MEDIEVAL CHRONICLE

Program of Medieval Studies
University of Wisconsin – Madison
Spring 2022

The Medieval Studies Program has had another busy semester! We began our activities this year with a very well-attended workshop for faculty and graduate students on Diversity and Medieval Studies. Our discussion revolved around three very different, but all equally thought-provoking articles (Susan Burch and Ian Sutherland, "Who's Not Yet Here? American Disability History"; Jonathan Hsy, "Performing Medievalism, Crafting Identities" (the introduction to his *Antiracist Medievalisms. From "Yellow Peril" to Black Lives Matte*r); and Troy Storfjell, "The Ambivalence of the Wild: Figuring the Sámi in Pre-Colonial and Colonial Discourse to the Eighteenth Century."

The "Jerusalem in the Medieval and Modern Imagination" series has continued into its fourth semester with both in-person and online events. MPS hosted lectures by Prof. Dilshat Harman (Center for Visual Studies of the Medieval and Early Modern Culture, Russian State University for the Humanities in Moscow) and Prof. Brendan Goldman (University of Washington). Prof. Suzanne Yeager (Fordham University), Prof. Michael Lower (University of Minnesota) and Prof. Lisa Mahoney (DePaul University) gave lectures and led workshops for faculty and graduate students. These visits have been co-sponsored by the Anonymous Fund, the Medieval Studies Program, the History Department, the Art History Department, the Institute for Research in Humanities, the Middle East Studies Program, and the Center for Religion and Global Citizenry.

The Medieval Studies Program also organized a lecture, "Health Fraud in the Medieval Genoese Slave Market," and an accompanying workshop, led by Prof. Hannah Barker (Arizona State University) and sponsored by the University Lectures Fund and the History Department.

The MSP also co-sponsored two events: an International Symposium *Dante after Dante*, organized by the Department of French and Italian at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary, and multimedia conference, and a lecture by Professor Justin Steinberg's (University of Chicago), organized by the Center of Early Modern Studies.

I am very pleased to announce our new series of public lectures and workshops, "In Sickness and Health: Modes of Care in the Middle Ages," which will run in 2022/23. The series has received funding from the Anonymous Fund, History Department, Art History Department, and Religious Studies Program, and has received support from several other departments and programs. The series will deal with the long history of care work, care workers, medieval / modern pandemic parallels, the ethics of care, medical and pharmaceutical knowledge and knowledge transmission, cultural productions in the face of and as response to catastrophe, and the intersections between medicine and theology, among many other topics. Our plan is to invite

eight distinguished experts (four for in-person visits and four virtually).

Congratulations to our four students who have received their Undergraduate Certificate in Medieval Studies this Spring! I hope you keep in touch!

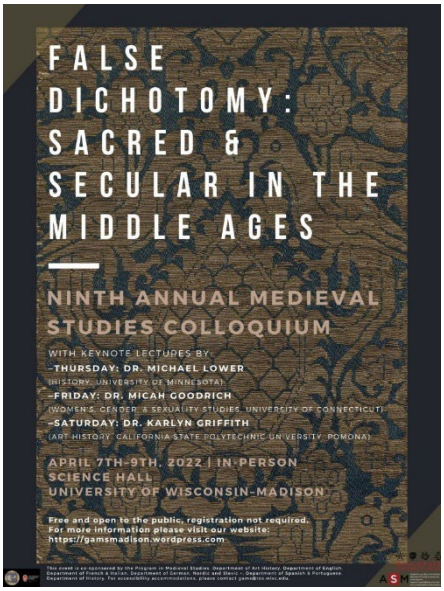
Graduate students have begun signing up for the new Doctoral Minor in Medieval Studies this year, so we hope to be able to celebrate the first recipients soon.

As I cede the crown of Director of Medieval Studies Program, I would like to wish my successor, Prof. Lisa Cooper, the best of luck and to thank my two PAs, Hamni Hyemin Park and Patrick Eickman, for their hard work on behalf of the program.

