18 January 2011
CMRS Film Series: The Hunchback of Notre Dame (1939)
Directed by William Dieterle, with Charles Laughton and Maureen O’Hara
7:30 PM, 038 University Hall

28 January 2011
CMRS Faculty Colloquium: Daniel Collins
B-mail: On the Pragmatics of Birchbark Communication in Medieval Novgorod
2:30 PM, 406 Hagerty Hall

1 February 2011
CMRS Film Series: Perceval le Gallois (1978)
Directed by Eric Rohmer, with Fabrice Luchini, André Dussollier, and Solange Boulanger
7:30 PM, 038 University Hall

4 February 2011
CMRS Lecture Series: Claire Waters, University of California, Davis
Last Among the First: Salvation, Status, and Reversal in L’Evangile de Nicodème
2:30 PM, 090 Science and Engineering Library

10 February 2011
Medieval and Renaissance Graduate Student Association (MRGSA) Open Forum & Lunch
12:30 PM, Location TBA

15 February 2011
CMRS Film Series: Stealing Heaven (1988)
Directed by Clive Donner, with Derek de Lint, Kim Thomson, and Denholm Elliott
7:30 PM, 038 University Hall

18 February 2011
CMRS Lecture Series: Jaime Lara, University of Notre Dame
De Gustibus: Translating Christian Piety for New World Cannibals
2:30 PM, 090 Science and Engineering Library

1 March 2011
CMRS Film Series: The Visitors (1993)
Directed by Jean-Marie Poiré, with Christian Clavier, Jean Reno, and Valérie Lemercier
7:30 PM, 038 University Hall

11 March 2011
CMRS Lecture Series: Margaret Cormack, College of Charleston
Miracles and Magicians: The Transformation of the Otherworld in Lutheran Iceland
2:30 PM, 090 Science and Engineering Library
Sarah Kernan writes about an exhibition of illuminated manuscripts at the Cleveland Museum of Art, *The Glory of the Painted Page*. This Gothic Bible from Southern France, ca. 1275–1300, is just one of approximately 80 illuminated manuscripts on display.
February, haltingly thawing towards March. It has been a better winter for inward journeys than those involving roads or sidewalks; I hope this greets you with memorable stories of your winter adventures rather than tales of woe. My Gothic Paris students are far enough into the quarter to try their hand at writing an essay disputing a yes or no question using the Scholastic Method for their midterm. They usually find this exercise of looking at both sides of a question challenging but rewarding—our culture seems to urge us to attempt to be right all the time. But exploring the ways a hypothesis might be wrong, spending that time with the dark night of the soul on a problem, is necessary for arriving at strength in argument. As with doubt, so with winter: ultimately important for healthy, moderated growth.

One of my favorite types of CMRS events is the faculty colloquium. I love rediscovering a colleague via his or her recent research, raising the level of discussion from the mundane worries more common in corridors and committee meetings. This center’s greatest wealth surely lies in the depth and breadth of the interests of its many affiliates. Dan Collins of the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures presented “B-Mail: On the Pragmatics of Birchbark Communication in Medieval Novgorod” on January 28. He surveyed the thousand-some notes and drawings found mud-soaked in the anaerobic soil of this Hanseatic merchant city. Some are schoolchildren’s drawings, or alphabet lessons. Many concern business dealings, most of them quite laconic, despite room on the birchbark for politeness or flourishes. He suggested that these terse messages were designed as an introduction for a messenger rather than to bear an entire missive, which would remain oral. What survives is what was discarded. Fascinating glimpses from medieval Russian trash heaps.

The “Translating Piety” series continues to ponder issues of reform and the vernacular. We welcomed Claire Waters of the University of California-Davis on February 4. She spoke on French translations of the apocryphal Gospel of Nicodemus, of which there are a number in verse, and an even more broadly disseminated tradition in prose. Interest in the “Descent into Hell” section of this gospel was strong in the high Middle Ages, coinciding with what Jacques LeGoff termed “the birth of Purgatory.” How to explain what Christ did in those three days between crucifixion and resurrection? What was he up to? These texts take on such rather flat-footed, practical questions regarding church doctrine, contrary to the esoteric disputations of the learned.

