

MEDIEVAL/EARLY MODERN STUDIES MINOR

Heather Hayton, Department of English and Media Studies

The medieval and early modern period (ca. 400-1800 C.E.) has been profoundly formative of the world we live in today. Study of this period, a time markedly different from our own, provides a crucial vantage point for understanding the present age. The medieval/early modern studies minor aims at introducing students to interdisciplinary developments in literature, religion, history, philosophy and culture. It explores such matters as: the determination of life's meaning; the encounter with diverse civilizations; the pursuit (or evasion) of truth through reason, faith and experience; the unsettled confluence of three great world religions (Christianity, Judaism and Islam); the relation among religion, arts and science; the origins of romantic love and humanism; the development of bourgeois society and urban centers out of feudalism and manorialism; the emergence of the great national literatures of Europe; and the shaping of the mythological foundations of the modern West.

Although the locus of study is clearly Europe, students may take courses in medieval China, Japan and Africa, which offer alternative perspectives on this time period and our own.

Minor Requirements

The minor requires a minimum of 16 credit hours (four courses).

Code	Title	Credits
Select four of the following:		16
ART/HIST 235	Art History: Renaissance in Florence (HIST 235)	
ENGL 151	Historical Perspectives (Variable Title) (King Arthur)	
ENGL 151	Historical Perspectives (Variable Title) (Fairies, Witches, Rebels, Caribs)	
ENGL 221	British Literature I	
ENGL 223	Shakespeare	
ENGL 288	Shakespeare and Film	
ENGL 306	Medieval Literature	
ENGL 309	Early Modern Literature	
HIST 101	Medieval Lives in Love and War	
HIST 188	History of East Asia to 1800	
HIST 233	Medieval Civilization: Crusades and Chivalry	
HIST/REL 236	Reformation: Luther to Fox (REL 236)	
HIST 241	Africa Before 1800	
HIST 271	Colonial Latin America	
HIST 283	Silk, Silver and Empire: Imperial China	
HIST 285	Samurai in Word and Image	
HIST/ENGL 336	The Elizabethan Age (ENGL 336)	
PHIL 310	Ancient Western Philosophy	
PHIL 320	Modern Western Philosophy	
PSCI 106	Political Theory	
REL 240	History of Christianity	
REL 288	Witches, Ghosts and Demons	
SPAN 323	Culture and Society: Beginnings of a Nation (The Integration of Three Cultures)	

THEA 130 Theatre and Culture I

Total Credits 16

Total credit hours required for medieval/early modern studies minor is 16 credits. Various special topics courses that are medieval or early-modern in content may also be counted toward the minor (for example, ENGL 250 Dante, ENGL 350 Chaucer or HIST 250 Studies in the Renaissance). Please see the medieval/early modern studies coordinator for petition information.

In order to provide coherence to the minor, students are required to build a portfolio of major essays that they have written in each of their four courses. Students will cap this portfolio with an analytical summary prior to completing the minor.