With best wishes,
Dr. Elizabeth Lapina
Associate Professor and Director of the Medieval Studies Program

False Dichotomy: Sacred and Secular in the Middle Ages

Ninth Annual Medieval Studies Colloquium



The Graduate Association of Medieval Studies (GAMS) hosted their Ninth Annual Medieval Studies Colloquium, April 7th–9th, 2022 in-person for the first time since 2019. The theme "False Dichotomy: Sacred & Secular in the Middle Ages" brought graduate students together from six institutions across the country with one presenter from Canada. Medieval studies graduate students volunteered their time as session moderators, Sarah Friedman (Ph.D. Candidate, English), Nayoung Kim (Ph.D. Candidate, Art History), Christopher Herde (Ph.D. Student, History), Helen Smith (Ph.D. Student, English), Aaryn Smith (Ph.D. Student, English), Claire Kilgore (Ph.D. Candidate, Art History), and with logistics, Holly McArthur (Ph.D. Student, Scandinavian Studies). We also had several UW–Madison students present papers at this year's colloquium: Alice Main (Ph.D. Candidate, History), Francesca Bua (Ph.D. Student, English), Tirumular (Drew) Narayanan (Ph.D. Student, Art History), Holly McArthur (Ph.D. Student, Scandinavian Studies), Claire Kilgore (Ph.D. Candidate, Art History), Benjamin Isaacs (Advanced Undergraduate), Sarah Friedman (Ph.D. Candidate, English), Patrick Eickman (Ph.D. Student, History), and Tiffany VanWinkoop (Ph.D. Student, History).

This year the Medieval Studies Colloquium had three keynote guest lecturers, two in-person, Dr. Michael Lower (Minnesota, History) and Dr. Karlyn Griffith (Cal Poly Pomona, Art History), and one virtual, Dr. Micah Goodrich (UConn, Women and Gender Studies).

The GAMS officers, Tania Kolarik (Co-President, Ph.D. Candidate, Art History), Charlotte Whatley (Co-President, Ph.D. Candidate, History), Claire Kilgore (Vice President, Ph.D. Candidate, Art History), Patrick Eickman (Treasurer, Ph.D. Student, History), and Abby Armstrong Check (Scribe, Ph.D. Student, History) would like to thank all of our fellow

medieval studies faculty, graduate students, and department sponsors for helping to make this conference happen.

Faculty News

The Medieval Studies Program is very happy to welcome a new faculty member, **Dr. Michael Paul Martoccio** to the University of Wisconsin-Madison!

"I am a historian of Renaissance Italy whose work intersects history, economics, and political science to examine inter-urban military and economic cooperation. In particular, I am interested in how Renaissance Italians built durable financial networks, legal institutions, and ethical discourses to prevent or limit international violence. I received my BA in History and Medieval/Renaissance Studies at Duke University in 2007 and my PhD in History with a Minor Specialization in Politics from Northwestern University in 2015. I have held fellowships at The Ohio State University and Northwestern University and taught at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs and University of Colorado, Boulder. My work has been supported by The Renaissance Society of America, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the Newberry Library, and has appeared in The Journal of Interdisciplinary History as well as published collections by the University of Toronto Press and Cambridge University Press. My monograph-in-progress, *Leviathan for Sale*, examines for the first time the market for city-states: the practice of Renaissance Italian cities buying and selling neighboring towns and castles within Italy and across the Mediterranean. Drawing upon original financial data from Florence and Venice alongside diaries, written and visual artistic production, and civic rituals, *Leviathan for Sale* exposes how the politics, economics, and culture of the Renaissance owed as much to the lands Italian cities bought as it did the wars they fought. As part of The European Fiscal-Military System 1530-1870, I will specialize in the hub of Genoa. In particular, my research focuses on multiple international networks expanding out from Northern Italy including the exchange (*asiento*) network of the Del Negro, Durazzo, and Pallavicini families; the supply chain of British and French remittances from London/Lyon to their forces in Spain; and the role of Genoese intermediaries in supplying saltpeter to European armies."

