Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies

Undergraduate Courses & Degree Programs

AY 2022-2023
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:
  - Medieval and Renaissance Studies courses (6 units)
  - Text-based courses (3 units)
  - Civilization courses (3 units)
  - 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 2023 MedRen Courses

MedRen 2666 - Magic and Witchcraft in the Middle Ages and Renaissance
TuTh 12:45-2:05, 1000 Fontana Lab, David Brewer (English)

Investigate the history of magic and witchcraft from late antiquity through the 18th century, when the Enlightenment supposedly disenchanted the world. Explore how people thought about magic and what it could (and couldn't) do, how people regarded "magic casters," and how magic relates to religion and science.

GE (New) Foundation: Historical and Cultural Studies course
GE (Legacy) Culture and Ideas and Diversity: Global Studies course

MedRen 5611 - History of the Book Studies
WeFr 2:20-3:40, 086 University Hall, Alan Farmer (English)

Examine the history of the book from the 15th to the 18th century! Working with materials in OSU's Rare Books and Manuscripts Library, investigate how the material forms of texts both shaped and were shaped by diverse cultural agents, including printers, compositors, proofreaders, pressmen, publishers, booksellers, readers, and collectors, as well as by larger cultural forces.

MedRen 5631 - Survey of Latin Literature: Medieval and Renaissance
TuTh 11:10-12:30, 045 Hagerty Hall, Frank Coulson (Classics)

Read widely in all genres of medieval Latin from antiquity to the late Middle Ages to increase Latin reading fluency and to anchor knowledge of Latin grammar and syntax.

For more information visit: cmrs.osu.edu/curriculum/courses