MEDIEVAL INSTITUTE
Undergraduate Courses
Fall 2015 Course Descriptions
as of April 8, 2015

MI 13185 01  Philosophy University Seminar
CRN 20632
Gersh, Stephen
TR 12:30-1:45P

A general introduction to philosophy, taught in a seminar format, with emphasis on perennial problems such as the existence of God, human freedom, and moral obligation. The course is also intended to sharpen the student's skills of critical thinking.

MI 20184 01  Otherworld Journeys
CRN 20931
Bohne, Amanda
MW 5:05-6:20P

“In another moment down went Alice, never once considering how in the world she was to get out again.” This course, grounded in medieval literature, looks at works that draw the reader into other worlds and dimensions. Students will familiarize themselves with texts by authors such as Geoffrey Chaucer, Douglas Adams, and William Shakespeare that consider not only literal other worlds, but also those that skew or distort familiar territories and make them strange. The course will investigate how these narratives construct not only the value and meaning of curiosity and fear, but also the concepts of home and what it means to belong. Among other worlds, students will explore Faerie with Sir Orfeo, Paradise with the bereaved dreamer in Pearl, and, with Neil Gaiman’s baffled Richard Mayhew, a London out of sync with time and reason in Neverwhere. As students themselves will be travelers in the unfamiliar world of medieval English, translations will be provided.

MI 20408 01  The Eastern Church: Theology and History
CRN 17908
Avvakumov, Yury
MW 9:30-10:45A

The course provides an overview of the variety of the Eastern rite Churches belonging to different cultural traditions of Eastern Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean world. The students will be introduced to the theological views and liturgical life of the Eastern rite Christians, i.e., Orthodox, Oriental and Eastern Catholic, and their fascinating history. In the second part of the course we shall explore the Byzantine rite Churches in more detail, and discuss the challenges their theology and history present to the Christian world at large. Special attention will be given to Slavic Christianity and especially Russian and Ukrainian religious history. Reflection on the diversity of Christian traditions will lead to important insights into theological topics of central importance for today such as theology of culture, ecclesiology, sacramental theology and theology of history.

MI 20444 01  Aquinas, Faith, and Wisdom
CRN 20633
Wawrykow, Joseph
TR 9:30-10:45A

This course offers a theological introduction to the main teachings of the Christian faith, through the writings of St. Thomas Aquinas. Throughout his theology, Aquinas is committed to identifying, proclaiming, and interpreting the principal Christian claims: about the triune God who is beginning and end of all existence; about Christ, who is God become human for the salvation of others; about humans, who are made by and for God, and who through Christ can attain to God as their end. Aquinas is
concerned as well to show the overall coherence of the main affirmations about God, Christ (and his sacraments) and humans. Supplementary readings will be drawn from throughout the theological traditions, both East and West, to confirm and undergird, occasionally challenge, Aquinas in his pursuit of understanding of the Christian faith. Included will be selections from conciliar documents; Augustine; Cyril of Alexandria; Maximus the Confessor; Anselm; Bonaventure; John Calvin; and, Karl Barth and Joseph Ratzinger.

MI 20473 01  Islam and Christian Theology

CRN 14773

Reynolds, Gabriel

MW 9:25-10:15A

While many Christians have described Islam as a Christian heresy, many Muslims consider Christianity to be an Islamic heresy. Jesus, they maintain, was a Muslim prophet. Like Adam and Abraham before him, like Muhammad after him, he was sent to preach Islam. In this view Islam is the natural religion—eternal, universal, and unchanging. Other religions, including Christianity, arose only when people went astray. Therefore Muslims have long challenged the legitimacy of Christian doctrines that differ from Islam, including the Trinity, the incarnation, the cross, and the new covenant and the church. In this course we will examine Islamic writings, from the Qur’an to contemporary texts, in which these doctrines are challenged. We will then examine the history of Christian responses to these challenges and consider, as theologians, how Christians might approach them today. Regarding the Islamic Challenge to Christian Theology, is the second of two required theology courses at Notre Dame (the “development” course). These two courses are directed towards a number of goals. First, they provide students with information about the Bible and Christian theology that in itself is important. Second, they form the basis of a Catholic community at Notre Dame where all students (whether or not they are practicing Catholics) have a common experience of texts and questions that might be discussed not only in class but while eating mashed potatoes in North Dining Hall. Third, theology itself is meant as a guiding light for all other classes. As with the great European universities (Paris, Bologna, Oxford, Cambridge etc.), Notre Dame was founded by the church to be a community where students are strengthened in their faith and morals, and therefore more able to see the truth in other fields, whether biology, music, or history. Like the first required course (Foundations), Regarding the Islamic Challenge to Christian Theology has the same goals. This is not an Islamic Studies course. It is a course which takes Islam’s challenge to Christian teaching as the starting point for Christian theological reflection.

