETIES
Short Title: MEDIEVAL BORDERLANDS
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Course examines the military, political, social and cultural developments on the European frontiers between 500-1500 AD. Topics include colonization and conquest, crusades and Spanish Reconquista, piracy, slavery, encounters with native peoples, spread of Christianity, medieval colonial regimes, map-making and cultural exchanges. Cross-list: HIST 327.

MDEM 330 - EARLY MEDIEVAL ART
Short Title: EARLY MEDIEVAL ART
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Course explores the history of the Iberian Peninsula from late Antiquity to the early 16th century, focusing on coexistence and conflict between medieval Spain’s three religious communities - Christians, Jews, and Muslims. Cross-list: HIST 324.

MDEM 323 - RELIGIOUS VISUAL CULTURES IN TRADITIONAL CHINA
Short Title: CHINESE RELIGIOUS ART
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This seminar explores the visual materials and their context that shed light on pre-modern China's Buddhist, Daoist, funerary, and other diverse religious and ritual practices. Topics of discussion include iconic and aniconic traditions; breathing, meditation, and visualization; paradise and hell; body, ritual performance; patronage; Buddhist grottoes; tombs; multi-ethnic; printing. Cross-list: ASIA 323, HART 323.
MDEM 331 - GOTHIC ART
Short Title: GOTHIC ART
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Examination of the full array of sacred art and architecture produced in the early and high gothic periods in northern Europe. Includes cathedral architecture, sculpture, stained glass, manuscripts, and metalwork studies in relationship to the expansion of royal and Episcopal power. Cross-list: HART 331.

MDEM 332 - ART OF THE COURTS
Short Title: ART OF THE COURTS
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Examination of art and architecture produced in the late gothic period within three distinct settings-the court, the city, and the church. Includes private, public, and religious life as expressed in the objects, architecture, and decoration of the castle and palace, the house, city hall and hospital, and the chapel and parish church. Cross-list: HART 332.

MDEM 333 - NORTHERN RENAISSANCE ART
Short Title: NORTHERN RENAISSANCE ART
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Study of art in northern Europe from Jan van Eyck to Peter Bruegel. Cross-list: HART 340.

MDEM 340 - MASTERS OF THE BAROQUE ERA
Short Title: MASTERS OF THE BAROQUE ERA
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Study of art in northern Europe during the Baroque period. Includes Rembrandt, Rubens, Caravaggio, Poussin, Claude, and Velazquez. Cross-list: HART 343.

MDEM 345 - RENAISSANCE EUROPE
Short Title: RENAISSANCE EUROPE
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: How did the recovery of ancient texts shape the discovery of new worlds and perhaps the destruction of the old? This course explores major developments in western Europe from the rise of Italian humanism in the fourteenth century to the imperial expansion and devastating conflicts of the 1500s and 1600s. Cross-list: HIST 345.

MDEM 350 - DEMONS, MENTAL ILLNESS AND MEDICINE
Short Title: DEMONS/MENTAL ILLNESS/MEDICINE
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Treats complex connections between religious beliefs/practices and formulation of human psychology in western tradition, through a historical reckoning with demonology. Consider the way demons are represented--from semi-corpsoreal beings to marks of mental illness--by looking at texts from the ancient world to modern psychiatry. Cross-list: RELI 350.

MDEM 352 - SCIENCE AND MEDICINE IN MEDIEVAL VISUAL CULTURE
Short Title: MEDIEVAL SCIENCE AND MEDICINE
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course focuses on the diverse and often unexpected forms of medieval representation that intersect with science, medicine, and natural history: maps, diagrams, images from health and surgery guides, encyclopedic compendia of animals and plants, astrolabes. Optics and theories of vision, and the ideals of naturalism and perspective, will be examined alongside issues such as function, cultural exchange, and intellectual authority. Cross-list: HART 352.