Upcoming in the series will be a number of talks promising great occasions of interdisciplinary discussion. On February 18, Jaime Lara, who teaches church art and architecture at Yale Divinity School but is currently a Guggenheim fellow and visiting professor of theology and the visual arts at Notre Dame, will present “De Gustibus: Translating Christian Piety for New World Cannibals,” based on his book *Christian Texts for Aztecs: Art and Liturgy in Colonial Mexico*. On March 11 please join us to hear Margaret Cormack, who teaches world religions, Christianity, and Islam at the College of Charleston, speak on “Miracles and Magicians: The Transformation of the Otherworld in Lutheran Iceland.”

Long live the life of the mind.

Sarah-Grace Heller
Acting Director, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
CMRS Alumni

Many students have benefitted from CMRS programs, courses, and activities. We hope you enjoy reading about the professional accomplishments of the following alumnus:

Ronald J. (R.J.) Stansbury finished his Ph.D. in History in 2001. His dissertation “Preaching Before the Friars: The Sermons of Ralph Ardent (c.1130–1215)” was written under the supervision of Joe Lynch (director), Barbara Hanawalt, and Eve Levin. He is currently Associate Professor of European History at Roberts Wesleyan College in Rochester, New York and teaches courses in Ancient and Medieval history, historiography and Western Civilization. He also developed an “On Location” course which offers undergraduate students the opportunity for short-term study abroad in Greece, Italy, England and France.

While at OSU, Stansbury worked as a Graduate Assistant in the CMRS under Nick Howe and served as an instructor in the History Department. He was awarded the Phi Alpha Theta Clio Award for Outstanding Teaching in History and a CMRS research grant in 1999. He was also awarded the Michael Riley Research Award from the college of Humanities and the Ruth Higgins Fellowship from the Department of History.

In 2010, Stansbury published an edited volume for Brill entitled *A Companion to Pastoral Care in the Late Middle Ages* (1200–1500) and included was his article, “Preaching and Pastoral Care in the Late Middle Ages.” He is also planning to publish a revised version of his dissertation with Brill. Stansbury recently served as co-chair with Phil Adamo for the 2010 Midwest Medieval History Conference, held at OSU and in honor of Joe Lynch. Stansbury lives in Rochester NY with his wife Wendy and their five children.


David A. Brewer (English) and Angus Whitehead published “The Books of Lydia Lan- guish’s Circulating Library Revisited” in *Notes and Queries* 255.4 (2010).

Daniel E. Collins (Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures) published “Reconstructing the Pragmatics of a Medieval Marriage Negotiation (Novgorod 955)” in *Russian Linguistics* 35 (2011).

David Cressy (History) has been awarded a N.E.H. Fellowship for 2011–12 for research on “The Liberties of the Subject and the Power of the State in Early Modern England.” He also presented “Saltpetre, State Security, and Vexation in Early Modern England” at Yale University on 20 January 2011. Cressy also presented “The Redecking of the Altars: Ceremonialist Style and Parish Conflict in the Post-Reformation Church of England” at the Australian and New Zealand Association for Medieval and Early Modern Studies Conference at the University of Otago in New Zealand on 3 February 2011.

Alan Gallay’s (History) book *Indian Slavery in Colonial America* has been selected by Choice as one of its “Outstanding Academic Titles, 2010.”

Matt Goldish’s (History) book *The Sabbatean Prophets* will be published in Turkish by Kirmizi Kedi Yayinlari Press.

Hannibal Hamlin (English) published a review of *Begat: The King James Bible and the English Language* by David Crystal in *Times Higher Education* (9 Dec 2010). He also published “Strangers in Strange Lands: Biblical Models of Exile in Early Modern England” in a Spe-
Colleen Kennedy (English) presented “That the Sense Aches at Thee”: A Taxonomy of Odors on the Early Modern Stage” at O! What Learning [Shakespeare] Is!: Exploring Practices and Pedagogy of Renaissance Theatre, a symposium presented by The Ohio State University Department of Theatre and The Syndicate at The Ohio State University on 12 February 2011.


