

**MEDIAEVAL STUDIES PROGRAM
ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO**

PROPOSED COURSE OFFERINGS 2021-2022

**Fall / Winter 2021-2022 Preliminary Timetable
subject to change.**

MST210H1F THE EARLY MEDIAEVAL TRADITION

Instructor: Giulio Silano

Class: Thursday 3-5

An introduction to the thought and culture of early mediaeval Europe. Students are introduced to important monuments of early mediaeval History, Thought, Literature, and Art. They follow some of the common threads that run through these disciplines and explore chief expressions of early mediaeval life and thought.

Exclusion: SMC210Y1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

MST211H1S THE MIDDLE AGES AND THE MOVIES

Instructor: Alison More

Class: Tuesday 3-6

The course examines the ways mediaeval themes have been presented in the cinema over the last century by taking exemplary films from different countries and epochs. The purpose is to explore each on three levels: the mediaeval reality, the subsequent legendary or literary elaboration, and the twentieth-century film rendition, regarded equally as work of art, ideology and economic product.

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

MST212H1S THE LATER MEDIAEVAL TRADITION

Instructor: TBA

Class: Monday 1-3 / **Tutorial:** Thursday 1-2

An introduction to the thought and culture of later mediaeval Europe. Students are introduced to important monuments of later mediaeval History, Thought, Literature, and Art. They follow some of the common threads that run through these disciplines and explore chief expressions of later mediaeval life and thought.

Exclusion: SMC210Y1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

MST213H1F DANTE AND THE CHRISTIAN IMAGINATION

Instructor: Stephen Tardif

Class: Monday/Wednesday/Friday 11-12

A study of selections from various works by Dante as an expression of the medieval imagination, viewed against the background of medieval Christian doctrine and psychology and in relation to various contemporary approaches to the study of medieval Christian culture.

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

MST231H1F ON THE MOVE IN MEDIEVAL EURASIA

Instructor: TBA

Class: Thursday 1-3

In this age of constant global travel, it is easy both to forget how much more complicated travel was in earlier periods, and to assume that there was very little of it. In the Mediaeval world, people travelled for work as traders, craftsmen and warriors; they travelled for their spirit as pilgrims; they travelled as migrants and refugees. This course will introduce students to the variety of people on the move in Mediaeval Eurasia, their motives, and the means they used to travel.

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

**MST232H1S HOW TO BE A BARBARIAN:
BEARD, BATTLES AND BELIEF AT THE DAWN OF THE MIDDLE AGES**

Instructor: TBA

Class: Wednesday 1-3

Barbarians have caught the modern popular imagination, and they appear to be much the same: hairy warriors who destroyed civilization. The late antique period (c.300–c.600) was a time of transition and the meetings of several cultures. This course examines the so-called barbarians who entered and soon came to rule the former Roman provinces of western Europe in this period. Our particular focus is the cultural, religious, artistic, and socio-economic aspects of barbarian peoples, and how these intersected with the civilization of Rome.

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Society and its Institutions (3)

MST234H1F WOMEN'S LIVES IN MEDIEVAL EUROPE**Instructor: Alison More****Class: Tuesday 11-1**

Using an interdisciplinary lens, this course explores the experiences of Mediaeval women. Some attention will be given to subjects such as the idea of the Mediaeval feminine, holiness and femininity, and appropriate feminine behaviour. At the same time, we will look at the social and cultural roles of women in society for instance the gendered ideals of marriage, guild structures, and childrearing.

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)**MST242H1S MEDIEVAL MYTHOLOGIES AND METHODOLOGIES****Instructor: Alison More****Class: Tuesday 11-1**

The idea of the 'middle ages' is pervasive in Western thought, but only some of what is 'traditional' actually happened. This course introduces various interpretations, constrictions, and re-creations. Our analysis will draw on literary texts and their various interdisciplinary interpretations and applications.