MI 20670 01  Irish Literature and Culture I

CRN 16130

Mulligan, Amy

MW 2:00-3:15P

Ireland can lay claim to one of the most extensive, unique, and oldest literatures in Europe. By engaging with a wide range of literary texts from the medieval and early modern periods (ca. 800-1800), participants will consider how changing social, cultural, literary and intellectual contexts, in terms of both authors and audiences, have dramatically transformed Ireland’s literature over the centuries. By looking at authors ranging from heroic bards and literary monks to lamenting wives and satirizing schoolmasters, we will examine the dynamics of production and the voices that speak to us from Ireland’s past. Additionally, by thinking about the identities of those who have more recently translated and edited the versions of the texts we will read, by questioning the different topics that scholars have chosen to explore, and by articulating our own responses to often arresting works from the Irish literary tradition, we will begin to understand the complexities and rich possibilities inherent in experiencing these literary masterpieces in a time and place very different from medieval or early modern Ireland.
Participants will read both primary literary texts, which may include but are not limited to *The Táin*, stories from Early Irish Myths and Sagas, poems from *An Duanaire: Poems of the Dispossessed*, Merriman’s *Midnight Court*, as well as a number of critical essays. Participants will be required to write several short response papers, to compose discussion questions to help direct class conversations, and to write 2 papers (4-5 pp. and 6-7 pp.).

**MI 20772 01  Medieval and Renaissance Music History I**  
* Blachly, Alexander  
* CRN 13363  
* TR 9:30-10:45A

A survey of music. The study of the major forms and styles in Western history. Required of music majors and minors, but open to students with sufficient musical background.

**MI 30209 01  Byzantine History**  
* Beihammer, Alexander  
* CRN 20634  
* TR 11:00A-12:15P

This course is designed as a general introduction into the early and middle Byzantine period, focusing on the various aspects of transformation from the late Roman Empire to Byzantium at the end of the so-called “Dark Ages.” The main topics are the Christianization of the Empire and the separation between East and West; reactions to the barbarian migrations, the Slavic expansion, and the Islamic conquests; patterns of social and economic change; iconoclasm; Byzantine relations with the Carolingian and Ottonian Empires.

**MI 30222 01  Tudor England: Politics and Honor**  
* Rapple, Rory  
* CRN 17594  
* TR 9:30-10:45A

The period from 1485 to 1603, often feted as something of a ‘Golden Age’ for England, saw that country undergo serious changes that challenged the traditional ways in which the nation conceived of itself. These included the break from Rome, the loss of England’s foothold in France, and the unprecedented experience of monarchical rule by women. Each of these challenges demanded creative political responses and apologetic strategies harnessing intellectual resources from classical, Biblical, legal, chivalric and ecclesiastical sources. This course will examine these developments. It will also look at how the English, emerging from under the shadow of the internecine dynastic warfare of the fifteenth century, sought to preserve political stability and ensure a balance between continuity and change, and, furthermore, how individuals could use these unique circumstances to their own advantage.

**MI 30233 01  Medieval Ireland**  
* Rapple, Rory  
* CRN 20635  
* TR 2:00-3:15P

Consideration of the period between 950 and 1400 is of crucial importance in understanding Irish history. This course not only covers the range of continuities and radical discontinuities that marked Ireland's development during this time, but charts the attempted conquest of the entire country by the English Crown. The lecture series also seeks to answer a number of questions. Why did the Papacy give the English Crown sovereignty over Ireland? Why did a country like Ireland, on the verge of attaining political and economic centralization, not organize better resistance to English attempts to subdue it? Why did the English colony fail to prove more successful in exerting its will over indigenous Irish potentates? Culturally the period also witnessed the growing assimilation of English invaders to the
norms of Gaelic Irish politics and society. Lastly, events in Ireland had a serious influence on developments in England, Wales, and Scotland, provoking, amongst other things, the fall of the Plantagenet dynasty and an attempted invasion by King Robert I of Scotland.