**OSU Department of History Early Modern Seminar**

The Early Modern Seminar, which has been in existence for over fifteen years, is a combined speaker series and graduate seminar, hosting discussions with guests who specialize in all aspects of early-modern European and Atlantic history. All seminars are held at 3:30 PM in Dulles Hall 168.

4 March 2011: Michael Levin, University of Akron
Spanish Empire in Italy

8 April 2011: Julius Ruff, Marquette University
Eighteenth-Century Bandits

22 April 2011: Gretchen Starr-Lebeau, University of Kentucky
Conversos and the Inquisition

6 May 2011: William Landon, University of Northern Kentucky
Machiavelli

20 May 2011: Dan Beaver, Pennsylvania State University
British Hunting and Blasphemy

**Digital Nouvelles Nouvelles**

Did you know that CMRS produces every issue of Nouvelles Nouvelles in a digital format, in addition to the print format? Each issue is posted online at [http://cmrs.osu.edu/nn/default.cfm](http://cmrs.osu.edu/nn/default.cfm) at the same time hard copies are mailed to you. If you are one of those people who prefers to receive publications in electronic form, we would like to know. We are still committed to the high quality publication of our newsletter to our supporters, so there is no need to reply if you choose to continue receiving Nouvelles Nouvelles as you always have. If you are interested in receiving a digital copy instead of a hard copy of Nouvelles Nouvelles, please contact Sarah at kernan.7@buckeyemail.osu.edu to update your mailing preferences.
The History Teaching Institute at The Ohio State University will present a week-long summer institute for middle and high school teachers in Ohio on “The Scientific Revolution: Science and Society from the Renaissance to the Early Enlightenment.” The Institute will take place 13–17 June 2011. This endeavor is generously funded by a $16,000 grant from the Ohio Humanities Council.

The History Teaching Institute is the primary outreach unit of the Goldberg Center, sharing the History Department’s expertise and enthusiasm for teaching history with Ohio’s K–12 teachers. The staff of the History Teaching Institute works with teachers to develop standards-based social studies curricula, to incorporate primary sources into classroom instruction, and to employ technology to improve teaching and learning in schools across the state. The HTI has been the recipient of several Teaching American History grants from the U.S. Department of Education, as well as grants from the Ohio Humanities Council, through which the staff offers seminars and summer institutes with content presentations by History Department faculty.

The Harvey Goldberg Center for Excellence in Teaching is at the heart of the OSU Department of History’s effort to promote innovative and effective teaching strategies. The Goldberg Center is committed to advancing cutting edge research, engaged teaching, and substantive community outreach to prepare our students and other citizens to become life-long learners and responsible leaders in all walks of life.

The Lead Instructor for the Institute will be Matthew Goldish, Samuel M. and Esther Melton Chair in Jewish History at The Ohio State University and author of Judaism in the Theology of Sir Isaac Newton. OSU Associate Professor of History Daniel Hobbins will talk about the development of printing technology and how printed books enabled scientists to communicate their ideas as never before. Participants will see examples of these works in the OSU Rare Book Collection. Jon Weithman of Marysville High School, Institute Teaching Fellow, will facilitate discussions among participants about how to engage their students with the history of the Scientific Revolution.

About the Institute Topic:
The Scientific Revolution refers to a monumental series of scientific discoveries, especially those in astronomy and related fields, in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The impact of these discoveries went far beyond the walls of the laboratory—it created a genuine revolution in the way Western people thought about the world. The revolution in science and technology was directly linked to revolutions in religion, politics, and society. Each functioned as cause and effect.

Copernicus’s notion of a sun-centered solar system started it all. Championed by Galileo Galilei, the new astronomy rocketed into mainstream European thought. Galileo’s investigations also led him to discoveries in physics, optics, and other fields.

