Medieval Institute Undergraduate Courses

Fall 2016 Course Descriptions *as of April 4, 2016*

MI 13185 01 Philosophy University Seminar Gersh, Stephen

*CRN 17949* *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 20187 01 Medieval Monstrosity Fahey, Richard

*CRN 22693* *MW 9:30-10:45A*

Monsters haunt our cultural imagination and make countless appearances in literature, bringing entertainment in the forms of horror, fantasy and satire, while offering social critique on virtually every aspect of human behavior and experience. But, what makes a monster? Attempting to answer and better understand this question will be the object of our academic discussion and the primary intellectual inquiry at the center of the course. Contemporary shows like The Walking Dead, Game of Thrones and Dexter reflect a continued interest in the darker side of human nature and the psychology of terror, concerns which extends back to the so-called Dark Ages, and some of earliest works of English literature. Monsters transgress boundaries; liminal figures living on the fringes of society and in contrast to social norms. Group identity and one’s humanity are often defined in opposition to notions of monstrosity against those others/strangers/foreigners/aliens whose very existence challenge the established order and ethos of a given community. The word monster (from the Latin monstrum meaning ‘a wonder’ or ‘a marvel’ even ‘a miracle’) has transformed from something awesome into something awful. In this course, we will explore the category of ‘monster’ and discuss the extent to which one¿s imagination and prejudices participates in constructing, interpreting and anticipating literary representations of the monstrous. Beginning with the Old English poem Beowulf, our focus will center on monsters in medieval and modern literature. Together as a class, we will analyze heroic poetry, Latin lore, Old Norse sagas, Shakespearean plays (such as Macbeth), modern novels (such as M. Shelley’s Frankenstein), contemporary films (such as N. Jordan’s Interview with a Vampire) and TV series as we categorize the various representations of monstrosity, and consider their literary work, socio-political context, individual characterizations and narratological functions in each respective text.

MI 20408 01 The Eastern Church: Theology and History Avvakumov, Yury

*CRN 16634* *MW 12:30-1:45P*

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 20473 01 Islam and Christian Theology Siffy, Mun’im

*CRN 20416* *MWF 9:25-10:15A*

A historical survey of the cross and crucifix in Christian theology, popular piety, ritual practice, and art, from the New Testament though the sixteenth-century and in both eastern and western traditions. Topics include the discovery and dissemination of relics of the True Cross, the emergence and development of crucifixion iconography, hymns dedicated to the cross, and the liturgical feasts and veneration of the cross.

MI 20492 01 God’s Grace and Human Action Wawrykow, Joseph

*CRN 30371* *TR 9:30-10:45A*

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 20490 01 Heaven, Hell and the Afterlife Moss, Candida

*CRN 20417* *MW 11:00A-12:15P*

The class examines the various theories of the afterlife in Christian history and theology. It explores how Christians have thought about heaven, hell, purgatory, and limbo; the resurrection of Jesus and everyone else; the relationship of virtue and sin to eternal reward and punishment; the geography of the underworld; and the ethics of immortality from ancient Greece to today's Google's immortality project.

MI 20670 03 Great Irish Writers I McQuillan, Peter

*CRN 20418* *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 & Renaissance Music History I Blachly, Alexander

*CRN 20419* *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 20821 01 Architectural History I Stamper, John

*CRN 20420* *TR 11:00A-12:15P*

This course provides a survey of architectural history from the Egyptian, Greek, and Roman civilizations to Europe during the Romanesque and Gothic periods. Also included are Islamic, pre-Columbian, and Far Eastern building traditions. Each period is studied in relation to physical determinants, such as climate, materials, technology, and geography, and historical determinants such as economics, religion, politics, society, and culture. Fall.

MI 20822 01 Mysteries of the Past Golitko, Mark

*CRN 20747* *MWF 12:50-1:40P*

Can the secrets of the past help us solve our problems in the future? This course uncovers the clues that our ancestors left behind in ruins, abandoned cities, pyramids, and on the earth itself. We will discuss key issues facing humanity today through the lens of the past. How prone are we as a species to degrading our environment? How flexible are we in the face of environmental change? Are humans basically violent, and are we destined to keep killing each other? These are some of the big questions that can be addressed using the archaeological record. The anthropological and archaeological study of past failure (and success) can help us understand the urgent challenges our our own age.