**MI 30235 01  Medieval Middle East**  
*Tor, Deborah*  
*CRN 20636  
MW 11:30A-12:20P*

This course offers a survey of Middle Eastern history from the rise of Islam in the seventh century CE until the rise of Mongol successor polities in the fifteenth century. The course is structured to cover political and cultural developments and their relationship with broader changes in society during the formative centuries of Islamic civilization. Specific topics include: the career of the Prophet Muhammad and the origins of the earliest Muslim polity; the creation and breakup of the Islamic unitary state (the Caliphate); the impact of Turkish migrations on the Middle East; social practices surrounding the transmission of learning in the Middle Ages; the diversity of approaches to Muslim piety and their social and political expression; popular culture; non-Muslims in Islamic society; the creation of the medieval Islamic “international” cultural order. Among the more important themes will be long-term cultural and social continuities with the Islamic and ancient Near East, and concepts of religious and political authority.

**MI 30237 01  Medieval and Early Modern Russia**  
*Martin, Alexander*  
*CRN 20637  
MW 3:30-4:45P*

This course will examine the history of Russia from its medieval origins until the age of Catherine the Great in the 18th century. We will begin with the genesis of Orthodox Slavic civilization in medieval Kievan Rus and that state's destruction in the Mongol invasion. Then we will study the rise of the tsardom of Muscovy and the fateful developments that nearly doomed it in the 16th-17th century: the reign of Ivan the Terrible, the Time of Troubles, the imposition of serfdom, the schism of the Orthodox Church, and widespread popular revolts. Lastly, we will see how Peter the Great and his 18th-century successors attempted to stabilize the social order, Westernize the upper classes, and make Russia a great European power.

**MI 30238 01  Early Modern Rome**  
*Meserve, Margaret*  
*CRN 20638  
TR 11:00A-12:15P*

This course traces the interlocking histories of the papacy and the city of Rome from the Renaissance to the birth of the modern Italian state. Topics will include the rise and fall of the papal monarchy; cultural and intellectual life at the Vatican court; the urban fabric of Rome from the Renaissance to the Baroque; the peculiar strains of Roman society; and the tumultuous relationship, both political and cultural, between Rome and the rest of Europe from the Reformation to the age of revolution. The course will proceed chronologically, but will pause frequently to examine special topics including: the Renaissance cardinal and his household; Michelangelo's Rome; the building of St. Peter's; Jesuit science; the trial of Galileo; archaeology and antiquarianism; the Roman Carnival; the Inquisition; Bernini's Rome; the Grand Tour; Rome in the Romantic imagination; and Napoleon's Rome. Students will write several short papers in response to readings and visual materials, and take a midterm and a final exam.
**MI 30241 01  Ancient Japan**

*CRN 20639*

*Thomas, Julia*

*MW 3:30-4:45P*

History is not a single “true story,” but many competing narratives, each defined by values, interests, and political commitments. This course on ancient Japanese history provides an overview of three sets of competing narratives: first, the politically charged question of Japan’s origins, when we explore archeological evidence and chronicles of the Sun Goddess; second, the question of whether culture (through continental imports of writing, religious forms, and statecraft) or nature (as disease and environmental degradation) defined the Yamato state from the sixth to the ninth century; and, third, whether Heian court power rested on economic, political, military, judicial, or aesthetic grounds and if its foundations were undermined internally or by the invasion of the Mongols. In examining these competing narratives, we aim to develop the disciplined imagination necessary to enter another culture and another time.

**MI 30266 01  Gothic Paris**

*CRN 20640*

*Hobbins, Daniel*

*MW 3:30-4:45P*

This course surveys the history of medieval Paris from the Merovingians to the late fifteenth century. Major themes include the rise of the Capetians, Gothic architecture and the topography of Paris, the University of Paris and manuscript culture, the birth of polyphony, vernacular culture and romances, the rise of a merchant class, plague and war, the religious life, and the margins of society. We shall attempt to situate the history of medieval Paris against the background of the rise of towns and the growth of urban life in the high middle ages. We shall also investigate the role of Paris as the seat of the French monarchy and as an international capital.

