**INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES: MEDIEVAL STUDIES, BALAS**

for the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts & Sciences Major in Interdisciplinary Studies, Medieval Studies Concentration

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**Program website:** http://www.medieval.illinois.edu/education/undergrad/
**Program faculty:** Medieval Studies Faculty (http://www.medieval.illinois.edu/people/faculty/)
**Overview of college admissions & requirements:** Liberal Arts & Sciences (http://catalog.illinois.edu/schools/las/academic-units/)
**College website:** https://las.illinois.edu/
**Email:** medievalstudies@illinois.edu

The Program in Medieval Studies (http://www.medieval.illinois.edu/education/undergrad/) sponsors this concentration.

This concentration introduces students to medieval (ca. 500-1500 CE) cultures across the world, providing them with an understanding of periods and movements, institutions, material culture, ideas, beliefs, and values of the diverse cultures that comprise the medieval globe. The coursework spans both geographic regions and disciplines to introduce students to the breadth of medieval cultures as well as to the diversity of methods and perspectives for their study.

The concentration includes a minimum of 45 hours, divided into (I) an introductory course in global medieval literatures and cultures; (II) geographical distribution coursework as specified below; (III) advanced medieval coursework selected by the student in consultation with a Medieval Studies faculty advisor; and (IV) a capstone experience involving an intensive writing and research project. Because Medieval Studies is an interdisciplinary field of study, students are urged to consult with a Medieval Studies faculty advisor to ensure that they take a diverse range of courses providing some exposure to the fields of History and Anthropology; Literature; the Arts; and Philosophy or Religion. Although study of medieval languages is not a requirement, students who intend to pursue graduate study in Medieval Studies should complete at least two courses in an appropriate language; up to twelve hours of appropriate language study can be applied to the Additional Medieval Studies coursework.

Departmental distinction: To be eligible for graduation with distinction, a student must have a college grade point average of 3.5, a major concentration grade point average of 3.5, completion of HUM 498 with a grade of A, and completion of a semester paper in HUM 498 that is judged to be deserving of "distinction" by a committee of at least two faculty members.

High distinction: To be eligible for graduation with high distinction, a student must have a college grade point average of 3.5, a major concentration grade point average of 3.7, and must have completed HUM 492 (instead of HUM 498) with a grade of A and a thesis in HUM 492 that is judged to be deserving of "high distinction" by a committee of at least two faculty members.

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**Medieval Studies Concentration Requirements**

**General education:** Students must complete the Campus General Education (https://courses.illinois.edu/gened/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/) requirements including the campus general education language requirement.

Minimum required major and supporting coursework: Normally equates to 45-51 hours. Twelve hours of 300- and 400-level in the major must be taken on this campus.

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202/MDVL 201</td>
<td>Medieval Literature and Culture</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTH 111/MDVL 222</td>
<td>Ancient to Medieval Art</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTH/MDVL 222</td>
<td>Medieval Art</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTH/MDVL 231</td>
<td>Northern Renaissance Art</td>
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<tr>
<td>ITAL/MDVL 240</td>
<td>Italy Middle Ages &amp; Renaiss</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST/MDVL 245</td>
<td>Wives, Workers and Witches in Pre-Modern Europe</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST/MDVL 247</td>
<td>Medieval Europe</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SCAN/MDVL 251</td>
<td>Viking Mythology</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCAN/MDVL 252</td>
<td>Viking Sagas in Translation</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST/MDVL 255</td>
<td>British Isles to 1688</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARCH/MDVL 412</td>
<td>Medieval Architecture</td>
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<td>HIST 220</td>
<td>Traditional China</td>
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<td>HIST 226</td>
<td>Premodern Japanese History</td>
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<td>EALC 240</td>
<td>Chinese Civilization</td>
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<td>EALC 275</td>
<td>Masterpieces of East Asian Lit</td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 287</td>
<td>Introduction to Buddhism</td>
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</tbody>
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Select two of the following (Classical and medieval East Asia): 6

Select two of the following (Medieval Central Asia, South Asia, or the Middle East): 6

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A Major Plan of Study Form must be completed and submitted to the LAS Student Academic Affairs Office before the end of the fifth semester (60-75 hours). Please see your advisor.

Substitution for specific courses listed below will be approved by the concentration advisor only in exceptional cases.

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Information listed in this catalog is current as of 12/2021
HIST 130  History of South Asia
HIST 135  History of Islamic Middle East
LA 218  S Asian Cultural Landscapes
LA 222  Islamic Gardens & Architecture
REL 214  Introduction to Islam
REL 223  The Qur'an (Koran)
REL 260  Mystics and Saints in Islam
REL 283  Jewish Sacred Literature
CWL 208  Cultures & Literatures of South Asia

Additional Medieval Studies Coursework
Medieval-related coursework from participating departments selected in consultation with the concentration advisor. At least 12 hours must be at the 300- or 400-level. A list of courses in Medieval Studies is maintained on the Medieval Studies Program website. Up to 12 hours of appropriate language study can be applied to meet this requirement with approval of a Medieval Studies faculty advisor.  

Capstone Experience
A capstone experience (normally in the student’s senior year) involving intensive interdisciplinary research and writing on a medieval topic. Any 400-level MDVL course (or medieval-related course not cross-listed with MDVL, with the approval of a Medieval Studies faculty advisor) can be designated as a capstone experience with approval of the instructor. For the course to qualify as a capstone experience, the student must undertake a substantial research project that supplements the standard course requirements, in the form either of an additional project or of a longer and more research-intensive version of an existing course project. The project must involve both primary and secondary research using advanced disciplinary methodologies and resources.

Total Hours 45

Footnotes
1 A student may substitute the “Medieval World” section of HIST 100, by petition to a Medieval Studies faculty advisor. Only the section of HIST 100 devoted to the Middle Ages may be substituted.
2 A student may substitute up to 6 hours in geographical distribution coursework with courses on the medieval civilizations of the Americas: ANTH 277, ANTH 278, or both. However, at least one course must still be taken from each of the three regional areas.
3 List of courses to fulfill Additional Medieval Studies Coursework. (http://www.medieval.illinois.edu/education/undergrad/)
4 A student may also petition to satisfy the capstone experience by enrolling in MDVL 500, Seminar in Medieval Studies. Enrollment requires approval of the instructor and Director of the Program in Medieval Studies.