Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies

Undergraduate Courses & Degree Programs

AY 2020-2021

The Ohio State University
Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
Interested in learning about the Medieval & Renaissance worlds?

Whether you are intrigued by legends of King Arthur, Medieval magic and witchcraft, or the reign of England’s Queen Elizabeth I, the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies and its affiliated departments offer courses covering an array of periods, cultures, and topics. Students can also major or minor in MedRen Studies, choosing courses with the help of an advisor that fit their individual interests and academic goals. Students can gain a Minor with as few as 15 credits (typically 5 courses), some of which will also count towards their GE requirements. CMRS courses and programs are open to students from across the university.

Please consult the CMRS website, https://cmrs.osu.edu, each semester for a list of upcoming courses offered through the Center and our affiliated departments. A Master List of Approved MedRen courses is also available online.
PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

MINOR IN MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE STUDIES (15 UNITS*)

A minimum of 15 units with the following distribution criteria must be met:
• Courses must be selected from the Center’s list of approved courses**;
• Courses must be offered by departments other than the department of your major;
• Courses must be chosen from the list of approved courses according to the following breakdown in credit hours:
  o Medieval and Renaissance Studies courses (6 units)
  o Text-based courses (3 units)
  o Civilization courses (3 units)
  o Art courses (3 units);
• At least 9 units must be taken in courses at the 3000 level and above, 6 units may be at the 2000 level;
• Credit for individual study and workshop courses may not exceed three units; AND
• Credits from seminars and special topics courses offered by affiliated departments may count toward degree upon approval by CMRS advisor.

MAJOR IN MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE STUDIES (33 UNITS*)

• 6 units (2 courses) in MedRen core courses.
• 3 units in MedRen 5695, a senior seminar and Third Writing Course.
• 6 units (2 courses) in a foreign language pertinent to Medieval and Renaissance Studies beyond the 1103 level (may be language or literature, excluding courses without language prerequisites).
• 18 units in approved Medieval and Renaissance courses** from at least two CMRS affiliate departments, selected according to individual area of concentration, with no more than 3 units at 2000 level.

Expected Learning Outcomes for Majors
1. Medieval and Renaissance Studies Majors will demonstrate a broad, interdisciplinary appreciation of the history and culture of the Medieval and Renaissance world.
2. Students demonstrate skill at critical thinking through the study of diverse disciplines and languages.
3. Students demonstrate skill at utilization of primary and secondary sources.
4. Students demonstrate the capacity to express themselves and to exercise sharpened communication skills in exams, papers, and discussions.
Autumn 2020 MedRen COURSES

MedRen 2516 - Medieval Jewish Experience
Tu.Th. 8:00-9:20, Hagerty Hall 046, Daniel Frank (NELC)

This interdisciplinary GEC course surveys ten centuries of medieval Jewish history, literature, religion, and culture from the rise of Islam to the death of the false messiah, Shabbetai Zvi. Students will read a wide range of primary sources in English translation. We will examine the transformation of Jewish culture in Europe and the Middle East and will explore the impact of host societies upon specific Jewish communities.

MedRen 2215 - Gothic Paris: 1100-1300
We.Fr. 2:20-3:40, Hagerty Hall 050, Sarah-Grace Heller (FRIT)

Paris became a center for learning, beauty, power, and shopping in the Gothic Age, 1100-1300. Discover the world that conceived and built the soaring Notre-Dame-de-Paris: Courtly Love, strategic kings and queens, the birth of the great university, the arguments of monks and philosophers like Abelard and his brilliant student Heloise. Explore daily life in medieval Paris with hands-on experiences and readings: the rich fabrics, the knightly chain mail, the foods, the stones.

MedRen 2217 - Shakespeare’s London
We.Fr. 12:45-2:05, Mendenhall Lab 174, Chris Highley (English)

This course will explore roughly one and a half centuries of the history, politics, and culture of London, beginning with the religious upheavals of the Protestant Reformation, moving onto a Civil War that saw the King lose his head, and culminating with the devastating plague and Great Fire of London in 1666. We will study various primary documents, including maps, plays, poems, and pamphlets that explore the opportunities and problems created by rapid urbanization.

For further course offerings & more information visit: cmrs.osu.edu