MI 20823 01 Fundamentals of Archaeology Glowacki, Donna

*CRN 20748* *TR 3:30-4:45P*

This course is an introduction to the methods, goals, and theoretical concepts of archaeology, with a primary focus on anthropological archaeology practiced in the Middle East, North America, and Europe. The field of archaeology is broadly concerned with material culture (at times combined with textual information) that can be employed to generate interpretations about past human societies. The challenge of this social science is to interpret past societies and anthropological behavior using the fragmentary, but nonetheless rich and complex, data base of the archaeological record. Lecture topics will include the methods and goals of archaeological excavation; analytical techniques employed in material studies; and the problems and challenges in the interpretation of past human behavior. Case studies of survey, excavation, and analytical techniques will focus on recent or on-going investigations of archaeological sites in North America, Central America, Europe, Africa, and the Middle East.

MI 23382 01 The Soul’s Quest: Know Thyself **Major, Linda**

*CRN 20421* *TR 12:30-1:45P*

This course will explore the origin, nature, and destiny of the soul beginning with the Platonic tradition and proceeding up to contemporary investigations in both Western and Eastern philosophy, with a particular emphasis on the Christian philosophical tradition. Various readings will treat the early Greeks, the Christian Fathers, medieval and modern philosophers and theologians, and also a few contemporary writers. Some of the better known authors will include St. Paul, Plotinus, Origen, Augustine, Kierkegaard, Sri Aurobindo, and C.S. Lewis.

MI 30195 01 British Literary Traditions I Brogan, Jacqueline

*CRN 20422* *MW 9:30-10:45A*

This is an introductory survey of English poetic and prose texts written from the eighth to the mid-seventeenth century. We will study these literary artifacts as imaginative representatives of experience, as cultural maps, and as human messages-in-a-bottle, set afloat in the seas of time. As we read these selections composed in English from past centuries past, we will be looking for both familiarity and strangeness. We will also be forming a sense of the variety and differing uses of literary genres: epic and romance [Beowulf and Sir Gawain & the Green Knight]; short story [Chaucer's Canterbury Tales and the Lais of Marie de France]; religious diary [excerpts from the mystical visions of Julian of Norwich in Revelations of Divine Love] and autobiography [from the first written in English, authored by Marjorie Kempe, a laywoman who records her business ventures, her negotiations of marital sex life, her adventures on pilgrimage, and her religious examination by the archbishop as a potential heretic]. We will also read lyric poems from the Old and Middle English periods, and from the Renaissance and seventeenth centuries, including some of Shakespeare's sonnets; political satire [excerpts from Utopia, a prose fiction authored by Sir/Saint Thomas More]; and at least on play - possibly two - from the Medieval and/or Renaissance performing tradition. The semester's literary pilgrimage will conclude by coming full circle, back to the epic revisited, with selections from Milton's Paradise Lost. Regular short quizzes. Midterm & final examinations. Two short (5-10 pp.) Essays, due at mid-term and end-term. Text: The Norton Anthology of English Literature, Vol. I, 7th edition.

MI 30222 01 Tudor England: Politics & Honor Rapple, Rory

*CRN 16501* *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 30235 01 Medieval Middle East **Tor, Deborah**

*CRN 17953* *MW 10:30-11:20A*

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 30241 01 Ancient Japan Thomas, Julia

*CRN 17955* *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 30268 01 The World of Vikings TBA

*CRN 20423* *TR 9:30-10:45A*

This course provides an introduction to the world of the Vikings. Frequently romanticised and often misunderstood, the Vikings changed the course of European history. Following an examination of the possible reasons for the Viking incursions, attention will turn to the Viking homelands, early raids and settlements in Ireland, Britain and continental Europe. Important related themes include the emergence and consolidation of the medieval Scandinavian kingdoms, commercial enterprise, and religious change. Particular emphasis will be placed on the exploration and colonisation of the North Atlantic, especially Iceland, which provides an interesting case study of a state founded by Viking migrants. Students will read widely from a range of primary sources to understand how the Vikings perceived themselves and how they, in turn, were viewed by their near contemporaries. They will be encouraged to reassess the Vikings and their legacy, and to frame their achievements, some more lasting than others, within a wider European context. No prior knowledge of Old Norse or a modern Scandinavian language is required.

