

MI 60003 Intro to Christian Latin Texts

Hildegund Muller

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 60007 Western Codicology

David Gura

This course will train students in the forensic approaches to the medieval manuscript book as a physical artifact. Students will learn to collect and interpret codicological data (e.g., collation, layout, decoration, distribution of scribal labor, book bindings, provenance, etc.). These skills will culminate in the ability to generate analytical manuscript descriptions and to integrate them into a larger research program. Specific treatment will be given to problematic genres of manuscripts such as Bibles, liturgical and music manuscripts, calendars, books of hours, legal texts, and fragments. In addition to the acquisition of codicological skills, students will learn to identify texts and develop a command of the secondary resources and bibliographic reference materials essential to the critical study of manuscripts. Students will work extensively with the medieval manuscripts in the collections of the Hesburgh Library and acquire plenty of hands-on experience. Pre-requisites: Students must be proficient in Latin; a previous course in Latin paleography is not required, but recommended.

MI 60036 Neoplatonism's Medieval Forms

Wiebke Marie Stock

Neoplatonic philosophy is one of the or maybe even the most influential intellectual movement in Late Antiquity, the Middle Ages and into modern times. Neoplatonic ideas shaped philosophical, theological, mystical and literary texts and art and architecture. The course will study a wide range of Neoplatonic texts and of texts inspired by Neoplatonism from Antiquity into the Middle Ages, including the Byzantine, Latin and Arabic tradition. As the intellectual basis of the course, we will first study pagan Neoplatonism in late Antiquity. We will focus mainly on the founder of Neoplatonism Plotinus who transforms Platonic thought and combines it with Aristotelean ideas without neglecting Stoic input as well. Later developments in Neoplatonism will be discussed as well, since they are the basis of Christian transformations of Neoplatonism (e.g. Porphyry, Proclus). Then we will move to the first Christian transformations of Neoplatonic thought in late Antiquity, especially Dionysius the Areopagite, but also Boethius and Augustine. After a briefer detour to Neoplatonism in Byzantium we will focus on the neoplatonic traditions in the Middle Ages, focusing especially on the first translations of Dionysius the Areopagite and his reception in philosophy, theology, mysticism and art. Furthermore, we will take a look at the Arabic tradition. Topics discussed in the course will include: 1) The Good, the One and God; 2) Intellect; 3) Soul; 4) Self, person, self-consciousness; 5) the intelligible realm and the visible world; 6) body; 7) matter 8) evil; 9) freedom; 10) the ascent of the soul and the union with the divine; 11) art and its anagogical power Most texts will be read in translation, but we will also look at selected passages in Greek or Latin (for those who read these languages; they are not a requirement for the course).

MI 60037 The Medieval Islamic World

Deborah Tor

The purpose of this course is to introduce graduate students to the major historiographical issues and modern scholarly interpretations of the medieval Islamic world, from the rise of Islam in the early 7th century until the Mongol conquests in the 13th, in preparation for qualifying examinations in the Medieval Middle Eastern or Islamic field. Such issues will include the rise of Islam and the official biography of the Prophet Muhammad; the early

formation of the religion, including the formation of Sunnism, the various forms of Shi'ism, and other religious sects; the meaning and role of the Caliphate at different periods; the Abbasid Revolution and its messianic pretensions; the respective role of the three major ethnic groups, Arab, Persian and Turkish, in Islamic history; military slavery; the break-up of Islamic political unity and the rise of the autonomous Persianate dynasties; the subsequent transition from Persian to Turkish political primacy in the Seljuq period; and the catastrophic ending of the classical period of Islamic history by the Mongol invasions under Chengiz Khan and his descendants.

MI 60194 Introduction to Syriac

Jeffrey Wickes

This course will offer basic familiarity with the Semitic language of Syriac, a dialect of Aramaic. Participants will learn grammar and vocabulary for basic reading which will serve as a basis for further study of Syriac. Syriac is important for any who are interested in early translations of the Bible, monasticism, patristics, church history, liturgy, hagiography, homilies, Manichaeism, the transmission of Greek philosophy, and Semitic linguistics. No previous experience with Syriac (or another Semitic language) is assumed.