**MI 30301 01  Ancient and Medieval Philosophy**

*CRN 12748*

*Karbowski, Joseph*

*MW 12:30-1:45P*

This course will concentrate on major figures and persistent themes. A balance will be sought between scope and depth, the latter ensured by a close reading of selected texts.

**MI 30301 02  Ancient and Medieval Philosophy**

*CRN 17147*

*Dumont, Stephen*

*TR 3:30-4:45P*

This course will concentrate on major figures and persistent themes. A balance will be sought between scope and depth, the latter ensured by a close reading of selected texts.

**MI 30411 01  Christian Theological Traditions I**

*CRN 13443*

*Cavadini, John*

*TR 9:30-10:45A*

This course offers a survey of Christian theology from the end of the New Testament to the eve of the Reformation (well, almost). Taking the theological idea of “Mystery” as our theme, we will acquaint ourselves with theologians or theological developments of major significance in the period covered by the survey. Thus, students will be invited to think about the character and nature of the theological task while investigating major issues, challenges, and questions at the intersection of faith and reason.
MI 30500 01  Early Peninsular Literature and Culture  Seidenspinner-Nuñez, Dayle  
CRN 12767  
MW 12:30-1:45P  
A survey of Spanish literature through 1700. Readings of selected texts in prose, poetry, and theater from the medieval, Renaissance, and baroque periods.

MI 30577 01  Medieval-Renaissance Italian Literature and Culture  Moevs, Christian  
CRN 12765  
TR 11:00A-12:15P  
An introduction to the close reading and textual analysis of representative texts from the Duecento through the Renaissance, including Lentini, Guinizzelli, Cavalcanti, Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio, Poliziano, Machiavelli, and Ariosto.

MI 30667 01  The Arabic Literary Heritage  Guo, Li  
CRN 20641  
TR 3:30-4:45P  
This course introduces students to classical/medieval Arabic literature from its beginnings in the pre-Islamic period to the eve of the Ottoman Empire (600-1517). Its emphasis is on direct examination of Arabic literature through a close reading of the representative texts in English translation. Among the topics to be discussed: the impact of Islam on the Arabic literary tradition, the relationship between convention and invention, the emergence of lyric genres and the development of a concept of fiction. Readings include pre-Islamic Arabian poetry, the Qur’an (as literary text), lyric poetry and Sufi poetry, the Arabian Nights and medieval Arabic narrative romances. No knowledge of Arabic is required.

MI 30704 01  Survey of Italian Renaissance Art  Glass, Robert  
CRN 17595  
TR 2:00-3:15P  
This course provides an introduction to the art and architecture produced in Italy from around 1300 to the mid-sixteenth century. Studying some of Western art history’s best known artists, such Donatello, Botticelli, Leonardo, Michelangelo, Raphael, and Titian, we will explore the ways in which art was commissioned, made, and functioned in Renaissance Italy, and various approaches art historians have taken in interpreting its meaning. Topics will include artistic media and techniques; stylistic and iconographic analysis; humanism and renewed interest in the legacy of classical antiquity; sacred images and spaces; patronage, identity, and the social functions of art; and the changing status of artists and the arts themselves.

MI 30715 01  Imagined Worlds: Now and Then  Vitulli, Juan  
CRN 20643  
TR 12:30-1:45P  
Since its first uses in the Sixteenth Century, the term utopia meant both “good place” and “no place.” Thus, the concept carried two different ideas in its own meaning, an ideal society and an unreachable one. In the past years, the concept—as well as its opposite, dystopia—has been applied to explain literary representations of imagined worlds that hold a mirror up to our own “real” world. Analyzing and discussing cultural products that create, depict, and represent invented societies is, without a doubt, a good path to understand and to critique key aspects of this complex world we live in today. In this class, we will study Early Modern Hispanic texts (written by Late Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque
authors) as well as contemporary fictions (films, short stories, plays) that have in common their way to create and describe imagined/utopian/dystopian universes. We will pay specific attention to descriptions of imagined places in order to see how they explore real tensions around class, gender, society, religion, racial identities, imperial subjects, and power. During the semester, we will read texts written by Cervantes, Colón, Lope de Vega, Tirso de Molina, Cortés, Gracián, Vespucio, Nieremberg, and Fuentelapeña and will watch and analyze films such as *Children of Men, Blade Runner, Pan’s Labyrinth, Avatar, Elysium,* among other contemporary works.