The discoveries of these scientists were not without critics, particularly among the Catholic scholars who practiced a more traditional science. These
thinkers, some of whom were good scientists in their own right, found the idea of a heliocentric universe to conflict with Church doctrine and therefore sought to suppress it. Institute participants will read selections from Kepler, Galileo, and Newton, in which they argue for the harmony between science and religion.

The Scientific Revolution was brought to its climax by the English polymath Sir Isaac Newton, who laid the foundations for almost all subsequent scientific thought up to the twentieth century. A new generation of scholars, inspired by Newton, began to apply reason to society and culture, giving birth to what came to be called the Enlightenment. The institute will conclude with a look at how the Scientific Revolution influenced society, religion, and science in the early eighteenth century.

Benefits of Participation
• Receive 3-hours of graduate non-degree credit for participating in the institute and completing assignments
• Free copies of the required texts and other reading materials
• Access to participant created, primary source-based, lesson plans about the Scientific Revolution
• A stipend totaling $100 to defray the costs of transportation, room, and board during the institute

Please visit the History Teaching Institute website for more information: http://hti.osu.edu/scientificrevolution.

STANLEY J. KAHRL AND BARBARA A. HANAWALT OUTSTANDING ESSAY AWARDS

1. The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies will annually present two $100 prizes:
   a) one for the best essay on a medieval or Renaissance topic written by a graduate student at Ohio State
   b) one for the best essay on a medieval or Renaissance topic written by an undergraduate student at Ohio State

2. Any faculty affiliate of the Center may nominate any essay on a medieval or Renaissance topic written for a course offered Spring 2009, Summer 2009, Autumn 2009, or Winter 2010. Papers written for individual-study credit are eligible; honors theses, masters’ theses, and chapters of dissertations are not.

3. Nominating Process
   The faculty affiliate should submit one copy of the essay to the Director of the Center. The original title page should be replaced by a completed Nominating Form, available on the CMRS website. The name of the student author of the essay and all written comments of the instructor must be removed from the copy submitted. The Director of the Center will contact the faculty affiliate who nominated the essay if any questions about it should arise or if it should be selected for an award. Nominated papers should be typed, doubled-spaced, with appropriate page format, footnotes, bibliography, etc.

4. The deadline for submitting essays to the Director of the Center is 5:00 PM on Friday, 8 April 2011.

5. The Director of the Center reserves the right to declare a paper ineligible if it does not meet stated requirements.

6. The winning essays will be selected by a committee of CMRS affiliates.

7. The awards will be presented or announced at the Center’s annual spring open house and at annual student awards ceremonies of the Colleges of Humanities and Arts.
The Glory of the Painted Page: An Exhibition at the Cleveland Museum of Art

by Sarah Peters Kernan

The Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) is renowned for its extensive and beautiful collections. The museum’s collection of medieval art is no exception; time and again, the CMA produces excellent exhibitions which showcase the beauty of their own collections, as well as their strong partnerships with other North American and international art museums.

The CMA has produced an exhibition, The Glory of the Painted Page: Manuscripts from the Permanent Collection, to showcase its collection of illuminated manuscripts and to complement a recent exhibition, Treasures of Heaven: Saints, Relics, and Devotion in Medieval Europe. The Glory of the Painted Page presents a selection of approximately eighty liturgical, academic, and biblical manuscript leaves.

Stephen Fliegel, Curator of Medieval Art at the CMA, believes that illuminated manuscripts capture the modern imagination in a way that no other medieval art form can, in part because “the image of a medieval scribe or illuminator, often a monk in the lay imagination, is a very pervasive and compelling image.” Visitors will surely fall in love with many of the manuscripts, as Fliegel has. His favorite pieces in the exhibition include a newly acquired Gothic Vulgate Bible (Toulouse, ca. 1270), a complete and beautifully illuminated manuscript, and the Book of Hours of Charles the Noble, King of Navarre (Paris, 1405), a fusion of French and Italian art. He notes that a very small illumination on exhibit, “a small cutting from a Romanesque bible from the Abbey of Cluny (ca. 1100) showing the Evangelist Luke is particularly resonant with me given the tragic loss of Cluny’s library during the French Revolution.”

