

# PROGRAM-SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES - MEDIEVAL STUDIES

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Competencies are the skills, knowledge and attributes gained through every work, educational, volunteer and life experience.

UVic students in the [Medieval Studies](#) program develop the following program-specific competencies. We worked with the Department of Medieval Studies to develop this document.

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## CRITICAL THINKING

**Critically evaluates the different types of evidence employed in the study of the Medieval world**

- + Develops skills in analyzing a wide variety of written, visual and archaeological sources
- + Understands the importance of historical and cultural context in the interpretation of texts and artifacts
- + Determines the critical questions to be asked of a text or artifact
- + Formulates original arguments and expresses them succinctly in written and spoken presentations

## HISTORICAL AWARENESS

**Demonstrates an awareness of the history and culture of the Medieval period**

- + Understands the major civilizations of the Medieval period through the evidence of primary texts, art, architecture, and archaeology
- + Describes past issues or events in the Medieval period in historical terms
- + Gains a knowledge of the fundamental works of Medieval literature in Medieval Europe and the Islamic Middle East
- + Studies the origins and development of the relationship between Islam and Christianity
- + Develops an awareness of the continuing relevance of aspects of Medieval culture upon the contemporary world

## HISTORICAL METHOD

**Utilizes a systematic method of enquiry in the interpretation of the Medieval period.**

- + Employs a wide variety of textual and physical evidence in the reconstruction of Medieval history and culture
- + Compares and contrasts the viewpoints of Medieval writers from different geographical regions and/or religious communities
- + Appreciates the importance of gender in the study of Medieval culture
- + Understands the principal historiographic traditions of the Medieval world
- + Evaluates contrasting viewpoints of past events presented by modern scholars of the Medieval period

## SOCIAL AND CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE

**Understands texts, visual culture and material culture in their social and cultural contexts.**

- + Understands the means by which knowledge was generated and transmitted in Medieval cultures
- + Assesses the enduring importance of classical scholarship upon the intellectual and artistic traditions of the Medieval world

- + Critically evaluates the role of religious belief in the formation of Medieval societies
- + Analyzes the origins, development and cultural significance of myths in Medieval societies
- + Appreciates the cultural interactions between different ethnic, religious, political, and socioeconomic communities during the Medieval period