**MI 30723 01  Art of the High Renaissance in Florence and Rome**

*Leonardo, Michelangelo, Bramante, and Raphael provide the basis for a study of one of the most impressive periods of artistic activity in Italy--the High Renaissance in Florence and Rome. It was Leonardo da Vinci’s revolutionary example that imposed extraordinary artistic and intellectual changes on an entire generation of painters, sculptors, and architects. Ludovico Sforza, Duke of Milan, the new Republic of Florence, and the imperial papacy of Julius II recognized that the genius of Leonardo, Bramante, Michelangelo, Raphael, and others, could be brought into the service of the State. Under Julius, the Papal State became the supreme state in Italy, and for the first time in centuries, the papacy ranked as a great European power. With the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, St. Peter’s (redesigned on a colossal scale by Bramante), the Vatican Palace (its city facade and Belvedere by Bramante, and papal apartments decorated by Raphael), and the Papal tomb (designed by Michelangelo), Rome, for the first time since the time of the Caesars, became the center of Western art.*

**MI 30817 01  The Samurai in Classical Japanese Literature**

*The sword-wielding samurai warrior is perhaps the most familiar icon of pre-modern Japan, one that continues to influence how the Japanese think of themselves and how others think of Japan even in modern times. Who were the samurai? How did they see themselves? How did other members of Japanese society see them in the past? How did the role and the image of the samurai change over time? To answer these questions, we will explore the depiction of samurai in various kinds of texts: episodes from quasi-historical chronicles, 14th-century Noh plays, 17th-century short stories, and 18th-century Kabuki and puppet plays. While some of these texts emphasize themes of loyalty, honor, and military prowess, others focus on the problems faced by samurai in their domestic lives during times of peace. The last part of the course will be devoted to the most famous of all stories, The Revenge of the 47 Samurai. Students will read eyewitness accounts of this vendetta, which occurred in 1702, and then explore how the well-known Kabuki/puppet play Chushingura (A Treasury of Loyal Retainers 1748) dramatizes the conflicting opinions surrounding it. All readings will be in English translation and no previous knowledge of Japan is required.*

**MI 40003 01  Introduction to Christian Latin Texts**

*This class surveys the development of Christian Latin language and literature from their origins through Late Antiquity and the early Middle Ages. It introduces students to the various important linguistic, stylistic and literary influences that contributed to Christian Latin poetry and prose. Students will also be*
introduced to the varieties of Christian Latin texts and the bibliographical and research skills needed to pursue research into these texts. All along we will be concerned to improve our abilities to read and understand the Latin of the tradition that stretches from the first translations of scripture to the treatises of Jerome and Augustine. The survey of Medieval Latin language and literature in the spring semester follows and builds upon this course.

MI 40162 01  Chaucer’s Biggest Rivals: The Poets of the Alliterative Tradition
CRN 20647

This course will focus on the major poems of the 14th-century Alliterative Revival: *Piers Plowman*, *Pearl*, and *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. Emphasis will be placed on close reading of these texts in their original language in order to appreciate the unique stylistic, social, psychological, and spiritual concerns of late medieval alliterative poetry. We will examine these works in the context of the cultural and political history of the period; among topics to be covered will be the use of *Piers Plowman* by rebel leaders during the Peasants’ Revolt of 1381, the rise of heresy and other challenges to Church authority, issues of religious and social tolerance, freedom of expression, skepticism, heroism, the role of women, “courtly love” and sexuality. Assignments and Examinations: two translation and commentary tests on *Piers Plowman* (15% each); one open-book test on translation critique and style analysis of either a Pearl or Gawain passage (your choice) (30%); Exam (40%). Texts: D. Pearsall, ed., *Piers Plowman: The C-Text*; M. Andrew and R. Waldron, eds., *The Complete Works of the Pearl Poet*.