In preparing for this exhibition, Fliegel selected artistically interesting leaves and manuscripts from several types of materials in the museum’s collection (e.g. bibles, psalters, books of hours, antiphonals, etc.). As opposed to an international loan show which can take several years to plan, this exhibition took about six months to organize. Any exhibit, including The Glory of the Painted Page, requires the work of many other professional staff in the museum. After Fliegel creates an overarching vision for an exhibition, an exhibition designer creates a floorplan, ensures that all the pieces fit in the space, and establishes sightlines. This step in the exhibition is critical. Fliegel insists that “one essentially must begin with a beautiful design which should almost seduce the visitor in the space. If that is successful, it becomes much easier to create an intellectual armature in which themes...”
can be interlinked to support the overall subject of the exhibition.” After the design and floorplan are created, editors and graphic artists work with the curator to produce labels and didactics, preparators mat and frame works, and conservators condition check every piece.

The Glory of the Painted Page has provided CMA an excellent opportunity to reach out to the public through special educational programming. Curators normally coordinate with the museum’s Education Department to plan related programming, such as formal lectures, gallery tours, workshops, and musical performances. Fliegel has found that “as a medievalist who works in a variety of media and materials, I find that manuscript illumination—the history of the book—has a special resonance with the public. Books are still very personal objects and the lay person relates to illuminated manuscripts in a very enthusiastic and direct way.” The CMA has developed workshops on book construction, text, and image, presentations on manuscript calligraphy and illumination, and other programming which have been very successful at drawing in both new and return visitors to the museum.

CMRS hopes that you, too, will decide to visit the Cleveland Museum of Art to experience this beautiful exhibition of illuminated manuscripts. The exhibition The Glory of the Painted Page: Manuscript Illuminations from the Permanent Collection runs from 6 November 2010–17 April 2011. Please visit http://www.clevelandart.org/ for more information.

Please join CMRS for a symposium:

**Continental Drifts: Cultural Circulations from Medieval Iberia to Colonial Latin America**

Presented by the OSU Department of Spanish and Portuguese and Co-Sponsored by CMRS

4 March 2011, Hagerty Hall 255

9:00–9:30 Continental Breakfast

9:30–9:45 Welcome (Fernando Unzueta, Chair)

9:45–11:00 Session I (Elizabeth Davis, Chair):
Dr. Eric Johnson (Thompson Library), Introduction to the Rare Books and Manuscripts Collection
Prof. Dieter Wanner, “Texts: What They Show and What They Hide”

11:00–11:15 Coffee Break

11:15–12:30 Session II (Elizabeth Davis, Chair):
Prof. John Guilmartin (History, The Ohio State University), “Cultural, social, economic and technological factors in the role of the war galley in the struggle for Mediterranean dominance, 1500–1585”

12:30–1:30 Lunch

1:30–2:45 Session III (Lisa Voigt, Chair): 
Prof. Maureen Ahern, “Making Place’ in Gaspar Castaño de Sosa’s ‘Memoria del descubrimiento… en el Nuevo México’ (1592)”
Prof. Elizabeth Davis, “Villagrá’s Wager: Transatlantic Consciousness, Piety and Possession on the Road to La Nueva México: Gaspar Pérez de Villagrá’s Historia de la Nueva México (1610)”

2:45–3:00 Coffee Break

3:00–4:15 Session IV (Lisa Voigt, Chair):
Prof. Lúcia Costigan, “The Role of Blacks, Mestizos, and New Christians in the Invasion and the Recovery of the Capital of the Portuguese America (1624–1625)”
Prof. Mariana L. Dantas (History, Ohio University), “Black Brotherhoods and the Negotiation of Social Identity in Colonial Minas Gerais”