MI 30271 01 Byzantine History: Beihammer, Alexander

From the Late Roman Empire to Medieval Byzantium, 4th-10th Century

*CRN 20062* *TR 3:30-4:45P*

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 30227 01 Christianity, Commerce, and Consumerism: The Last 1000 Years Gregory, Brad

*CRN 30441* *MW 10:30-11:20A*

The capitalism and consumerism that now influences the entire world arose within a religious culture-that of Western Christianity-whose central figure extolled poverty and self-denial, and whose most important early missionary wrote that "the love of money is the root of all evils." How did this happen? This course takes a long-term view of the emergence of modern economic life in relationship to Christianity beginning with the upturn in commerce and the monetization of the European economy in the eleventh century and continuing through the relationship between markets and Christian morality in the Middle Ages and Renaissance. It pays particular attention to the ways in which the religio-political disruptions of the Reformation era laid the foundations for the disembedding of economics from Christian ethics and thus made possible modern Western capitalism and consumerism.

MI 30273 01 History of Science 1: Antiquity to Newton Ragland, Evan

*CRN 20424* *MW 12:30-1:45P*

This course is intended as the first of a two-part survey of Western science. We begin with a survey of the heritage of ancient (largely Greek) contributions to natural philosophy, mathematics, and medicine. We will continue with medieval studies of mathematics, motion, the heavens, living things, optics, materials, and alchemy in Arabic and Latin cultures. Given the importance of religion to the formation of these historical cultures, we will pay particular attention to the relations between broader philosophy, theology, and the emerging activities bearing the hallmarks of naturalistic and rational approaches we often distinguish as "science." Changing institutional homes for the study of nature also contextualize our study of key ideas and methods, from early philosophical schools to monasteries, universities, courts, and academies. Ultimately, we will consider whether there was such a thing as "the Scientific Revolution," and, if there was, what was so revolutionary about it.

MI 30293 01 Slavery in the Lands of Islam Daddi Addoun, Yacine

*CRN 20425* *MW 3:30-4:45P*

Slavery existed in most societies and its eradication from our contemporary society is our challenge and responsibility. This course is targeted at examining and understanding the institution of slavery in Islamic societies. It offers strong foundations to discuss slavery in the two main sources of law in Islam: Qur?an and Sunna. Then it offers a survey of the most important aspects of slavery, including the geographical origins of the slave population, their numbers and demographics in Islamic lands, labor conditions, as well as production and reproduction characteristics. Through a thematic examination, the course will present some of the most distinctive types of slavery that existed in different part of Islamic lands: military slavery, harem slavery, eunuchs, etc. Also this course examines debates on the abolition of the institution of slavery; the colonial context in which it emerged and was imposed; and how Muslim intellectuals adopted abolitionist ideas. By the end of the semester, the focus will be on the diaspora and the structural inequalities inherited from slavery and perpetuated to these days. It will also touch on the contemporary forms of slavery in the lands of Islam.

MI 30299 01 Unsolved Historical Mysteries Hobbins, Daniel

*CRN 20063* *MW 3:30-4:45P*

This course examines three episodes: the trial of the Knights Templar (1312), the trial of Joan of Arc (1431), and the fate of the princes in the Tower (1483). Emphasis will be on the careful reading of primary texts (in translation), evaluating conflicting accounts, source criticism, surveying historiographical debates, and reconstructing plausible narratives. The trial of the Templars illustrates the difficulty of discovering the truth from suspicious and contradictory evidence. Were the Templars guilty of secret crimes, or the victims of scheming political enemies? The conviction of Joan of Arc as a heretic was almost immediately denounced, and provides an interesting case study in the convergence of religion and politics. The fate of the princes in the Tower of London is a classic historical mystery. Did Richard III have them killed, or did they somehow survive only to reappear in the reign of Henry VII? At stake here is the reputation of Richard III. Was he a monstrous villain or the victim of Tudor propaganda? Each case illustrates the way historical narratives are constructed.