MI 40196 01  Introduction to Old Norse
CRN 20648

A person should be wise enough, but never too wise; life is most pleasant for those who know just enough. Old Norse proverb, from Hávamál. In this course, students will come to grips with Old Norse a term that encompasses the medieval vernacular languages of Scandinavia and the vernacular literatures that flourished in Norway and Iceland between the Viking Age and the Reformation. The Old Norse literary corpus is remarkable for its breadth and variety, its literary quality and its cultural value: Norse manuscripts preserve our fullest record of pre-Christian mythology from northern Europe; traditional Germanic narrative and poetic traditions are uniquely well-represented in Old Norse versions, some of which date back to well before the Conversion; in the Icelandic sagas, one of Europe’s most distinctive medieval genres, we see an unprecedented forerunner of “realistic” prose fiction. Knowledge of Old Norse also gives access to many primary sources relating to the perennially controversial and fascinating Vikings, who took their language as far afield as Russia, Rome, Reykjavik and Rouen. (And Old Norse was probably the first European language spoken in North America.) Over the course of a semester, we will learn the fundamentals of Old Norse grammar, syntax and vocabulary. Although it has some quirks, Old Norse is not a particularly difficult language to pick up, and students will soon be able to read a saga in the original. We will introduce students to the history and literature of medieval Scandinavia, using translations at first but gradually bringing in original language material as our mastery of Old Norse increases. This course will be assessed by means of regular grammar quizzes and translation exercises, and a final exam.
MI 40327 01  Boethius and His Commentators  
Gersh, Stephen  
CRN 20649  
TR 11:00A-12:15P

The first part of this course will provide an introduction to Boethius’ life and works, and to his relation to the earlier Greek and Latin traditions. Although we will consider *De Consolatione Philosophiae* to be his most important text, devoting some weeks to the reading of the work sequentially through its five books, some attention will also be paid to Boethius’ theological opuscula and to his writings on logic, rhetoric, music, and arithmetic. The second part of the course will be devoted to the tradition of Latin commentary on Boethius during the western Middle Ages between the early Carolingians and the thirteenth century with special reference to the writings of Eriugena, Remigius of Auxerre, Bovo of Corvey, and William of Conches. Again, the primary emphasis will be placed on the afterlife of *De Consolatione*, although there will also be some opportunity to consider the commentaries on the theological treatises, and also the numerous Boethian citations and resonances in literary, theological, and philosophical works that are not “commentaries” on this author in the strict sense. Students may write their required final essays on Boethius himself or on the Latin or vernacular traditions of Boethian reading.

MI 40412 01  Popes, Patriarchs, and Councils  
Avvakumov, Yury  
CRN 20650  
MW 12:30-1:45P

This course examines medieval theological thinking about the Church: her unity, her boundaries, the variety of cultural traditions within her, her place in the world, and the ways the Church should be structured and governed. We shall base our discussions upon the reading of the medieval Latin texts in translation from the time of the Gregorian Reform in the 11th century to the age of Conciliarism and the Pre-Reformers in the 15th century. The course will also provide an introduction into the main texts, figures and tenets of Byzantine ecclesiological thinking from the 11th century up to 1453 (about one third of the course material). We shall also explore and discuss the opportunities and challenges medieval thinking poses to contemporary ecclesiological discourse.

MI 40433 01  Augustine  
Daley, Brian  
CRN 20651  
MW 9:30-10:45A

Augustine of Hippo was arguably the most influential theological thinker in the history of western Christianity. A brilliant professional rhetorician and a profound student of Neoplatonic philosophy, Augustine brought his gifts and training to the service of the Church when he was baptized, after a long struggle of faith, in 387. Yet perhaps because of his gifts, he was always surrounded by controversy, and has remained so down to the present--appearing to many to be responsible for some of the main shortcomings of the Church’s theology and practice, even as his writings largely set the agenda for later theological discussion in the West. In this course, we will read a representative sample of his major works--some of his early philosophical treatises, the Confessions, his homilies on *I John* and on some of the *Psalms*, some of his controversial works on grace and human freedom, and parts of *On Christian Teaching, On the Trinity*, and *On the City of God*. Our goal will be to discover Augustine’s characteristic blend of exegesis, pastoral concern, philosophical speculation, and spirituality, and to let it challenge and nourish our own reflective faith.
### MI 40475 01  Monastic Roots and Practices  
**Leyerle, Blake**  
**CRN 20652**  
**MW 2:00-3:15P**

