Medieval Studies

Dr. Jennifer Edwards
Program Coordinator

The minor in Medieval Studies offers a multi-disciplinary exploration of the art, architecture, history, literature, music, philosophy, and religion of Europe between the fourth and fifteenth centuries. It encourages students to engage critically with a formative era of the past that has shaped the Catholic Church and the development of the modern world. The Middle Ages saw the formation of the institutional Church and the rise of the papacy, the development of the nation and representative bodies, the origin of the university and modern legal systems, the creation of new artistic, literary, and musical forms, and even the formulation of notions such as romantic love and the individual “self.” Current methods in studying the Middle Ages enable scholars and students to engage with the Lasallian mission by studying the poor, displaced, and persecuted as well as the legendary, famous, and powerful.

The Medieval Studies Minor draws faculty and courses from at least six different departments in the School of Liberal Arts and encourages students to seek connections across the disciplines. The minor complements all majors in the humanities and provides a firm historical grounding for students in the social sciences and other areas who wish to understand a period that was crucial to the development of the modern world.

Minor

Requirements for a Medieval Studies Minor

15 credits to include:

- LLRN 107 Medieval Origins of West Culture
- 3 courses selected from:
  - ART 321 Medieval Art
  - ENGL 312 Studies in Medieval British Literature
  - HIST 304 Europe in the Middle Ages
  - RELS 245 Medieval Christian Thought
  - PHIL 315 Medieval Philosophy

And an additional course selected from the above or any of the following:

- ART 260 Monasticism and the Arts
- ENGL 369 Chaucer
- HIST 220 Race & Gender in Medieval Europe
- HIST 308 Premodern Women and Gender History
- HIST 319 The Crusades
- HIST 325 The Byzantine Empire
- HIST 337 England to 1688
- ITAL 340 Medieval and Renaissance Italian Civilization
- RELS 214 Dante
Special Topics courses focusing on a medieval subject may be selected as an elective with the approval of the Medieval Studies program coordinator. A minimum grade of C is required for all courses in the minor.