MI 60405 Liturgical History

Nina Glibetic

Survey of liturgical history and sources with regard to both Eastern and Western rites. Fundamental liturgical sources including basic homiletic and catechetical documents of the patristic period. Basic introduction to the methodology of liturgical study. Requirements will include short papers and exams. (Fall)

MI 60414 Intro. To the Early Church

John Cavadini

From its origins in the Judaism of first-century Palestine, early Christianity spread quickly into Aramaic-, Greek-, and Latin-speaking communities of the Roman Empire. This course will introduce the institutions created by Christianity as it separated from Judaism, as well as its interaction with the cultures into which it spread around the Mediterranean basin and into Mesopotamia and the Caucasus. From these interactions came an articulated church structure, with literary and liturgical cultures specific to particular territories, and a cluster of beliefs both shared with and differentiated from Graeco-Roman and eastern cultures. Along with the history of these cultures, the course will consider the book cultures of early Christianity and its catechists, who gave rise to a web of teachings modulated in controversy and ecumenical councils. The resultant theology, particularly teachings about the divine nature of Jesus and the related doctrine of the triadic godhead, is an important philosophical legacy of early Christianity, and will be the focus of inquiry as the course progresses.

MI 60473 Eucharist

Gabriel Radle

The Church makes the Eucharist and the Eucharist makes the Church. The goal of this course is a comprehensive understanding of the nature and development of the Christian Eucharist. It provides perspective on the origins and historical development of the eucharistic liturgy across traditions, examines the structure and content of eucharistic liturgies (esp. the Roman Mass, but also other liturgical rites), the historical relationship between the Eucharist and the arts (esp. music and architecture) and undertakes a systematic reflection on various theological issues (e.g. real presence, transubstantiation, the role of the priest, excommunication, etc.). Illumined by historical and theological reflection, students will also engage in critically examining contemporary pastoral issues as well as current debates in the "liturgy wars".

MI 60500 Intro to Scholastic Theology

Yury Avvakumov

The goal of this course is to introduce upper-level undergraduates and master-level students to the methods and procedures, basic literary forms, and main authors of medieval academic ("scholastic") theology, from its rise in the twelfth century to examples of Later Medieval and Early Modern periods. The overview will be provided against the backdrop of medieval intellectual history including the institutional development of medieval universities. We shall read and discuss selected chapters from works by Peter Abelard, Peter Lombard, Thomas Aquinas, Bonaventure, William of Ockham, Francisco da Vitoria, and a few others, focusing on the texts that address questions of theological methodology, such as the notion of "sacred doctrine" ("doctrina sacra"), sacramental theology, and

ecclesiology, particularly on the impact of scholastic discourse on the theological self-understanding of medieval Christianitas. Particular attention will be devoted to literary genres and forms ("sententia," "summa," "distinctio," "quaestio," etc.) as well as to the role that medieval canon law played in the development of scholasticism. We will also discuss the reception of Latin scholastic theology in the Greek East and the impact of Thomas Aquinas on Byzantine theological thought of the Later Medieval period.

MI 60577 Med-Ren Italian Lit & Culture

Mattia Boccuti

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*. We will trace the profile of Italian literary history in this period, setting the texts in their cultural and historical context (including music, art, and architecture), with attention to the changing understanding of human nature and the physical world in these centuries. Taught in Italian. Required for majors and supplementary majors in the Literature and Culture concentration; either this course or ROIT 30721 is required for majors in the Italian Studies Concentration.

