



MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE STUDIES

Medieval and renaissance studies (MRST) is an interdisciplinary minor that allows students to explore the pre-modern period across a variety of intersecting areas. Students should develop both a broad sense of the pre-modern period across different regions, but also may develop a focused interest on a particular area, government, social institution, religious or cultural movement, artistic development, etc. Topics studied often include the Reformation and Counter-Reformation in Europe; the importance and operation of monarchy in medieval and renaissance governance; the impact of innovative technology and art across the period; the role of travel and encounters between cultures in creating narratives of Europe, the Middle East, and Asia; the contrasts of medieval Judaism, Christianity, and Islam; the flourishing of poetry, theater, art, architecture, and literature across different cultures; and the development of national identities and religious empires.

Academics

Students complete 18 hours of study, with at least 9 hours at 300 level or above. Two courses in each core area are required, as listed here.

Choose two from History and Religion core courses:

- **ARAB 306 / MRST 306 / RELG 306 / WMNS 306**
Women in the Quran
- **CLAS 307 / HIST 307 / RELG 307** Early Christianity
- **CLAS 315 / HIST 315** Medieval World: Byzantium
- **HIST 212 / MRST 212** History of Early Modern Europe: Renaissance to the French Revolution
- **HIST 231 / MRST 231** Revolutions and Misbehaving Monarchs in Pre-Modern England
- **HIST 318 / MRST 218** The Renaissance
- **HIST 322 / MRST 322** European Reformations, 1500-1650
- **HIST 431** Medieval England
- **RELG 206** Ways of Western Religion

Choose two from Arts, Literature, and Philosophy core courses:

- **AHIS 221** Italian Renaissance Art
- **AHIS 231** Baroque Art
- **CLAS 282 / ENGL 240B** The World of Classical Rome
- **ENGL 230A** Shakespeare
- **ENGL 362** Introduction to Medieval Literature
- **ENGL 363** Introduction to Renaissance Literature
- **FREN 388 / MRST 388 / ENGL 388 / WMNS 388** Body Language: Love, Politics and the Self in French Literature
- **PHIL 336** Ethics: Ancient and Medieval
- **PHIL 337** Knowledge: Ancient and Medieval
- **PHIL 338** Metaphysics: Ancient and Medieval

Two additional courses as electives are required; choose from above or from a long list of additional applicable courses in consultation with the MRST advisor

For a complete list of applicable courses see minor advisor.

Experiences and Opportunities

Medieval and renaissance studies students often develop strong relationships with their professors and are encouraged to seek out research or UCARE projects in their areas of interest. Students have also previously worked with the Sheldon Museum on exhibits and projects; pursued special opportunities through the Center for Renaissance Studies at the Newberry Library (Chicago); worked with Flatwater Shakespeare Company; formed a student club around Med-Ren activities. Future opportunities volunteering with the Med-Ren Journal *Investigo* may be available.