MDEM 357 - JEWS AND CHRISTIANS IN MEDIEVAL EUROPE
Short Title: JEWS & CHRISTIANS-MEDIEVAL EUR
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Course will focus on Jewish-Christian coexistence in medieval Europe. Will examine the Jews' legal status in Christendom, their communal life, economic activities, intellectual achievements, while also focusing on the complex dynamics of Jewish-Christian interaction, and the shifting patterns of persecution and acceptance. Cross-list: HIST 357.
**MDEM 363 - THE RISE OF CAPITALISM AND LATE MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN ART**  
Short Title: CAPITALISM & ART, 1300-1700  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: This course will examine the rise of Chingis Khan and Mongol Steppe society (religion, role of women, cultural exchange, strategies of violence, imperial ideologies) as well as successor empires: Yuan, Golden Horde, Ilkhanid and eventually that ruled by Timur-Taerlane, who reproduced Mongol imperial power in Central Asia and India. Cross-list: HIST 364.

**MDEM 364 - CENTRAL ASIAN CONQUEST EMPIRES**  
Short Title: CENTRAL ASIAN CONQUEST EMPIRES  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: This course examines the rise of Chingis Khan and Mongol Steppe society (religion, role of women, cultural exchange, strategies of violence, imperial ideologies) as well as successor empires: Yuan, Golden Horde, Ilkhanid and eventually that ruled by Timur-Taerlane, who reproduced Mongol imperial power in Central Asia and India. Cross-list: HIST 364.

**MDEM 370 - INTRODUCTION TO TRADITIONAL CHINESE POETRY**  
Short Title: INTRO TO TRAD CHINESE POETRY  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: This course seeks to decode enchanting features of traditional Chinese poetry through examining the transformation of poetic genres, the interaction between poetic creation and political, social and cultural changes, and the close association of poetry with art. Thus, this course also serves to understand Chinese culture and history through poetic perspectives. All readings in English translation. Cross-list: ASIA 330, CHIN 330.

**MDEM 373 - CHINESE ART AND VISUAL CULTURE**  
Short Title: CHINESE ART AND VISUAL CULTURE  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: In this course, we will study how various artistic styles developed in historical, social, and cultural contexts from the ancient period to the present day. Through the careful examination of architecture, calligraphy, painting, sculpture, ceramics, bronze, and film, students will gain a deeper understanding of Chinese art and visual culture. Cross-list: ASIA 372, HART 372.

**MDEM 375 - INTRODUCTION TO CLASSICAL CHINESE NOVELS**  
Short Title: CLASSICAL CHINESE NOVELS  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: Examination of the basic characteristics of classical Chinese novels, primarily through six important works from the 16th to 18th centuries: Water Margin, Monkey, Golden Lotus, Scholars, Romance of the Three Kingdoms, and Dream of the Red Chamber. Cross-list: ASIA 335, CHIN 335.

**MDEM 376 - EAST & WEST: MEDIEVAL VISUAL CULTURE IN CHINA AND NORTHERN EUROPE**  
Short Title: EAST AND WEST  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: This course explores a series of issues that are critically important for the medieval art of both China and northern Europe. Topics include materials and techniques; public and private art: commerce, technology and prints; art and motion; archaeology; paradise and hell; maps and space; the gaze; erotica; patronage; and multiculturalism. Cross-list: ASIA 376, HART 376.

**MDEM 377 - MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS**  
Short Title: MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: This seminar explores illuminated European manuscripts from late antiquity through the early sixteenth century. It examines manuscripts’ functions, patrons, makers, and materials and technique, as well as such issues as the relationship between text and image and the manuscript’s ideological stance. Students have the opportunity to study original medieval illuminations. Cross-list: HART 377.

**MDEM 378 - DUTCH ART IN THE AGE OF REMBRANDT**  
Short Title: DUTCH ART IN AGE OF REMBRANDT  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: This course will examine Dutch and Flemish seventeenth-century art, including major masters, such as Rembrandt, Rubens, and Vermeer, and major developments, such as the rise of still life, genre, and landscape painting. Cross-list: HART 378.
MDEM 379 - WOMEN IN CHINESE LITERATURE
Short Title: WOMEN IN CHINESE LITERATURE
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course examines women's roles in Chinese Literature as writers, readers, and characters, focusing particularly on the tension between women's lived bodily experiences and the cultural experiences inscribed on the female body and how, in the process, women have contrarily gendered patriarchal culture into their own. It will also touch on Chinese women's incorporation of the Western Tradition. Cross-list: ASIA 399, SWGS 399.