MI 30301 01 Ancient and Medieval Philosophy Cory, Therese

*CRN 20426* *TR 11:00A-12:15P*

MI 30301 02 Ancient and Medieval Philosophy Dumont, Stephen

*CRN 20427* *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 30500 01 Early Peninsular Literature and Culture Juarez-Almendros, Encarnacion

*CRN 12628* *TR 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 & Culture Moevs, Christian

*CRN 12627* *TR 2:00-3:15P*

An introduction to the close reading and textual analysis of respresentative texts from the Duecento through the Renaissance, including Lentini, Guinizzelli, Cavalcanti, Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio, Poliziano, Machiavelli, and Ariosto.

MI 30800 01 Ancient and Medieval Theory Roberts, Veronica

*CRN 20428* *MW 11:00A-12:15P*

What is the meaning of justice and why should we care about it? Can politics ever perfectly establish justice? Which forms of government are best for human beings to live under, and why? What is the political relevance of religion and philosophy, family and ethnicity, war and peace, nature and freedom, law and right? What are the qualities of a good citizen and political leader? How should relations among diverse political communities be conducted? This course introduces students to theoretical reflection on these and related questions through the study of some of the great works of ancient and medieval political thought. Readings will include writings of authors such as Thucydides, Plato, Aristotle, Cicero, Augustine, Farabi, Maimonides, and Aquinas.

MI 30819 01 Masterpieces of Japanese Literature Brownstein, Michael

*CRN 20064* *MW 2:00-3:15P*

This course was designed as a survey of Japanese poetry, fiction, and drama from the earliest times through the mid-18th century. All texts are in English; no special knowledge of Japan or Japanese is required. The course is divided into three parts. In Part I we will begin with the development of court poetry (waka) as found in the Man-yoshu (Collection of Ten Thousand Leaves), the Kokinshu (the first Imperial Anthology), and the Tales of Ise. The centerpiece of this unit, however, is Murasaki Shikibu's epic of courtly love, The Tale of Genji (ca. 1000 A.D.); we will read an abridged version of the first 17 chapters. In addition to social and historical factors influencing the development of a courtly aesthetic, we will also consider the influential role played by Buddhism and Chinese literature. In Part II, we will look at how Japanese literature developed during the medieval period (13-16th centuries) of the samurai warrior-aristocracy with readings of plays from the No theater, linked verse (renga) and philosophical essays such as An Account of My Hut and Essays in Idleness. Of special interest here is the influence of Zen Buddhism on a wide range of aesthetic practices, including the tea ceremony, landscaping and painting. In Part III, we will study the "popular" literature of the 17th and 18th centuries, the products of a new merchant-class culture that flourished in Edo (now Tokyo), Kyoto and Osaka. The main topics will be haiku poetry by Matsuo Basho.

MI 40003 01 Introduction to Christian Latin Texts Muller, Hildegund

*CRN 12604* *TR 12:30-1:45P*

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 40110 01 Introduction to Old English Machan, Tim

*CRN 20723* *MW 12:30-1:45P*

In this course, in just one short semester, students will acquire a reading knowledge of Old English, the form of English used in Anglo-Saxon England. We begin with an intensive introduction to Old English grammar (interspersed with short readings) and move quickly to the translation of representative poetry and prose about battles, visions, journeys, and hope. Though our focus is Old English language, attention is also given to Old English literary strategies and to Anglo- Saxon culture.

MI 40334 01 Augustine: Philosophy and Exegesis Gersh, Stephen

*CRN 20065* *TR 12:30-1:45P*

The *Confessions* describe the way in which Augustine came to the synthesis of philosophy and Christianity characterizing the work of his middle period both by solving certain problems in metaphysics and by learning certain methods of biblical exegesis. This course will study in detail the interaction between philosophy and exegesis in Augustine?s work through the reading of 1. (in the first half of the semester) a series of primarily philosophical texts (dialogues of Cassiciacum, works on psychology, epistemology, semantics, and ethics, and selections from *On the City of God*) and 2. (in the second half of the semester) the treatises *On Christian Teaching, On the True Religion* and twelve books of *On the Literal Interpretation of Genesis*. Knowledge of Latin is desirable if not absolutely essential. Written requirement: one final essay of ca. 20 pp.

MI 40335 01 Mercy, Justice, and Forgiveness O’Callaghan, John

*CRN 20066* *MW 11:00A-12:15P*

A philosophical examination of topics and problems lying at the intersection of mercy, justice, and forgiveness.