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Creative and Cultural Representations (1)**MST301H1F SPECIAL TOPICS IN MEDIEVAL STUDIES****Anselm the Theologian****Instructor: Jim Ginther****Class: Tuesday 5-7**

In this course, students will examine the writings of Anselm of Canterbury (1033-1109), an eleventh-century Italian thinker who became a monk, prior, archbishop and ultimately a leading theologian of his day. Scholars often treat Anselm as the first scholastic theologian, which to some degree is true. In this course, however, we will seek to understand Anselm the theologian as a constituent of the eleventh century, and of eleventh-century Anglo-Norman monasticism in particular. The focus of the seminars will be mainly on a close reading of the *Cur Deus homo*, a text that Anselm completed by 1098, after he had become archbishop in 1093. We will therefore explore two major contexts: (1) the world of eleventh-century monasticism of Normandy and (2) the world of the archiepiscopacy of Canterbury at the end of this same century. We will seek to read this text in light of the broad tradition of pre-modern treatments of Soteriology and the Incarnation, but also within the two more immediate contexts.

Prerequisite: Completion of 9.0 credits**Recommended Preparation:** MST210H1 / MST212H1**Distribution Requirements:** Humanities**MST323H1F MEDIEVAL LATIN PROSE****Instructor: Alison More****Class: Thursday 11-1**

Comprising an immersion in Mediaeval Latin prose texts, this course gives students a deepened acquaintance with the linguistic features of Mediaeval Latin, as well as with its literature, and generic and stylistic conventions. A solid foundation in basic Latin morphology, syntax and vocabulary is assumed.

Prerequisite: LAT202H1/MST222H1**Distribution Requirements:** Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Creative and Cultural Representations (1)**MST341H1F THE MIDDLE AGES BY THE NUMBERS****Instructor: TBA****Class: Wednesday 2-4**

Numbers and their uses often appear to be absolute fact: a thousand dollars is exactly that, not more or less; and if you weigh fifty kilos, that's what you weigh. But the use and meaning of numbers—for recording and counting dates, money, weights, distances, and myriad other functions—is not, in fact, devoid of cultural, historical, and political context. Mediaeval Europe provided a bewildering range of calendric systems, currencies, systems of measurement, and numerical symbolism was much used in art, music, religious thought, and literature. This course provides an introduction to the various uses of numbers in this period across different regions and cultural contexts.

Prerequisite: Completion of 9.0 credits**Recommended Preparation:** MST210H1, MST212H1**Distribution Requirements:** Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Society and its Institutions (3)

MST406H1S**MEDIAEVAL SEMINAR II****Women on the Margins: Orthodoxy, Controversy and Female Religious Identity****Instructor:** Alison More**Class:** Wednesday 11-1

From the early thirteenth century onwards, groups of women who were unable or unwilling to pursue a traditional religious vocation chose to dedicate themselves to active charity. These women sought an apostolate beyond monastic cloisters. The liminal status of these women – between the secular and the religious spheres – became increasingly controversial from the beginning of the fourteenth century. This course traces the evolution and changing social role of women (lay, religious, and those in between). Through a rigorous examination of primary sources, it addresses issues such as the relationship between the religious and secular, popular religion, heresy, the supernatural, mysticism, and the changing ideals of female holiness. This course was previously run in 2019 as SMC406H1: Women on the Margins: Orthodoxy, Controversy and Female Religious Identity and cannot be repeated for credit.

Prerequisite: 1.0 credit in MST courses**Recommended Preparation:** MST210H1/MST212H1 or other mediaeval courses**Distribution Requirements:** Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)**MST435H1F/S INDEPENDENT STUDIES IN MEDIAEVAL STUDIES**

An independent research project to be proposed by the student and supervised by a member of faculty affiliated with the Mediaeval Studies Program.

Prerequisite: Completion of 10 credits; written approval of Program Coordinator and Program Director**Distribution Requirements:** Humanities**SMC457H1F/S DIRECTED RESEARCH**

Based on a professor's research project currently in progress, this course will enable an undergraduate student to play a useful role in the project while receiving hands-on training in research.

Prerequisite: permission of Department**Distribution Requirements:** Humanities**MST490Y1Y SENIOR ESSAY IN MEDIAEVAL STUDIES**

A scholarly project chosen by the student in consultation with an instructor and approved by the Program Coordinator. Arrangements for the choice of topic and supervisor must be completed by the student before registration. The project will be accompanied by a research seminar component. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Prerequisite: Completion of 10 credits; written approval of Program Coordinator and Program Director**Distribution Requirements:** Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Creative and Cultural Representations (1), Society and its Institutions (3)

June 18, 2021