

**MI 60007 Codicology, or the Archaeology of Manuscript Books****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 60118 Translating Old English Poetry****Christopher Abram**

The most famous translator of Latin into Old English, King Alfred, recommended translating sometimes 'word for word' and sometimes 'sense for sense'. But how would we apply his advice to poetry, where the relationship between the text's words and the sense(s) it conveys is particularly vexed, fluid, open, or strained? Or where making 'sense' is not even the communicative goal of the text? In this course, we will examine all aspects of the art and science of translating Old English verse. We'll introduce ourselves to translation theory as it applies to poetry; we'll delve into Old English verse aesthetics in an attempt to understand what makes these poems worth translating, what we can hold on to and what we have lost from the poetic idioms available to us; we'll look at the history of translating Old English in the modern era, and we'll read and discuss many translations by professional scholars and professional poets alike. Naturally, we will also translate lots of Old English poetry ourselves, but our goal will not be the production of sterile, philologically 'correct' glosses to the texts, but to see how we might recapture the force and beauty of the poetry in modern English, or to see what we might gain from transforming or deforming it in a spirit of creative and critical experimentation. This course is open to all: students of modern poetry, practising poets and medieval specialists alike will have much to contribute to our discussions. Knowledge of the Old English language is not a prerequisite for this course-students will be able to pick up the essentials as we go along. Alongside full participation in classroom activities, this course will require students to submit two polished, annotated translations of their own and one research paper.

**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 60414 Introduction to Early Christianity**

**Khaled Anatolios**

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 60439 Medieval Ecclesiology**

**Yury Avvakumov**

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 60494 Jewish Piety & Mysticism**

**Jeremy Brown**

Course surveys major traditions of Jewish piety and wisdom from the Ancient Period to the Middle Ages, with an emphasis on the novel modes of exegesis and theology developed in late thirteenth-century Iberia that are synonymous with the medieval kabbalah. Students will explore writings by Moses Nahmanides, Ezra of Gerona, Joseph Gikatilla, and examine the homilies of the Zohar. Themes include repentance, contemplative prayer, Torah, prophecy, knowledge of God, imitatio dei, God's male and female attributes, divine names, and the Hebrew language.

**MI 60473 Eucharist**

**Kim Belcher**

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".

## *Medieval Institute Graduate Course Descriptions Fall 2024*

### MI 60783 Gregorian Chant in Roman Rite

Rebecca Maloy

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 63209 Pro-Seminar in the High Middle Ages, 1100-1400

Daniel Hobbins

This course is designed to introduce students to major topics under discussion in the history of the high and later middle ages, roughly the years 1100-1400. Students are expected to keep up with the reading and paper assignments from week to week, and come to class prepared to discuss the readings. Beyond the regular writing assignments (more or less weekly), there are three major writing assignments, one due after spring break and one at the end of the semester, with another tucked in between. Diligent work in this course will serve students as good preparation for general field exams in the high middle ages.

### MI 63582 Petrarch: Poetry in Motion

Theodore Cachey

Francis Petrarch (1304-1374), the son of a Florentine exile, “begotten and born in exile,” famously described himself a “peregrinus ubique” (a stranger everywhere [Epystole 3.19.16]). Seeking to transcend the alienations of the journey of life and his exiled existential status, the poet restlessly pursued in his writings an unstable equilibrium between arrival and departure, shuttling back and forth between residences and literary works: between Avignon and Vacluse, between the De viris and the Africa, between Naples and Parma, between the De vita solitaria and the De otio, between Milan and Venice, between the Bucolicum carmen and the Epystole, between Padua and Arquà, between the Canzoniere and the Triumphi. The seminar will be offered in English and will focus on Petrarch’s vernacular poetry, both the Canzoniere (Songs and Sonnets) and the Triumphi (The Triumphs), upon which his worldwide literary reputation is based. But before taking up the Canzoniere and the Triumphi, we will consider the life of Petrarch, his intellectual activities and his other works, including selections from his epistolary collections (Familiarum Rerum Libri [Letters on Familiar Matters] and Seniles [Letters of Old Age]) and other Latin works, especially the Secretum. In recognition of the recently commemorated 700 th anniversary of Dante’s death in 2021, Petrarch’s complex response to the imposing legacy of his predecessor will constitute an important strand of inquiry throughout the course. Advanced undergraduate students are welcome. English translations of Italian and Latin primary sources will be made available and utilized. Requirements: seminar presentations, and a final paper. (Taught in English)

### MI 66020 Directed Readings-Grad

Varies by Section

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 67001 2nd Year Research Tutorial I

Varies by Section

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.