MI 40407 01 Introduction to Byzantine Theology Torrance, Alexis

*CRN 20067* *TR 12:30-1:45P*

This course introduces students to major theological sources, themes, and debates of the Byzantine Christian East. Beginning with formative texts of the Greek patristic era, students proceed to cover key areas and "moments" of Byzantine theology: Christological debates in the aftermath of Chalcedon; iconoclasm and icons; ascetic and monastic theology; developments in Liturgy and sacramental theology; approaches to Scripture; East-West relations; theological interactions with Islam; Hesychasm; and Byzantine Theology after 1453. The goal of the course is to equip upper-level undergraduate and Master's-level students with an accurate overview of this vast, intricate, and fast-growing field of study.

MI 40411 01 Christian Theological Tradition I Cavadini, John

*CRN 20430* *TR 2:00-3:15P*

MI 40411 02 Christian Theological Tradition I Cavadini, Catherine

*CRN 20429* *MW 12:30-1:45P*

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 40466 01 Eucharist in the Middle Ages Wawrykow, Joseph

*CRN 20431* *MW 2:00-3:15P*

The Eucharist stands at the heart of western European Christianity in the high middle ages. The insistence of church officials on regular reception of the Eucharist; the numerous scholastic treatments of the theoretical issues associated with the Eucharist; the recourse by spiritual authors, especially women, to the Eucharist to express their most profound religious and devotional insights; the pointed reference to the Christ Eucharistically-present to establish Christian identity and to distinguish the members of Christ from others, both within and outside of western Europe; the development of new rituals focussed on aspects of the Eucharist; the burgeoning of artistic representations of Eucharistic themes all testify to the centrality of the Eucharist in medieval theological and religious consciousness. Through the close reading of representative texts by a wide variety of 13th-century authors, and, the study of the different kinds of 'Eucharistic' art, this course examines the uses made of the Eucharist by a broad spectrum of high medieval Christians. A special concern of the course is the relation between Eucharistic doctrine and religious practice, to what extent have teachings about transubstantiation and real presence shaped religious expression? how has religious experience itself occasioned the refinement of these doctrines?

MI 40491 01 Scripture, Violence and Peace Sirry, Mun’im

*CRN 20432* *TR 9:30-10:45A*

The complex relationship between religion, peace and violence has preoccupied scholars in the last few decades. Some argue that religion is inherently violent, while others contend that it can be a resource for peace. At the heart of this contention is the fact that religious scriptures contain both violent and non-violent passages. This course will discuss both elements in Jewish, Christian, and Muslim scriptures and how they have been interpreted and understood by believers across different generations and contexts. We consider such essential questions as: How have these passages been understood in the pre-modern period, and to what extent have they been recontextualized in the modern context? Can the violent element of the Holy Scripture be interpreted fruitfully for interactions among different religious communities in the modern world? This course will address these questions through a critical analysis on how these passages shape the believers' approach to the "other" even today. NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF JUDAISM OR CHRISTIANITY OR ISLAM IS REQUIRED FOR THIS COURSE.

MI 40565 01 Dante’s Divine Comedy **Baranski, Zygmunt**

*CRN 20432* *TR 12:30-1:45P*

MI 40669 01 Classical/Qur’anic Arabic II Guo, Li

*CRN 20433* *TR 12:30-1:45P*

The goal of this course is to continue to develop a basic knowledge of Classical/Qur'anic Arabic, with an emphasis on an overview of grammar and syntax, vocabulary acquisition, and serial readings of Islamic texts. We will read selections from Qur'an, Qur'an exegeses, hadith (Prophetic tradition), and other related material, such as Islamic legal texts. We will learn how to use Arabic/Islamic bibliographical references (in print and online).

MI 40701 01 History of Christian Architect Jensen, Robin

*CRN 20434* *TR 3:30-4:45P*

A broad survey of purpose-built spaces for Christian worship, from the beginnings to the present. The course will attend to questions of form and aesthetics and the functionality of these spaces for liturgy or other church activities. Finally, the course will consider the social, economic, and political dimensions of church building projects.

MI 46020 01 Directed Readings-Undergrad TBA

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

MI 56001 01 Senior Research Paper Major, Linda

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 58001 01-05 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.