MI 60659 Islamic Theology

Hussein Abdulsater

This course studies the major themes of Islamic theology. It starts from the early debates concerned with Muslim views of God, the nature of the Qurʾān, the prophethood of Muhammad and ends with current debates about the status of Islamic law (*shariʿa*). It also discusses divine vs. human will, the role of politics in Muslim view of salvation and the limits of rationality. It traces how these topics moved from simple formulae to complex concepts due to socio-political controversies and conditions, whether they were sectarian or interreligious conflicts, crises of legitimacy, colonialism or modernity. The arguments of various schools are presented, and translated excerpts from prominent theologians are studied. As we read these texts we ask ourselves a number of questions. For example, what alternatives were possible for theologians other than what later became standard Muslim doctrines? What is the importance of imagination in the creation of these theological systems? Did modern Muslim theologians have better options to handle ancient traditions that most of them ended up adopting? Do some modern Muslim theologians have an alternative view to offer? The course is meant to help students see the problems of theology from an Islamic viewpoint that may deepen their understanding of wider religious questions.

MI 60703 Early Christian/Byzantine Art

Robin Jensen

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 60783 Gregorian Chant in Roman Rite

Peter Jeffery

Vocal Sacred Music I is devoted primarily to Gregorian Chant, with some study toward the end of the semester of medieval polyphonic works based on chant. The course will cover matters of liturgy, performance practice, musical forms, notation, and sources. The course is open to upper-class music majors and graduate students in the Master of Sacred Music Program.

MI 63041 Rabbi, Priest, Imam, & Infidel

Thomas Burman

"Medieval religious professionals--Rabbis, Priests, and Imams--often found themselves engaging with the beliefs and texts of religious others, whether they were opponents within their own faith traditions or outside it. Moreover, a vast literature of religious polemic and apologetic survives from this period in many languages. This course will

explore a number of such works, as well as influential recent scholarship on apologetic and polemic. Students will write a twenty to thirty page research essay."

MI 63471 Islamic Origins

Gabriel Reynolds

In 1851 the French scholar Ernest Rénan wrote: "one can say without exaggeration that the problem of the origins of Islam has definitely now been completely resolved." In 2012, however, scholars are more divided than ever over the question of Islamic origins. Rénan's confidence stemmed from the appearance in his day of medieval Muslim biographies of Muḥammad, which in their detailed descriptions of the Muslim prophet seemed to offer reliable historical data. Yet they are also late sources. The earliest Islamic biographies date from approximately 150 years after the traditional death date of Muhammad (632). The only earlier sources that scholars have to work with are the Qur'ān --a text marked by Biblical allusions and religious exhortation, not historical narratives --and the early Greek, Syriac and Armenian literature (primarily Christian) which alludes to the rise of a new religious movement in the Near East, but not in the manner of later Islamic works. All three sources -the Qur'ān, early non-Muslim literature, and classical Islamic sources -present particular interpretive challenges. In this seminar we will address the question of Islamic origins by appreciating the particular types and functions of these sources. At the same time we will examine the debate over these sources in recent scholarship, with particular attention to the theories of those (esp. Wansbrough, Crone, and Luxenberg) who argue that the origins of Islam are more closely related to the development of Christianity in the Late Antique Near East than is traditionally assumed. In this regard the present seminar is not a foray into Religious Studies as much as a studied examination of a movement (Islam) that is closely connected to Christianity, and of a text (the Qur'ān) that itself claims to present the proper exegesis of Biblical narratives. Accordingly students are not assumed to have any special background in Islamic Studies or in Arabic. They will be asked, on the other hand, to apply their knowledge of the History of Christianity (and Judaism) and Biblical Studies to the study of Islamic origins. In Fall 2012 students in the seminar will have the opportunity to participate in the activities of an international Mellon Foundation project on the study of the Qur'an hosted at Notre Dame.

