

**Minor in Medieval and
Early Modern Studies
Proposal**

**Approved by the
Faculty Senate
November 20, 2019**

Revised 28 October, 2019

Request for Departmental Minor in Medieval and Early Modern Studies
Proposed by Peter Loewen, Director

Request: The Medieval and Early Modern Studies (MDEM) Program requests the creation of an undergraduate minor in MDEM, which will be in addition to the already established undergraduate major in MDEM. The minor will be administered and monitored by the MDEM Program.

Endorsement: This proposal was endorsed by majority vote of the MDEM Program Advisory Board at the fall semester board meeting on 09.24.2019. The vote was unanimous.

Brief Summary of the Objectives of the Minor: The Medieval and Early Modern Studies Program has long sustained an active interdisciplinary major that has benefited from strong commitments from several departments within the Schools of Humanities, Music, and Social Sciences, from which the program draws its faculty and courses. The MDEM Program sees this minor as a coherent course of study for students to master a core body of basic knowledge about the medieval and early modern periods and have the opportunity to get a broad overview of this period as a field outside their major focus of study at Rice. Because the MDEM program is interdisciplinary in nature, we offer a wide range of courses from departments within the School of Music (Music History), the School of Social Sciences (Anthropology), and the School of Humanities (Art History, Classics and European Studies, English, History, Philosophy, Religion, Spanish, Portuguese, and Latin American Studies, and Visual and Dramatic Arts). This minor is a new opportunity to reach more students, specifically those who do not have space in their schedule to take our major. We are making this change also to compensate for removing our reduced requirements for double majors, a provision that dates to a time when Rice offered no minors. Starting with AY 2019-2020, all MDEM majors will take a minimum of 10 courses, whether or not they are double majors; students who are unable to do that, we hope, will be able to take our minor. The minor in MDEM is ideal for students who want to enrich their major studies at the University with an interest in interdisciplinary studies in the medieval and early modern period, and to explore how this body of knowledge might apply to their own specific academic or professional goals.

Requirements for the Minor: Please note that these requirements are entirely in tandem with the requirements for the undergraduate MDEM Major. The requirement that students take courses in more than one field (i.e. department) is stable in both the minor and the major because the MDEM program is at its core interdisciplinary. The difference is in the number of courses and required fields of study (10 courses for the major, from at least 3 departments, and 6 courses for the minor, from at least 2 departments). Senior thesis is an option for students in either the major or the minor.

A minimum of 6 courses (18 credit hours) to satisfy minor requirements

These courses must come from at least two different departments (e.g. Art History and Religion)

A minimum of 3 courses (9 credit hours) taken at the 300-level or above

(See Appendix 1 for updated GA Text, which includes more detail on Minor Requirements.)

Revised 28 October, 2019

Program Learning Objectives

Upon completing the minor in Medieval and Early Modern Studies, students will be able to:

1. Define and apply appropriate disciplinary and/or interdisciplinary methodologies, vocabularies, concepts, and theories to critically respond to questions within the field of Medieval and Early Modern Studies.
2. Demonstrate the ability to define and respond to research questions and scholarly debates within the field, including the ability to analyze primary and secondary sources, draw conclusions from the analysis of these sources, and cite evidence in support of conclusions.

Curriculum Map and Assessment Plan

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness (John Cornwell) does not require these for a minor when a major is already established with assessment in place.

Faculty Involved

All faculty affiliates of the MDEM Program will be teaching classes for the minor, just as they do for the major.

Lisa Balabanlilar
Gregory Barnett
Joseph Campana
Niki Clements
David Cook
Daniel Domingues da Silva
Sarah Ellenzweig
Claire Fanger
Esther Fernández
Jeffrey Fleisher
Emily Houlik-Ritchey
Shih-shan Susan Huang
Maya Soifer Irish
Peter Loewen
Michael R. Maas
Joseph Manca
Scott McGill
Alida C. Metcalf
Ronald R. Morrison
Deborah Nelson-Campbell
Brian Ogren
Aysha Pollnitz
Nanxiu Qian
Paula A. Sanders
Meredith Skura
Edward Snow
Ted Somerville
John M. Stoup
Diane Wolfthal
John H. Zammito

Appendix 1: Proposed General Announcement Text [for inclusion in 2019-2020 GA]

GA Text below is for the *Overview*, *Undergraduate*, and for the Minor in Medieval and Early Modern Studies, the *Outcomes* and *Requirements* Tabs.