MDEM 391 - THE REFORMATION & ITS RESULTS
Short Title: THE REFORMATION & ITS RESULTS
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Theology and church-state issues from 16th-century Reformation to 17th-century; medieval background; Luther and Calvin, the Catholic Reformation; religious wars; Protestant orthodoxy; Pietist spirituality; Puritanism; and calls for toleration. Cross-list: RELI 391. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for MDEM 391 and RELI 286.

MDEM 395 - CLASSICAL CHINESE NOVELS
Short Title: CLASSICAL CHINESE NOVELS
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Comparison and contrast of the presentation of the medieval woman in literature with evidence of historical women from contemporary documents and records. Repeatable for Credit.

MDEM 398 - INDEPENDENT STUDY IN MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN STUDIES
Short Title: INDEPENDENT STUDY
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 1-3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Independent study reading, or special research in medieval and early modern studies. Repeatable for Credit.

MDEM 402 - MIDDLE HIGH GERMAN
Short Title: MIDDLE HIGH GERMAN
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: An introduction to the phonology and morphology of Middle High German, such as will prepare students to read 'Tristan', 'Parzifal', and the 'Niebelungenlied', as well as the great lyric poets of that period. Emphasis will be on pronunciation and grammatical distinctions between Middle High and Modern High German as well as on the diverging semantic developments of the two vocabularies.

MDEM 404 - BEGINNINGS OF THE LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE OF FRANCE
Short Title: THE LANG AND LIT OF FRANCE
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course includes an external history of the French language, an examination of hagiographic literature and the chanson de geste in their cultural and artistic contexts, as well as bibliographic component to acquaint the students with library tools available for research emphasizing medieval resources but not excluding those for later periods. Students will acquire a reading knowledge of Old French. Course taught in French. Cross-list: FREN 404. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course or permission of instructor

MDEM 411 - THE LITERARY AND HISTORICAL IMAGE OF THE MEDIEVAL WOMAN
Short Title: LIT & HIST IMAGE MED WOMAN
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): FREN 311 or FREN 312
Description: Comparison and contrast of the presentation of the medieval woman in literature with evidence of historical women from contemporary documents and records.

MDEM 412 - INTRODUCTION TO OLD ENGLISH LANGUAGE
Short Title: INTRO TO OLD ENGLISH LANGUAGE
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: An introduction to the language, prose and shorter poems. Cross-list: ENGL 412.
MDEM 413 - BEOWULF IN OLD ENGLISH
Short Title: BEOWULF IN OLD ENGLISH
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): ENGL 412 or MDST 412 or MDEM 412
Description: A course in the study of Beowulf in Old English. Cross-list: ENGL 413. Repeatable for Credit.

MDEM 425 - COURTLY LOVE IN MEDIEVAL FRANCE
Short Title: COURTLY LOVE MEDIEVAL FRANCE
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): FREN 311 or FREN 312
Description: Undergraduate version of FREN 515. Study of the Occitan and Old French poetry that served as the source of the kind of love that came to be called "amour courtois" in the 19th century. Cross-list: FREN 415. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course or permission of instructor.

MDEM 427 - TOPICS IN EARLY MUSIC
Short Title: TOPICS IN EARLY MUSIC
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description:

MDEM 429 - MUSIC OF THE MIDDLE AGES
Short Title: MUSIC OF THE MIDDLE AGES
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: A study of the major musical styles and composers of western art music before 1400 and their historical, cultural, and sociological contexts. Cross-list: MUSI 429.

MDEM 431 - ARCHITECTURE OF THE GOTHIC CATHEDRAL FROM THE MIDDLE AGES TO THE TWENTIETH CENTURY
Short Title: ARCH OF GOTHIC CATHEDRAL
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course will focus on one of the most important contributions to the history of western architecture--the Gothic cathedral. The course will approach the material from a number of different perspectives--the formal and technical development of Gothic architecture; the Medieval architect and the design of Gothic buildings; the social, economic, and political history of "big church" building in the Middle Ages; Gothic architecture as experience and metaphor; and the afterlife of the Gothic cathedral from Vasari to the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. Cross-list: HART 431.