https://www.michaelpaulmartoccio.com/

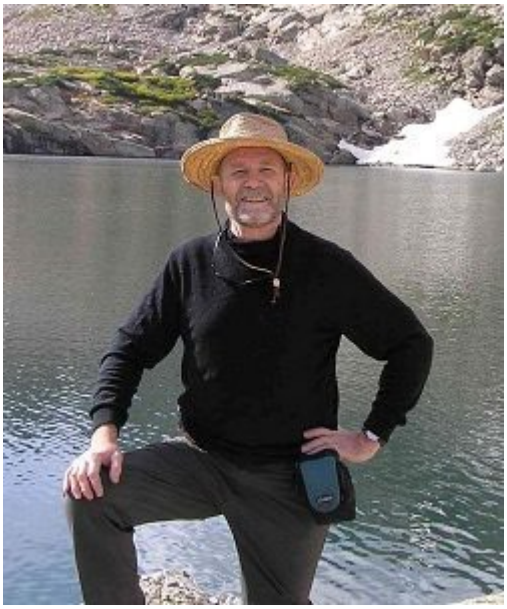
Dr. Scott Mellor is the faculty director of the Norden Language floor in the International Learning Community and works with the Bradley Learning Community for first-year students. Dr. Mellor was elected the executive office of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study and is the co-editor of a volume on Finland-Swedish culture, for which he is writing an article on the Åland Islands. Scott teaches a First-year Interest Group on the medieval Sagas for which he was written up in *Inside UW* for his innovative use of games and gaming to explore images of the medieval Nordic countries in pop culture. Asking the question "Can video games really teach us history?" he decided to find out. To give the students a sense of intellectual confidence (part of the Wisconsin Idea), he started the class with a conversation on those aspects of Viking imagery with which they are familiar; images they have seen in popular culture. TV shows such as *The Vikings* and *The Last Kingdom* loom large in popular culture today. However, many students come to these images of the past through gaming, a multi-billion-dollar industry, that is arguably more influential than the TV and movie industry. Games like *Skyrim*, *Assassin's Creed: Valhalla*, and even *Minecraft* are popular games that reference the medieval period that students have frequently heard of and played. By starting with conversations centered around these TV shows and games, Dr. Mellor hoped to create an aspect of intellectual confidence, since the students often know these games better than he and promote an intellectual curiosity (another aspect of the Wisconsin Idea) as a jumping point for the course. Each student played *Assassin's Creed: Valhalla*, taking note of certain themes during the semester. He then used this curiosity to explore images of the past, including social, historical, race, and gender imagery found in the games and the relationship of these images with the medieval North and its relationship to the historical past. Dr. Mellor found this to be a very successful method, for both learning and engagement, and hopes to continue using it in the future.

Prof. Lisa H. Cooper presented the paper "You Can Touch This (Because You Already Have): Everyday Expereince in Thomas Norton's *Ordinal of Alchemy*" at the Sewanee Medieval Colloquium at the University of the South in early April.

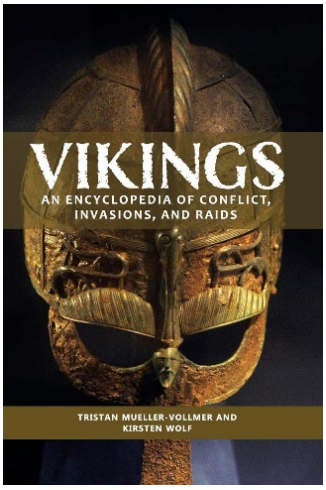
Prof. Thomas Dale has been selected by the Art History Department to be the Simona and Jerome Chazen Distinguished Chair of Art History, for 2022-2027. This will support the completion of his book on Race and Cultural Encounter in Medieval Venice and other research initiatives.

Prof. Elizabeth Lapina was chosen to serve as Faculty Director of the Academic Program in Aix-en-Provence, France during the academic year 2022-23.

Professor Emeritus John Niles has published a chapter, "Reassessing Anglo-Saxon Origins from a Eurasian Perspective," in a new collection of critical essays titled *Global Perspectives on Early Medieval England*, edited by Karen Louise Jolly and Britton Elliott Brooks (Woodbridge: Boydell, 2022), pp. 139-70. The volume opens up new perspectives in Medieval Studies by considering how the emergence of English cultural identity in the early medieval period was interpenetrated by developments in other parts of the world. Putting pressure on the concept of the "Germanic," Niles's essay looks backward from the period of the formation of the early Anglo-Saxon kingdoms to trace the antecedents of certain elements of the elite culture of that period in the Empire of the Huns, the major northern counterpart to Rome, and beyond that in the steppes of Eurasia more generally.