## *Medieval Institute Graduate Course Descriptions Fall 2024*

### MI 67706 History of Christian Architecture

Robin Jensen

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 67706 Special Studies - Medieval

Marius Hauknes

Independent study in Medieval art history under the direction of an individual faculty member.

### MI 77001 Field Examination Preparation

Varies by Section

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 77002 Dissertation Proposal Preparation

Varies by Section

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

### MI 88001 Resident Dissertation Research

Varies by Section

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

### MI 88002 Nonresident Dissertation Research

Varies by Section

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 83226 Aquinas on Grace

Joshua Lim

To speak of grace is to speak of God's freely given gift by which recipients are made pleasing to God in order to participate supernaturally in the divine life. Within the history of Christian theology, the doctrine of Aquinas is significant—whether seen in contrast to the soteriologies of the Magisterial Reformers or Eastern doctrines of theosis. In this course we will examine Aquinas's theology of grace as it appears in his mature work, the *Summa theologiae* from a systematic and historical perspective. We will see how the doctrine is related to Aquinas's broader theology in his doctrine of God, his doctrine of mission, his treatment of the theological virtues and gifts of the Holy Spirit, and his Christology. The examination will set Aquinas's doctrine against the backdrop of twelfth- and thirteenth-century discussions on grace and predestination with a particular eye to the reception of the late Augustine in Aquinas and his proximate predecessors (Peter Lombard) and contemporaries (the authors of the *Summa Halensis* and Bonaventure of Bagnoregio).

MI 83346 Aquinas on the Soul

John O'Callaghan

This course will examine Aquinas' discussion of soul from earlier works like the Disputed Question on Spiritual Creatures to later works like the Disputed Question on the Soul and Aquinas' Disputed Question on the Soul and questions 75 and 76 of the first part of the Summa Theologiae. Distinct from and proceeding in a different order from his commentary on Aristotle's *De Anima*, they provide an opportunity to fill out various issues that arise in an abbreviated form in the Summa, including the status of the soul as both a bodily form and a particular subsistent, its incorporeality, immateriality, and incorruptibility, whether it is composed of parts, its relationship to its powers, and various questions concerning what it can know and what it can suffer or enjoy apart from and following bodily death. We will also consider contemporary discussions of material constitution and Aquinas, discussions that seek to show that Aquinas holds that the human person survives death as a soul.

MI 83404 John Chrysostom: Preacher and Exegete

Blake Leyerle

Not only a famous preacher, John Chrysostom was an astute exegete: according to John Meier, the best among the early Christian writers. In this seminar, we will examine these two central aspects of his work. After a preliminary discussion of preaching in fourth-century Antioch, we will turn to Chrysostom's homilies on the Old Testament (primarily, Genesis, Kings, and Psalms) to see how they exemplify his exegetical and rhetorical techniques. In the second half of the semester, we will shift our focus to consider Chrysostom's self-understanding as a preacher. What were his goals, and how did these reflect his understanding of his audience? In answering those questions, we will be especially interested in the role of the emotions, and the related question of whether Chrysostom should be understood as a medico-philosophical teacher. In addition to preparing the weekly readings and participating actively in our discussions, the main work of the semester will consist of producing two short (5-6 page) papers: the first on an exegetical passage, and the second on a pastoral topic. These will be presented to the seminar during the class following break and again on the last day of the semester.

MI 90194 Medieval Lyric

TBD

This course will study the short poetry and song culture of multilingual medieval England from Caedmon's eighth-century hymn through fifteenth-century carols, with forays onto the continent where the troubadours and trouvères flourished. Taking a "whole poem" approach to the texts, we will situate them within their manuscript contexts and consider their relation to music, narrative, and the rituals of city, church, and court. We'll ask why poets—whether clerks, laureates, or amateurs—wrote in verse and how audiences used their poems to learn, meditate, remember, and entertain. Topics will include translation, affectivity, cognition, dialogism, and reading practices. As we'll see, the short poetry of this period confounds modern expectations of lyric as a genre and rhymes with postmodern lyric theories and contemporary poetic craft.

MI 98200 Dissertation Completion

Varies by Section

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