

University of Calgary

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Medieval Studies at the University of Calgary is a field spread out over several faculties, specifically Humanities, Social Sciences, Arts, and Communication and Culture. There is one multidisciplinary program that draws on courses offered by most of these faculties, a Minor in Medieval, Renaissance and Reformation Studies, with an anchor course in Humanities. Since students do not have to declare a Minor, enrolments are modest. There is no interdisciplinary M.A., but efforts are under way to fit such a program into a generic interdisciplinary M.A.. There are, however, significant opportunities for studying the medieval period and for writing an Honours, M.A. and (the odd) Ph.D. thesis within the traditional disciplines. Moreover, several graduates, especially from History and English, have pursued advanced degrees in Canada (Toronto), the U.S. (Notre Dame, Santa Barbara) and Britain (Oxford). Precisely because it is not a regular discipline, Medieval Studies has not been affected by systemic cutbacks. In addition to the specialists on hand, there have been recent appointments in this area in several departments, but that departmental presence and strength usually depends on just one person. Outside this structure, there is a flourishing Philology Research Group with an impressive range of activities. It was initiated by Ken Brown (French, Italian and Spanish Languages) four years ago and has been successful in attracting funding from the Faculty of Humanities, the university, and SSHRC. Its focus has been on textual editing, including text-encoding, palaeography, codicology and printing, with scholars from the U.S., Europe and Australia teaching workshops in their specialties. The Group has a community outreach program involving high school students, funded by the Delmas Foundation, and publishes its own series of occasional papers. Most recently, a beginning has been made in establishing a Medieval and Renaissance Cultural Studies Research Group with gender as its focus.

My call for information on research and teaching to individual department members generated an impressive response which belies the slight formal presence of Medieval Studies in the curriculum and disciplinary structure of the University. The following is an overview of activities in Medieval and Early Modern Studies by department.

In the Department of History, Egmont Lee has recently retired; Mark Konnert teaches Early Modern, Francine Michaud (presently on leave, with David Winter substituting) Medieval History. Francine's work on the socio-economic history of France, Marseilles in particular, has been recognised by SSHRC and the Camargo and Killam Foundations. She has supervised 6 M.A. students; 3 undergraduate courses are on offer. The department has developed websites for early medieval history.

In the Department of Philosophy, Jack Macintosh has been teaching Aquinas, Ockham, and Buridan; his research is in medieval logic. Nicole Wyatt has recently been hired to take over Jack's teaching; 3 undergraduate courses are on offer.

In the Department of Art, Joseph Polzer writes on late-medieval and proto-Renaissance art, especially early mural decoration in the Campo Santo in Pisa; 3 undergraduate courses are on offer.

In the Department of Music, Victor Coelho is active in the study of Early Modern Music (from 1500). He was awarded the prestigious Harvard fellowship at the Villa I Tatti near Florence a few years ago; one undergraduate course is offered in Medieval and Renaissance Music. Also involved in Early Music as well as the teaching of scientific Latin is Marcelo Epstein from Engineering. Marcia Epstein (Faculty of Communication and Culture) has published a book on the devotional song of the *trouvères*.

In addition, some medieval content is to be found in surveys and history-of-the-discipline courses from Psychology to Archaeo-Astrology.

In the Faculty of Humanities, the Department of Greek and Roman Studies has a joint program in Classical and Medieval History with the Department of History. It also offers an undergraduate program in Classical and Early Christian Studies with corresponding courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels in Greek and Latin. Byzantine Studies have lapsed since the retirement of Barry Baldwin. Latin Palaeography is occasionally on offer, most recently taught by Bernard Muir from the

University of Melbourne, using his computer program Ductus. Benjamin Garstad writes on the relationship between myth and history in the hellenistic and early modern periods. Haijo Westra has written on a variety of medieval Latin topics and now studies the classical sources of the Jesuit descriptions of early Canada. Linda Honey has finished her M.A. on Egeria and has started her Ph.D. on the Miracles of St Thecla.

In the Department of French, Italian and Spanish Languages, Kenneth Brown is an expert in Medieval and Early Modern Catalan, as well as publishing the poetry of Sephardic Jews in Early Modern Europe. His work was distinguished recently by a fellowship at the Netherlands Institute of Advanced Studies. Doug Walker publishes extensively on the history of the French language and on comparative Romance linguistics; one undergraduate and one graduate course are designated as medieval.

In the Department of Germanic, Slavic and East Asian Studies, Hermina Joldersma is publishing an edition of the Antwerp Liedboek of 1544, with the assistance of colleagues in the Netherlands. She also teaches the occasional course on medieval German literature and is working towards getting Medieval Studies accepted as an interdisciplinary M.A. at this university.

In the Department of English, an earlier tradition of Medieval Studies (Earl Guy, Anthony Petti) is continuing with Barbara Belyea (narratology), Stephen Guy-Bray, Jacqueline Jenkins (St Katherine, Julian of Norwich, Cultural Studies Research Group) and Murray McGillivray (hypertext edition of the Book of the Duchess on CD-ROM; digital edition of Cotton Nero A.x). Murray, a founding member of the Canadian Society of Medievalists as well as the Philology Research Group, has designed a Web course in Old English, a unicum, with 32 students registered worldwide in 2002. Jacqueline took students to British libraries the past two years for hands-on experience with manuscripts, another activity of the Philology Research Group. Old and Middle English are taught virtually every year, with enrolments of 20-30. There are regular seminar courses on medieval topics for final-year undergraduates and Honours theses on the same. Graduate theses are mainly at the M.A. level; Elaine Park wrote a doctoral thesis on Latin and vernacular in *Piers Plowman* and teaches at St Mary's College, Calgary (affiliated with St Francis Xavier).