The Medieval World: An Interdisciplinary Introduction

Humanities 511 A, B, C, and D
Spring 2014

**Lectures:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:10 – 12:30 in PCAC A218
**Sections:** alternate Thursdays 11:10 – 12:30 in various rooms (see below)

**SECTIONS:**
All students must enroll in one of the four sections (each has its own course number) and attend its section meetings.

**Section 511A** (Art History): Professor Eleanor Hight. Meets in PCAC, room A218, and satisfies the Discovery category in Fine and Performing Arts.

**Section 511B** (Literature): Professor Michael Ferber. Meets in Morrill 2, and satisfies the Discovery category in World Cultures.

**Section 511C** (History): Professor Sara Wolper. Meets in Morrill 4, and satisfies the Discovery category in Historical Perspectives.

**Section 511D** (Philosophy): Professor Jen Armstrong. Meets in Morrill 103, and satisfies the Discovery category in Humanities.

**GRADES:**
Half the grade for this course will depend on the three tests (given in the lecture room) and half will depend on the work assigned in section (such as papers, pop quizzes, regular attendance, and class participation).

**BOOKS** (available at the Durham Book Exchange on Main Street):

Students will also need a Bible. Any standard translation will do for this course, but those who want to study English literature should own the “Authorized Version” (King James), dating from 1611. (It is, of course, in the public domain and thus available on several websites.)

**BLACKBOARD:**
The course has a main Blackboard site. Check Blackboard regularly for the readings for each class, schedule changes, announcements, course documents, and other course information. Each section will also have a separate Blackboard site.
COURSE LOGISTICS:
This is an interdisciplinary course, that is, the four professors who teach it work in different fields, often using different teaching methods in both the lectures and sections. It may be challenging to students to deal with our various ways of doing things, but we think it will also be interesting.

Approximately every other Thursday, students will attend section meetings in another location (except for Section A, art history, which always meets in PCAC A218). The three tests take place in our regular lecture hall (PCAC A218).

We ask that students not use electronic devices to take notes or look up materials during lectures because we have found in recent years that some have not been able to resist the temptation to surf, go on Facebook, send emails, or play online games, and they have thereby distracted other students. However, if necessary, you may speak to one of the professors to obtain special permission to use your computer to take notes.

Any student who feels he or she may need personal accommodation because of a disability should discuss it privately with one of the professors; we will do what we can to help you. Please also contact the Office for Disability Services for Students in room 118 of the Memorial Union Building (862-2607; http://www.unh.edu/disabilityservices/). Students who are registered with Disability Services should bring their accommodation letters to their section leaders as early as possible in the semester.

All students should be sure they understand the University Academic Honesty policy, described on pages 22-23 of Student Rights, Rules, and Responsibilities. http://unh.edu/vpsas/sites/unh.edu.vpsas/files/media/SRRR_1314.pdf

SCHEDULE (check Blackboard regularly for the readings assigned for each class):

1/21: Introduction (Hight, Ferber)

Part 1: The Early Middle Ages in Europe

1/23: The Bible 1: Genesis (Ferber)
1/28: The Bible 2: Matthew (Ferber)
1/30: Section 1 (sections meet in 4 different locations, as indicated above)

2/4: Christian Art and Architecture in the Roman Empire (Hight)
2/6: The Silk Road (Wolper)
2/11: Word and Image: Illuminated Manuscripts (Hight)
2/13: Section 2
2/18: St. Augustine 1 (Armstrong)
2/20: St. Augustine 2 (Armstrong)
2/25: Test 1 (in PCAC A218)

Part 2: The Rise of Islam
2/27: Introduction to the History of Islam (Wolper)
3/4: The Koran (Ferber)
3/6: Section 3
3/11-13: Spring Recess
3/18: Islamic Calligraphy (Wolper)
3/20: Islamic Institutions and Their Architecture (Wolper)
3/25: Islamic Philosophy (Armstrong)
3/27: Section 4
4/1: Jihad and Crusade (Wolper)
4/3: The Romanesque Pilgrimage Church (Hight)
4/8: Test 2 (in PCAC A218)

Part 3: The Later Middle Ages in Europe
4/10: Medieval Scholasticism 1 (Armstrong)
4/15: Medieval Scholasticism 2 (Armstrong)
4/17: The Gothic Cathedral (Hight)
4/22: The Inferno 1 (Ferber)
4/24: The Inferno 2 (Ferber)
4/29: Giotto and Late Gothic Art (Hight)
5/1: Section 5
5/8: Test 3, Thursday, 3:30-5:30 (in PCAC A218)