MI 63487 Hagiography

Ann Astell

In recent years, a burgeoning scholarship on medieval and early modern hagiography has explored its literary conventions; its expression in a variety of forms: chronicles, romances, sermons, legenda, sequences, hymns, drama, (auto)biography, visual art, and parody; its social, cultural, and political uses; its relationship to historical and biblical writing; its complex authorship; and its depiction of gender. Less frequently has hagiography been studied in relation to specifically theological questions (biblical, moral, liturgical, and dogmatic). Drawing upon the theoretical resources of narrative theology, dialogical hermeneutics, and theo-aesthetics (in combination with the resources of other disciplines) participants in the seminar will seek answers from various perspectives to the question: What is the theological significance of the saint's Life?

MI 66020 Directed Readings-Grad

Various Professors

Offers graduate students a possibility, normally in their second or third year, to work closely with a professor in preparing a topic mutually agreed upon. Student and professor must sign a form that records the readings.

MI 67001 2nd Year Research Tutorial I

Various Professors

An intensive program of reading in primary sources (preponderantly in the original language) and scholarly literature with a view to identifying a worthwhile, original research project, for completion in the following semester.

MI 77001 Field Examination Preparation

Various Professors

Offers students a possibility, normally in their second or third year, to work closely with a professor in preparing for one of their field examinations.

MI 77002 Dissertation Proposal Prep Various Professors

Offers students the opportunity to work with their adviser in preparing their dissertation proposal.

MI 83441 Moral Theology of Aquinas William Mattison

This course is an examination of St. Thomas Aquinas' moral theology. It takes its starting point from Thomas' own writings, and engages these texts as part of an ongoing and living tradition by examining them in historical context, attending to their sources, and mining them for their wisdom on enduring questions of moral theology. Students are thus invited to participate in the tradition of Thomistic moral theology by engaging his texts and as well as his historical and contemporary interlocutors.

MI 83461 Care of the Dead Robin Jensen

This interdisciplinary seminar considers practices surrounding the care of the dying, funeral rites, burial practices, mourning, and beliefs about the resurrection of the body in early Christianity. Students will engage texts as well as physical evidence (e.g., tombs, cemeteries, memorial inscriptions, and visual art) to gain a broad understanding of the ways Christian practices and beliefs about death and the afterlife are both like and unlike those of their non-Christian contemporaries.

MI 88001 Resident Dissertation Research Various Professors

Independent research and writing on an approved subject under the direction of a faculty member.

MI 88002 Nonresident Dissertation Rsrch Various Professors

Required of nonresident graduate students who are completing their theses in absentia and who wish to retain their degree status.

MI 90203 Middle Scots Literature Tim Machan

This course will explore the wealth of literature associated with Scotland from about 1300 to 1603 and the unification of the Scottish and English crowns. During this time, Scots writers (or makars) drew widely on models from the Continent (especially Latinate traditions), England, and Scotland itself. They addressed political issues like Scottish independence, literary issues like the fashioning of native Scots traditions, social issues like the legal infrastructure of Scotland, cultural issues like the impact of Humanism, and whimsical issues like the wisdom of animals. Often bypassed because of its language and because it does not fit neatly into paradigms of English literary history, Middle Scots literature produced some of the greatest and least read masterpieces of medieval Britain, including John Barbour's *Bruce*, Robert Henryson's *Moral Fables* and *Testament of Cresseid*, William Dunbar's lyrics, Gavin Douglas's *Palis of Honour* and *Eneados*, Richard Holland's *The Buik of the Howlat*, and David Lindsay's *Dreme*. We will read many of these works for their intrinsic and historical significance, and also consider relations between Middle Scots literature and textual production, including the importance of large individual manuscripts (like the *Bannatyne*, *Asloan*, and *Maitland* manuscripts), the repurposing of Scots poems in southern Middle English works, and the impact of Edinburgh's nascent printing trade.

MI 93365 Med Theories of Universals: Medieval Theories of Self Richard Cross

This class will examine theories of universals in the middle ages, focusing on the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, but where relevant considering the background to such theories in late antiquity and earlier Islamic philosophy.

MI 98200 Dissertation Completion Various Professors

This course is a required course for graduate students who have completed 8 years of study.