Medieval and Early Modern Studies

Overview | [Undergraduate](#) | [Graduate](#) | [Faculty](#) | [Courses](#) | [Codes](#)

The Medieval and Early Modern Studies program enables students to study medieval and early modern cultures in the period between 500 and 1700 A.D.

As an interdisciplinary major, the program combines a broad background in various aspects of medieval and early modern culture with more specialized study in a selected field. These fields of emphasis or specialized study include medieval and early modern art history, history, literature (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish, or Latin), music, philosophy, or religion.

The department also offers an undergraduate minor for students who wish to master a core body of basic knowledge about medieval and early modern studies.

Medieval and Early Modern Studies

[Overview](#) | **[Undergraduate](#)** | [Graduate](#) | [Faculty](#) | [Courses](#) | [Codes](#)

Bachelor's Programs

Bachelor of Arts (BA) Degree with a Major in Medieval and Early Modern Studies

Addition of the Minor category below

Minor

Minor in Medieval and Early Modern Studies

Minor in Medieval and Early Modern Studies

[Outcomes](#) | [Requirements](#) | [Policies](#) | [Opportunities](#)

{New}

Program Learning Outcomes for the Minor in Medieval and Early Modern Studies

Upon completing the minor in Medieval and Early Modern Studies, students will be able to:

1. Define and apply appropriate disciplinary and/or interdisciplinary methodologies, vocabularies, concepts, and theories to critically respond to questions within the field of Medieval and Early Modern Studies.
2. Demonstrate the ability to define and respond to research questions and scholarly debates within the field, including the ability to analyze primary and secondary sources, draw conclusions from the analysis of these sources, and cite evidence in support of conclusions.

Minor in Medieval and Early Modern Studies

[Overview](#) | [Requirements](#) | [Policies](#) | [Opportunities](#)

{New}

Requirements for the Minor in Medieval and Early Modern Studies

Students pursuing the minor in Medieval and Early Modern Studies must complete:

A minimum of 6 courses (18 credit hours) to satisfy minor requirements

These courses must come from at least two different departments (e.g. Art History and Religion)

A minimum of 3 courses (9 credit hours) taken at the 300-level or above

No courses from study abroad or other transfer credit accepted for the minor requirement

The courses listed below satisfy the requirements for this minor. In certain instances, courses not on this official list may be substituted upon approval of the Director of Medieval and Early Modern Studies. (Course substitutions must be formally applied and entered into Degree Works by the [Official Certifier](#).) Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

Summary

Total Credit Hours Required for the Minor in Medieval and Early Modern Studies	18
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Requirements for Minor in Medieval and Early Modern Studies

Course List for Medieval and Early Modern Studies Requirements

The following list represents the curriculum as it stands this year. Please note, however, that new courses are sometimes added to the curriculum and others are sometimes removed. So the course list will be slightly different in coming years.

<i>Select 6 courses from the following¹:</i>	
Code	Title
Anthropology	
MDEM 311 / ANTH 312	AFRICAN PREHISTORY
Art History	
MDEM 111 / CLAS 102 / HART 101	INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF WESTERN ART I: PREHISTORIC TO GOTHIC
MDEM 330 / HART 330	EARLY MEDIEVAL ART
MDEM 331 / HART 331	GOTHIC ART
MDEM 332 / HART 332	ART OF THE COURTS
MDEM 340 / HART 340	NORTHERN RENAISSANCE ART
MDEM 343 / HART 343	MASTERS OF THE BAROQUE ERA
MDEM 373 / ASIA 372 / HART 372	CHINESE ART AND VISUAL CULTURE
MDEM 376 / ASIA 376 / HART 376	EAST & WEST: MEDIEVAL VISUAL CULTURE IN CHINA AND NORTHERN EUROPE
MDEM 378 / HART 378	DUTCH ART IN THE AGE OF REMBRANDT
MDEM 431 / HART 431	ARCHITECTURE OF THE GOTHIC CATHEDRAL FROM THE MIDDLE AGES TO THE TWENTIETH CENTURY
MDEM 434 / HART 434 / SWGS 434	SEEING SEX IN EUROPEAN ART, 1400-1700
MDEM 435 / HART 435 / HIST 443	MULTICULTURAL EUROPE, 1400-1700
Asian Studies	
MDEM 370 / ASIA 330 / CHIN 330	INTRODUCTION TO TRADITIONAL CHINESE POETRY

