MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN STUDIES

Contact Information

Medieval and Early Modern Studies
https://medieval.rice.edu/
116 Humanities Building
713-348-4274

Peter Loewen
Program Director
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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, Spanish, 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.

Director and Advisor

Peter Loewen

Professors

Gregory Barnett
Joseph Campana
David Cook
Michael Maas
Joseph Manca
Scott McGill
Alida Metcalf
Donald Morrison
Deborah Nelson-Campbell
Nanxiu Qian
Paula Sanders
Meredith Skura
Edward Snow
John Stroup
Diane Wolffthal
John Zammito

Claire Fanger
Jeffrey B. Fleisher
Shih-Shan Susan Huang
Maya Soifer Irish
Peter Loewen
Linda E. Neagley

Assistant Professors

Niki Clements
Esther Fernandez
Brian Ogren
Aysha Pollnitz

Lecturers

Joshua Eyler
Ted Somerville

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/ISWKSCAT.cat?p_action=cata)
To view the most recent semester’s course schedule, please see Rice’s Course Schedule (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/ISWKSCAT.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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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 on 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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for MDEM 111 and HART 220.

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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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 238 - SPECIAL TOPICS
Short Title: SPECIAL TOPICS
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Internship/Practicum, Lecture, Seminar, Laboratory
Credit Hours: 1-4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Topics and credit hours may vary each semester. Contact department for current semester's topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.

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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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 306 - DISABILITY IN THE MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN WORLD
Short Title: DISABILITY IN MED & EARLY MOD
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: A study of disability and impairment during the medieval and early modern periods. Students will approach the subject through primary and secondary readings, including theoretical tests on disability studies and the humanities.

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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Short Title</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MDEM 312 - TOPICS IN OLD ENGLISH</td>
<td>Medieval/Early Modern Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDEM 313 - BEOWULF FOR THE 21ST CENTURY</td>
<td>Anglo-Saxon culture and Old English poetics. Cross-list: ENGL 312. Repeatable for Credit.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDEM 314 - DIVINE SEX: GENDER AND DIVINITY IN THE MIDDLE AGES</td>
<td>Gender construction in mysticism and theology. Primary readings will include works by Hildegard of BinGen, Birgitta of Sweden, Margery Kempe, and others. Cross-list: ENGL 313.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDEM 315 - MEDIEVAL CULTURES THROUGH FILM</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDEM 316 - CHAUCER</td>
<td>Geoffrey Chaucer's The Canterbury Tales, Middle English, and the political and cultural climate of the fourteenth century. Cross-list: ENGL 316, SWGS 305.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDEM 317 - ARTHURIAN LITERATURE</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDEM 319 - MEDIEVAL ROMANCE</td>
<td>An introduction to Arthurian material, including films. Cross-list: ENGL 316, SWGS 305.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDEM 320 - DIRECTED READING IN MEDIEVAL STUDIES</td>
<td>A course that examines the development of romance as a genre during the medieval period. Cross-list: ENGL 314.</td>
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<tr>
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<th>Department</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<td>Standard Letter</td>
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<td>Independent Study</td>
<td>Undergraduate Upper-Level</td>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
MDEM 323 - RELIGIOUS VISUAL CULTURES IN TRADITIONAL CHINA  
**Short Title:** CHINESE RELIGIOUS ART  
**Department:** Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Description:** This seminar explores the visual materials and their context that shed light on pre-modern China’s Buddhist, Daoist, funeral, 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 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:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**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 BORDERLANDS  
**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:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**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 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:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**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 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:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**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 340 - 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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Study of art in northern Europe from Jan van Eyck to Peter Bruegel. Cross-list: HART 340.

MDEM 343 - 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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Study of the works of the greatest painters and sculptors in Europe during the Baroque period. Includes Rembrandt, Rubens, Caravaggio, Poussin, Claude, and Velazquez. Cross-list: HART 343.

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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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-corporeal beings to marks of mental illness – by looking at texts from the ancient world to modern psychiatry. Cross-list: RELI 350.

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
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course will explore how the rise of capitalism affected late medieval and early modern art. It will explore depictions of avarice, charity, and poverty; representations of shopping; how the rise of the art market affected art production; images of different socio-economic classes, and the material culture of money. Cross-list: HART 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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: 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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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 375 - INTRODUCTION TO CLASSICAL CHINESE NOVELS
Short Title: CLASSICAL CHINESE NOVELS
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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 372, HART 372.

MDEM 377 - MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS
Short Title: MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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 398 - INDEPENDENT STUDY IN MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN STUDIES  
**Short Title:** INDEPENDENT STUDY  
**Department:** Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Independent Study  
**Credit Hours:** 1-3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**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:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**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  
**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**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: ENGL 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:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**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:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**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:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**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 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:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**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:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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 433 - 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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Seminar
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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 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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
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 Andrewes; John Donne; J.H. Newman; hymnody; C.S. Lewis; T.S. Eliot. Cross-list: RELI 462.

MDEM 477 - SPECIAL TOPICS  
Short Title: SPECIAL TOPICS  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Internship/Practicum, Seminar, Lecture, Laboratory  
Credit Hours: 1-4  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: Topics and credit hours may vary each semester. Contact department for current semester's topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.

MDEM 478 - MEDIEVAL STUDIES  
Short Title: MEDIEVAL STUDIES  
Department: Medieval/Early Modern Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
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: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
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