Medieval Studies

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Secretary: Maria Parks, G-B 309, 702-7092

Program of Study

The Committee on Medieval Studies offers two options to undergraduates for concentrated studies in the medieval period. Students may elect either to enter a B.A. program in medieval studies or to pursue medieval studies in conjunction with another program through the judicious selection of courses.

Program Requirements

The purpose of the B.A. program with concentration in medieval studies is to acquaint students with a broad range of medieval materials from a variety of perspectives (e.g., historical, literary, artistic, theological) as a preparation for writing a B.A. paper on some aspect of medieval civilization. Students pursue the investigation of the Middle Ages through studies in historical, literary, and adjunct areas. Eleven courses are required, including at least three courses basically historical in nature, three courses of linguistic character, and two courses in other disciplines (e.g., art, music, philosophy, theology). Each student should determine these courses in consultation with the adviser assigned by the program.

Students concentrating in medieval studies are expected to demonstrate competence in reading one language in which a significant body of medieval source material exists. Such competence is demonstrated primarily through the language courses and through the use of source materials in the B.A. paper. Latin is strongly urged for those working in Western materials, but other options (particularly for students interested in Byzantine, Jewish, or Muslim cultures) are available. Students should consult the adviser regarding the three-course language requirement, which is to be used both for acquiring language skills, if necessary, beyond the College language requirement and for pursuing the reading of medieval texts.

The program also requires all concentrators to participate in a one-quarter reading and research course with a member of the committee who has agreed to advise them in planning and writing the B.A. paper; students should register for a reading course in this committee member’s department. Their completed paper will ordinarily be read by at least two members of the committee representing different academic departments.

Students who wish to pursue medieval studies in conjunction with another program of study should choose their courses in consultation with the program coordinator.
Summary of Requirements

3 courses in historical studies
3 language studies
2 adjunct areas
3 electives
1 reading and research course
-- B.A. paper
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Grading. Except for courses taught within the New Collegiate Division, there is no P/N or P/F grading in this concentration.

Honors. Consideration for honors is individually arranged with the program coordinator. For candidacy, a student must have completed a B.A. paper of the highest quality, and have a GPA of at least 3.0 overall and at least 3.5 within the concentration.

Faculty


Courses

Historical and Civilization Studies


Linguistic and Literary Studies


ITAL 20700. Survey 1: Letteratura italiana dal Duecento al Quattrocento. PQ: ITAL 20300 or consent of instructor. J. Steinberg. Autumn.


SLAV 22000/32000. Old Church Slavonic. (=LGLN 25100/35100) PQ: Knowledge of another Slavic language or another old Indo-European
languages. V. Friedman. Winter.


SPAN 20700. Literatura hispánica: textos clásicos. PQ: SPAN 20300 or consent of instructor. F. de Armas. Autumn.