MDEM 375 / ASIA 335 / CHIN 335	INTRODUCTION TO CLASSICAL CHINESE NOVELS
MDEM 379 / ASIA 399 / SWGS 399	WOMEN IN CHINESE LITERATURE
Classical Studies	
MDEM 101 / LATI 101	ELEMENTARY LATIN I
MDEM 102 / LATI 102	ELEMENTARY LATIN II
MDEM 211 / LATI 201	INTERMEDIATE LATIN I: PROSE
MDEM 212 / LATI 202	INTERMEDIATE LATIN II
English	
MDEM 312 / ENGL 312	OLD ENGLISH LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE
MDEM 316 / ENGL 316 / SWGS 305	CHAUCER
MDEM 317 / ENGL 317 / SWGS 301	ARTHURIAN LITERATURE
MDEM 319 / ENGL 314	MEDIEVAL ROMANCE
French Studies	
MDEM 404 / FREN 404	BEGINNINGS OF THE LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE OF FRANCE
MDEM 425 / FREN 415	COURTLY LOVE IN MEDIEVAL FRANCE
MDEM 436 / FREN 416	LITERATURE AND CULTURE OF THE MIDDLE AGES: KING ARTHUR
German Studies	
MDEM 402	MIDDLE HIGH GERMAN
History	
MDEM 281 / HIST 281	GOLDEN AGE OF ISLAM
MDEM 308 / HIST 308	THE WORLD OF LATE ANTIQUITY
MDEM 324 / HIST 324	COEXISTENCE IN MEDIEVAL SPAIN
MDEM 327 / HIST 327	MEDIEVAL BORDERLANDS
MDEM 357 / HIST 357	JEWES AND CHRISTIANS IN MEDIEVAL EUROPE
Medieval and Early Modern Studies	
MDEM 120 / HIST 120	MEDIEVAL CIVILIZATIONS
MDEM 210 / HIST 211	MEDIEVAL VIOLENCE
MDEM 320	DIRECTED READING IN MEDIEVAL STUDIES
MDEM 411	THE LITERARY AND HISTORICAL IMAGE OF THE MEDIEVAL WOMAN
Music	
MDEM 222 / MUSI 222	MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE ERAS
MDEM 427	TOPICS IN EARLY MUSIC

MDEM 429 / MUSI 429	MUSIC OF THE MIDDLE AGES	
MDEM 456 / MUSI 436	COLLEGIUM MUSICUM	
Philosophy		
MDEM 201 / CLAS 201 / PHIL 201	HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY I	
MDEM 301 / CLAS 301 / PHIL 301	ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY	
MDEM 481	ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY	
Religion		
MDEM 103 / RELI 104	INTRODUCTION TO JEWISH MYSTICISM	
MDEM 105 / RELI 105	INTRODUCTION TO MEDIEVAL CHRISTIAN THOUGHT	
MDEM 271 / RELI 271	MEDIEVAL POPULAR CHRISTIANITY	
MDEM 391 / RELI 391	THE REFORMATION & ITS RESULTS	
Total Credit Hours Required for the Minor in Medieval and Early Modern Studies		18
Total Credit Hours		18

Footnotes and Additional Information

¹ These 6 courses must come from at least two different departments (e.g. Art History and Religion). A minimum of 3 of these courses (9 credit hours) must be at the 300-level or above. Please note that not all courses will be offered each academic year.