4:15–6:00 Reception
SPRING 2011 COURSES

MRS 212 Culture of a City-State in the Renaissance: Medieval Moscow
Dan Collins, collins.232@osu.edu, Class # 28493
GEC Culture and Ideas, GEC International Studies, non-western or global

From insignificant beginnings, Moscow became the center of an empire that, by the end of the 17th century, was the largest country in the world—and still is. We will discuss the emergence of Moscow as a city, state, culture, and world power, and forces that drove its remarkable expansion: desire to preserve and regain the heritage of the conquered Kievan state; imperatives of Eastern Orthodox spirituality; struggles against external enemies such as the Tartars (Mongols); belief in an anointed, autocratic ruler; and ideology of the Third Rome, which reconceived of Moscow as a New Jerusalem. These “national myths” continue to influence Russian culture to this very day.

MRS 631 Survey of a Latin Literature: Medieval and Renaissance
Christopher A. Jones, jones.1849@osu.edu, Class # 22806
Prerequisite: Latin 104 or equivalent

We will read a sampling of Latin texts written between late antiquity and c. 1200 from biblical and liturgical sources, narrative prose and verse, lyric and satiric poetry, as well as legal documents. While helping students become more confident translators, the course also aims to acquaint them with medieval Latin resources. Requirements include daily reading and translation, three written translation-passages, an oral report, a final paper or bibliographical project, and short final exam.

MRS 240 Magic and Witchcraft in the Middle Ages and Renaissance
Sharon Collingwood, collingwood.7@osu.edu, Class #28456
GEC Culture and Ideas, GEC International Issues Western, non-US

In this interdisciplinary course, students will explore the history and culture of witchcraft and magic from ca. 400 to 1700 C.E. within sociological, religious and intellectual contexts. By the end of the course, students will have a better understanding of the practice, persecution and social construct of magic and witchcraft in the medieval and early modern periods and its far-reaching impact on society.

CMRS Affiliated Courses

For course descriptions, please visit http://cmrs.osu.edu/courses/2010-11.cfm.

Comparative Studies

651: Topics in Comparative Studies: Regions of Mesoamerica – Before the Encounter with Europeans: Cosmovision and Ceremonial Centers
Lindsay Jones, Course #27430

792-0010: Interdepartmental Studies in the Humanities: The Record of Zen Master Linji
Tom Kasulis, Course #25852

792-0020: Interdepartmental Studies in the Humanities: Ancient Jewish Mysticism and Magic (cross-listed with NELC 792)
Michael Swartz, Course #13273
| COURSES |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| **Dance**       |                |                |
| 200: Swan Lake to Hip Hop: Concert Dance History | Veronica Dittman Stanich, #3714 |

**East Asian Languages and Literatures**

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chinese 652: History of Chinese Literature II</td>
<td>Patricia Sieber, #25778</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japanese 681: History of Japanese Language</td>
<td>James Unger, Course #22638</td>
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**English**

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<tr>
<td>201: Selected Masterpieces of British Literature: Medieval through 1800</td>
<td>Staff, Course #13394; Staff, Course #13395; Staff, Course #13396</td>
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<tr>
<td>220: Introduction to Shakespeare</td>
<td>Staff, Course #13402 and Staff, Course #13403</td>
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<td>280: The English Bible</td>
<td>Staff, Course #13423</td>
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<td>520.01: Shakespeare</td>
<td>Alan Farmer, Course #13469 and Margaret Goscilo, Course #13470</td>
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<td>590.02H: Major Periods in Literary History: The Renaissance</td>
<td>Jennifer Higginbotham, Course #26799</td>
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<td>718: Introduction to Graduate Study in Chaucer</td>
<td>Lisa Kiser, Course #26206</td>
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**French and Italian**

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<tr>
<td>Italian 621: Dante</td>
<td>Heather Webb, Course #14795</td>
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**Germanic Languages and Literatures**

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<tr>
<td>801: Middle High German</td>
<td>Anna Grotans, Course #27148</td>
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**Greek and Latin**