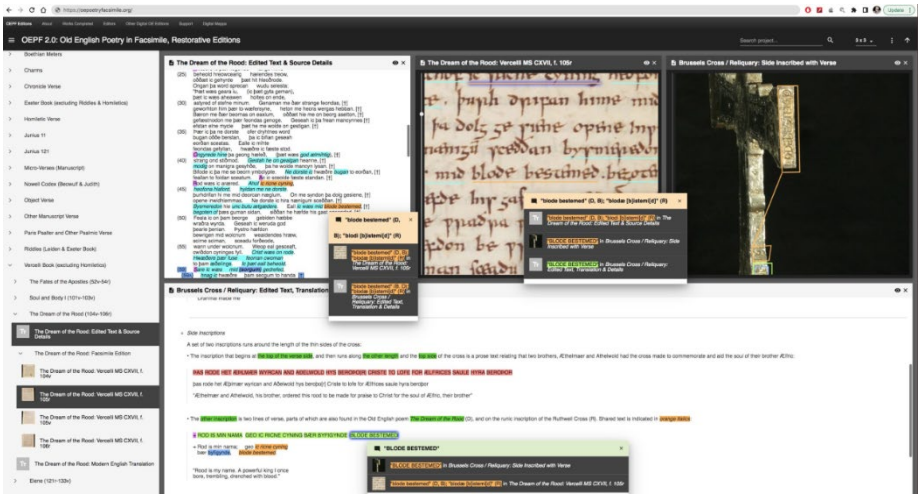


Congratulations to **Prof. Kirsten Wolf** on her new book *Vikings: An Encyclopedia of Conflict, Invasion, and Raids*, co-authored with Tristan Mueller-Vollmer and published with ABC-CLIO!

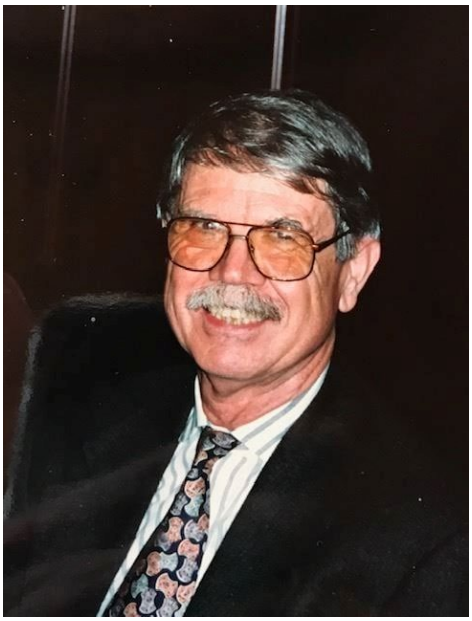


Last month the open-access *Old English Poetry in Facsimile* project of **Prof. Martin Foys** passed the significant milestone of 10,000 lines (and over 170 works) of Old English verse re-edited to on-line digital facsimiles. *OEPF* marked the occasion in style with the publication of a digital edition of the Vercelli Book's famous poem *The Dream of the Rood*, cross edited with the Brussels Reliquary Cross, with which it shares text. This coming summer, senior editor Prof. Martin Foys and funded contributing editors Carsten Haas (German, Nordic, Slavic+), Aaryn Smith, Kyle Smith and Alex Ukropen (English) will publish new digital editions of over 3200 lines of Old English poetry from 40 individual works, over 10% more of the entire Old English poetic corpus, which will put the project over the halfway point to completion.

You can check out *OEPF* for yourself at https://oepoetryfacsimile.org, and follow the project's progress on Twitter: @digitalmappa