From its earliest days, asceticism marked Christianity. This course will explore these various practices and ways of life. We will begin with a quick survey of the relevant themes found in the New Testament and Apocryphal Acts, before considering the writings of our earliest ascetic “theorists,” Clement of Alexandria and Tertullian of Carthage. We will then turn to the solitary and communal forms of monastic life in Egypt, Syria, and Palestine. We will read and compare monastic *Lives and Letters*, as well as collections of *Sayings*, but we will focus above all on the *Rules* of Pachomius, Shenoute, Basil, Augustine, and Benedict. In addition to literary analysis, we will also consider the impact of physical locale, pilgrimage, and architecture on monastic practice and spirituality. Throughout the course, we will enrich our appreciation of historical phenomena by drawing comparisons with more recent expressions of monastic life. Course requirements include a midterm and final exam as well as two papers.

### MI 40531 01  Introduction to Old French  
**Boulton, Maureen**  
**CRN 20653**  
**TR 11:00A-12:15P**

This course is designed to be an introduction to the language and dialects of medieval France, including Anglo-Norman. Readings will include texts written between the 12th and the 14th centuries, such as the Lais of Marie de France, *trouvère poetry*, the prose Lancelot, Machaut, and Froissart.

### MI 40565 02  Dante’s *Divine Comedy*: The Christian Universe as Poetry  
**Baranski, Zygumnt**  
**CRN 20654**  
**TR 2:00-3:15P**

This course explores the work of Dante’s *Divine Comedy*, looking at the Christian universe as poetry. Taught in English.

### MI 40703 01  Introduction to Early Christian and Byzantine Art  
**Jensen, Robin**  
**CRN 20920**  
**TR 9:30-10:45A**

This course will introduce students to Christian visual art from its evident beginnings (ca. 200), attend to its transformation under imperial patronage, and consider the aftermath of controversies regarding the veneration of icons during the eighth and ninth centuries. Working with both objects and texts, core themes include the continuity between Christian and pagan art of Late Antiquity, the influence of imperial ceremonies and style, the emergence of holy icons, the development of Passion iconography, and the divergent styles, motifs, and theological perspectives on the validity and role of images from the Byzantine East to the early Medieval West.

### MI 43344 01  Aquinas on Faith, Hope, and Charity  
**Freddoso, Alfred**  
**CRN 20656**  
**MW 3:30-4:45P**

A close reading of the treatises on faith, hope, and charity from St. Thomas Aquinas’s *Summa Theologiae* 2-2, along with some supplemental material from *Summa Theologiae* 1-2. Some topics: acquired virtue vs. infused virtue, intellectual virtue vs. affective virtue, nature vs. grace, and the centrality of love in Thomistic moral theory.
**MI 43751 01  Seminar: Topics in Renaissance Art**  
*CRN 20923*  
*CRN 20923  TR 11:00A-12:15P*

Topics course on special areas of Renaissance art.

**MI 46020 01  Directed Readings-Undergrad**  
*CRN 14052  TBA*

Offers advanced undergraduate students a possibility to work closely with a professor in preparing a topic mutually agreed upon.

**MI 50001 01  Introduction to Medieval Studies**  
*CRN 13557  M 5:05-5:55P*

A one-credit-hour course designed to introduce students to the basic bibliographies, handbooks, and research tools in medieval studies. Professors from various disciplines will participate. Open only to honors track majors in Medieval Studies.

**MI 56001 01  Senior Research Paper**  
*CRN 14504  TBA*

This class offers a student a chance to research a topic in medieval studies and write an in-depth seminar paper on the subject. By the end of the semester, a 20- to 25-page research paper will be submitted to the professor for the final grade.

**MI 58002 01-04  Senior Honors Thesis I-Research**  
*TBA*

This course is part of a two-semester sequence open only to seniors in the Medieval Studies honors program. Guided by a faculty adviser, students will research and write a thesis that results in a scholarly examination of a clearly defined topic. In the fall semester, students formalize the choice of a topic initially selected at the end of their junior year and complete the research begun on the project during the preceding summer. Specific deadlines for a thesis proposal and bibliography are available from the Director of Undergraduate Studies.