MDEM 434 - SEEING SEX IN EUROPEAN ART, 1400-1700
Short Title: SEEING SEX IN EUROPEAN ART
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course will examine the visual history of sexuality from 1400-1700. It will explore how imagery structured sexual desire; the role of erotic sacred art; the rise of pornography; the intersection of spatial topography and sexuality; the linkage of licit and illicit sexualities; and the sexuality of artist and patrons. Cross-list: HART 434, SWGS 434.

MDEM 435 - MULTICULTURAL EUROPE, 1400-1700
Short Title: MULTICULTURAL EUROPE,1400-1700
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: The art of Europe was never the product of a single culture working in isolation. This seminar will explore the multicultural aspects of medieval and early modern Europe by focusing on the visual culture of groups who defined themselves or are today defined by nationality, race, or religion. Cross-list: HART 435, HIST 443.
MDEM 436 - LITERATURE AND CULTURE OF THE MIDDLE AGES: KING ARTHUR
Short Title: LIT & CULTURE OF MIDDLE AGES
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): FREN 311 or FREN 312
Description: Examination of the origins of the legend of King Arthur and reasons for its popularity, particularly in literature of the French Middle Ages but also in other medieval literatures of Western Europe. Includes discussion of the legend's influence in diverse areas even in modern times. Cross-list: FREN 416. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of one 300-level course or permission of instructor.

MDEM 437 - VISUAL CULTURE OF MEDIEVAL PILGRIMAGE
Short Title: MEDIEVAL PILGRIMAGE
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3-4
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This seminar explores the rich visual culture associated with medieval pilgrimage between the 4th and 15th centuries. The experience of pilgrimage was shaped by symbols, images, and places encountered along the routes to sites of sacred significance, especially the Jerusalem, Rome, Santiago, and Canterbury. We will examine the theological, practical, visual, and experiential aspects of pilgrimage in Western Europe and the Holy Land as understood through material culture. Instructor Permission Required. Cross-list: FREN 437, HART 437.

MDEM 444 - VISIONS AND VISIONARY PRACTICES: MEDIEVAL TO MODERN
Short Title: VISIONS & VISIONARY PRACTICES
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course examines accounts of visions, comparing medieval and modern visionary techniques and processes and relating visionary writings to cultural and personal contexts. Includes some Christian theology along with other theoretical frameworks, but emphasis on praxis. Cross-list: RELI 444.

MDEM 456 - COLLEGIUM MUSICUM
Short Title: COLLEGIUM MUSICUM
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Studio
Credit Hours: 2
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Performance of music up to the early 17th century. Does not count as chamber music. Instructor permission required. Repeatable for credit. Instructor Permission Required. Cross-list: MUSI 436. Repeatable for Credit.

MDEM 462 - ENGLISH SPIRITUALITY AFTER HENRY VIII: PROTESTANT, CATHOLIC, OR ANGLICAN?
Short Title: ENGLISH SPIRITUALITY
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Reformation's aftermath explored through key topics, texts in spiritual practice, e.g.: ecclesiastical discipline; secularization; stylized and free-form intersections of English time with Christian eternity; King James Bible; Book of Common Prayer; "saintly revolution;" Thomas Cranmer; William Laud; William Shakespeare; Lancelot Andrews; John Donne; J.H. Newman; hymnody; C.S. Lewis; T.S. Eliot. Cross-list: RELI 462.

MDEM 478 - MEDIEVAL STUDIES
Short Title: MEDIEVAL STUDIES
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Special Topics in medieval Europe comparative literature. Repeatable for Credit.

MDEM 481 - ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY
Short Title: ANCIENT & MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Topics in the history of philosophy from the 4th century B.C. through the 14th century. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for MDEM 481 and CLAS 301/MDEM 301/MDST 301/PHIL 301.

Description and Code Legend
Note: Internally, the university uses the following descriptions, codes, and abbreviations for this academic program. The following is a quick reference:

Course Catalog/Schedule
• Course offerings/subject code: MDEM

Program Description and Code
• Medieval and Early Modern Studies: MDEM

Undergraduate Degree Description and Code
• Bachelor of Arts degree: BA

Undergraduate Major Description and Code
• Major in Medieval and Early Modern Studies: MDEM