PROGRAM-SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES - MEDIEVAL STUDIES

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