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<tr>
<td>Classics 222: Classic Mythology</td>
<td>Mark Thatcher, Course #13168; Staff, Course #13169; and Staff, Course #13170</td>
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<td>Classics 222H: Classic Mythology</td>
<td>Frank Coulson, Course #13181 and Richard Fletcher, Course #25814</td>
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<td>Classics 224: Classical Civilization: Greece</td>
<td>Anna Peterson, Course #13182</td>
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**History**

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<td>503.03 Roman History: Later Roman Empire, A.D. 180-476</td>
<td>Anthony Kaldellis, Course #22736</td>
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<td>504.01 The Ancient Mediterranean World: War in the Ancient Mediterranean World</td>
<td>Nathan Rosenstein, Course #14442</td>
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<td>512.01 European History: Early Modern Europe, 1600-1775</td>
<td>Dale Van Kley, Course #26456</td>
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<td>540.02 Core Regions of the Islamic Worlds: History of Iran</td>
<td>Parvaneh Pourshariati, Course #28219</td>
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<td>544 The Mongol World Empire: Central Eurasia, 1000-1500</td>
<td>Scott Levi, Course #27824</td>
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<td>727 Studies in Islamic History: Seminar on Central Asia</td>
<td>Scott Levi, Course #14518</td>
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<td>807.02 Seminar in Medieval History II</td>
<td>Daniel Hobbins, Course #26480</td>
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<tr>
<td>808.02 Research Seminar in Ancient History II</td>
<td>Timothy Gregory, Course #26481</td>
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**History of Art**

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<tr>
<td>663: Early Islamic Art</td>
<td>Howard Crane, Course #28000</td>
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<tr>
<td>724: Studies in Northern Baroque Art: Accessing the Divine: Objects of Meditation and Mediation</td>
<td>Barbara Haeger, Course #27333</td>
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**Linguistics**

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<tr>
<td>802: Historical Linguistics II</td>
<td>Brian Joseph, Course #27902</td>
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**Near Eastern Languages and Cultures**

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<tr>
<td>NELC 370: Mythology of Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia</td>
<td>Staff, Course #27139</td>
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<td>Hebrew 370: Biblical and Post-Biblical Literature in Translation</td>
<td>Staff, Course #14357 and Staff, Course #14358</td>
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<td>Hebrew 373: Prophecy in the Bible and Post-Biblical Literature</td>
<td>Daniel Frank, Course #22554</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arabic 375: The Arabian Nights</td>
<td>Bruce Fudge, Course #27021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arabic 671: The Qur’an in Translation</td>
<td>Georges Tamer, Course #27023</td>
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<tr>
<td>NELC 792: Ancient Jewish Mysticism and Magic (cross-listed with COMPSTD 792-0020)</td>
<td>Michael Swartz, Course #27378</td>
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**Spanish and Portuguese**

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<th>Course</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Spanish 759: Comparative Topics in Iberian and Latin American Literature</td>
<td>Elizabeth Davis and Lisa Voigt, Course #22503</td>
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The MRGSA Winter 2011 Open Forum and Lunch on 10 February was a success; several graduate students braved the freezing temperatures outside to discuss MRGSA activities and listen to a presentation by Sarai Silverman, a Master’s student in Historical Fashion and Textiles with a focus in Medieval Clothing. Sarai presented recent research on English sumptuary laws and Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales* which she is shaping into a paper presentation.

Sarai has been examining the text of *Canterbury Tales*, specifically descriptions of pilgrims and their dress, as well as the accompanying illuminations in the Ellesmere Manuscript, to argue that Chaucer was aware of English sumptuary laws. Sarai’s background in fashion and textiles enhances her historical and literary analysis; MRGSA wishes her the best of luck when she presents this work at an upcoming conference!

MRGSA hopes that this event will be the first of a quarterly series of roundtable discussions. All students are invited, whether or not they have participated in MRGSA in the past. The aim of these meetings is to encourage interdisciplinary conversation among aspiring medieval and renaissance scholars at OSU. MRGSA is seeking two speakers for the Spring 2011 Open Forum and Lunch; please contact Michele Fuchs (fuchs.38@osu.edu) if you are interested in presenting any work in progress.

