MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE STUDIES

The past several years have witnessed growing undergraduate interest in Medieval & Renaissance Studies at the College: enrollment in Medieval & Renaissance Studies courses in the Spring of 1993 reached 684 students. The core faculty who teach in these areas would like to formalize an Interdisciplinary Studies concentration in Medieval & Renaissance Studies. The goal is to provide a conscientious survey of the way traditional disciplines always in fact complement and nourish each other when addressing Western European studies from 500 to 1600. Students should emerge with a strong knowledge of Western history, literature, culture and fine arts from this period. Those who choose to pursue graduate work in any of the traditional academic disciplines will find themselves well prepared in their field and well equipped to do research enriched by broader perspectives.

The administration of the Program in Medieval & Renaissance Studies will come under the faculty committee for the Program as appointed by the Dean of Arts and Sciences. The Director of the Program, elected from within the Faculty Committee by its members, will work in consultation with the Director of Interdisciplinary Studies to advise students and direct them toward departmental faculty representatives who can help them focus disciplinary specializations and complementary second majors or minors.

The Interdisciplinary concentration in Medieval and Renaissance Studies shall consist of not less than thirty-three credit hours, of which fifteen are required and eighteen are elective.

The fifteen required credit hours shall include one of three special introductory Core Courses (INTR351, Introduction to Medieval Studies, INTR352, Introduction to Renaissance Studies, or INTR451, The Medieval Book), as well as one course from each of the five required areas (The Core Courses, Historical Context, Art History, Language and Literature, Religion). Eighteen additional elective hours are to be chosen by each student from courses on the master list (see the full presentation of the program). In addition, concentrators must complete two college-level courses in Latin or the equivalent, as well as one course above the 202-level in a modern European language including Arabic, ancient or modern Hebrew or ancient Greek (In Translation courses are forbidden). Concentrators who intend to pursue graduate studies are strongly encouraged to seek language training beyond this minimum requirement, and also to prepare a second concentration, or at least a minor, in one of the traditional disciplines represented.

Students will have a designated faculty Advisor in Medieval & Renaissance Studies to help them arrange a coherent program in keeping with the degree requirements of the College and to certify that progress is being made toward graduation. The Director of the Program will help concentrations choose an advisor corresponding to the department of their greatest academic interest.

Participating faculty include: Paula Blank, Maryann Brink, Miles Chappell, John Conlee, James Kornwolf, Thomas Finn, George Greenia, Dale Hoak, David Holmes, LuAnn Homza, John McKnight, Don Monson, Monica Potkay, Jennifer Taylor, Talbot Taylor, Franco Triolo, Barbara Watkinson, John Williams and others.