MRGSA will co-sponsor the 8 April 2011 CMRS Lecture, presented by Walid Saleh from the University of Toronto. The lecture is also co-sponsored by Literacy Studies. We hope that many graduate students from a multitude of departments at OSU will attend the lecture. MRGSA may also plan an event specifically for graduate students during Saleh’s visit to OSU; stay tuned for more information in the spring.

On a business note, MRGSA will hold an election for 2011–2012 officers at our Spring Open Forum and Lunch. We encourage any interested graduate students to run for office. Also at the spring forum, MRGSA will discuss potential activities and events for next academic year. If you are not able to make it to our meeting, but you have ideas for future activities, please contact one of our officers.

**MRGSA Contacts**

President: Kevin Richards, richards.113@osu.edu  
Treasurer: Michele Fuchs, fuchs.38@osu.edu  
Advisor: Dr. Sarah-Grace Heller, heller.64@osu.edu

**Howe Research Grants Program**

Thanks to the generosity of donors to the Nicholas G. Howe Memorial Fund, CMRS will offer funding for graduate students working on any aspect of the Middle Ages or Renaissance. First preference will be given to students traveling to appropriate research repositories. Second preference will be given to students traveling to conferences/seminars. Applications are available on the CMRS website. The application consists of a 750 word summary of your project and a letter of recommendation from your advisor or faculty member in your home department. Applications are due by 5 PM on Friday, 15 April 2011.
The Nicholas G. Howe Memorial Fund was established to honor the memory of the distinguished medievalist. As a respected scholar of the literature and culture of medieval England and former Director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (1995–2002), he demonstrated leadership, devotion, and excitement in all his teaching and scholarly endeavors. Established in 2006, the fund is dedicated to supporting travel costs for graduate students pursuing studies in medieval and early modern topics at OSU. Happily, the fund has recently surpassed $50,000, an entire year ahead of our five-year fundraising goal!

The annual distribution from this fund will begin to be used this year. First preference will be given to students traveling to appropriate research repositories. Second preference will be given to students traveling to conferences/seminars. The Director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, in consultation with a committee of faculty affiliates of the Center, is responsible for adjudicating all applications for funding. Applications will be available soon for interested graduate students. Contributions to the fund are still warmly welcomed.

If you wish to learn more or contribute to the Nicholas G. Howe Memorial Fund (#480256) or the Medieval Studies Center Fund (#307850), which supports ongoing activities of CMRS, you can do so in three ways:

1. Donate online at https://www.giveto.osu.edu/igive

2. Send a check to:
   The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
   The Ohio State University
   308 Dulles Hall
   230 W. 17th Ave.
   Columbus, Ohio 43210-1361

3. Send a check to:
   M.J. Wolanin
   Director of Development
   020 Mershon Center
   1505 Neil Ave.
   Columbus, Ohio 43210-2602
Fled are the frosts, and now the fields appear
Re-cloth’d in fresh and verdant diaper.
Thaw’d are the snows, and now the lusty spring
Gives to each mead a neat enamelling.
The palms put forth their gems, and every tree
Now swagger’s in her leafy gaiety.
The while the Daulian minstrel sweetly sings,
With warbling notes, her Terean sufferings.
What gentle winds perspire! As if here
Never had been the northern plunderer
To strip the trees and fields, to their distress,
Leaving them to a pitied nakedness.
And look how when a frantic storm doth tear
A stubborn oak, or holm, long growing there,
But lull’d to calmness, then succeeds a breeze
That scarcely stirs the nodding leaves of trees:
So when this war, which tempest-like doth spoil
Our salt, our corn, our honey, wine and oil,
Falls to a temper, and doth mildly cast
His inconsiderate frenzy off, at last,
The gentle dove may, when these turmoils cease,
Bring in her bill, once more, the branch of peace.

by Robert Herrick (1591-1674)