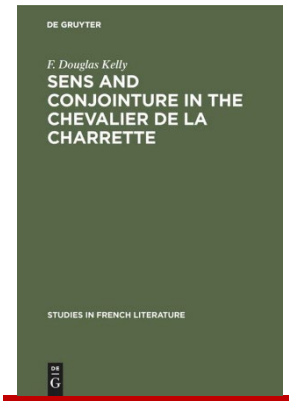
Douglas Kelly Obituary

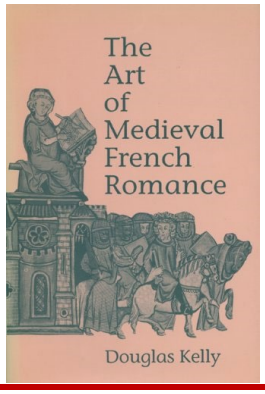


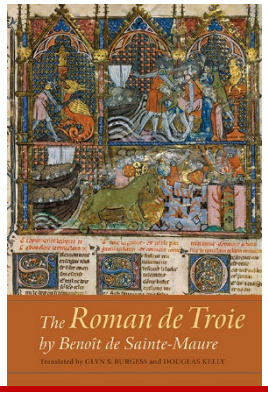
Douglas Kelly, Julian Harris Professor of Medieval French Emeritus at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, passed away on March 21st, 2022. He was 87 years of age. One of the great medievalists of his generation, Douglas Kelly was a dedicated Arthurian, although his scholarly interests went far beyond the *matière de Bretagne*. His publications are too numerous to list, but his doctoral dissertation on Chrétien's *Charette*, published as *'Sens' and 'Conjointure' in the 'Chevalier de la Charette'* (1966) was the first in a series of books which revealed the underpinnings of vernacular romance in the Latin arts of poetry. Douglas Kelly was a student of Julian Harris in Madison, where he spent his entire career. His landmark study in the field of medieval romance is surely *The Art of Medieval French Romance* (1992), shortly followed by a synthesis of the topic in *Medieval French Romance* (1993). These major publications were all complemented by articles on individual romances, many little studied. It is no exaggeration to say that his work contributed to a major re-evaluation of the genre. He also edited several collections of essays by colleagues, some resulting from colloquia he had organized. His *Analytic Bibliography* of Chrétien de Troyes (1976) was followed by a major supplement (2002). Outside of Arthurian studies, Douglas Kelly published books on *Medieval Imagination: Rhetoric and the Poetry of Courtly Love* (1978), the *Roman de la Rose* (1995), and, more recently, *Christine de Pizan's Changing Opinion* (2007) and *Machaut and the Medieval Apprenticeship Tradition* (2014). A collection of earlier articles, *The Subtle Shapes of Invention*, was published in 2011. His last major publication was a translation of Benoit de Sainte-Maure's *Roman de Troie*, co-authored with Glyn Burgess (2017). Douglas Kelly was honored with a Festschrift, *Conjunctures* (1994), containing thirty-nine essays contributed by colleagues, former students, and friends.

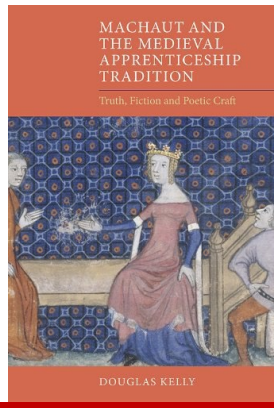
At the UW, in the Medieval Studies Program, and in the Department of French and Italian, Douglas was a constant voice of reason in many discussions, a willing and able member of important committees, a firm believer in the importance of preparing well-rounded graduate students both within and without the program, and a dedicated advocate for the university and its mission. His courses and seminars in medieval French literature prepared two generations of medieval specialists who have demonstrated their critical acumen and pedagogical expertise at colleges and universities across North America. In addition to his teaching responsibilities in French, Douglas was also instrumental in developing new interdisciplinary, team-taught course offerings at the advanced undergraduate level in the Medieval Studies Program thanks to a grant from the NEH, and he also served a term as its chair. His service to the university was exemplary, serving on, among others, the Graduate School Research Committee. For his all-around excellence as a scholar, teacher and contributor to the UW, Douglas was presented with the Hilldale Award for 1993-94, a recognition that honors only the *crème de la crème* of the faculty. One of the enduring memories of Douglas was his annual presence, often with his graduate students, at the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University, where thousands of medievalists from around the world would congregate in early May. The annual trek to Kalamazoo, often in a UW fleet vehicle, was a much-anticipated time for reunions with friends and scholars from around North America and Europe. Douglas's long and valuable presence in and his many and diverse contributions to our Department, to the University, and to the profession more generally are reminders of the crucial role he played in our collective

academic life and monuments to his magnanimous spirit.
An inspiring teacher, many of his students have gone on to distinguished careers in North American universities and colleges. Douglas Kelly was a great scholar, teacher, and the best of men. He will be sorely missed.





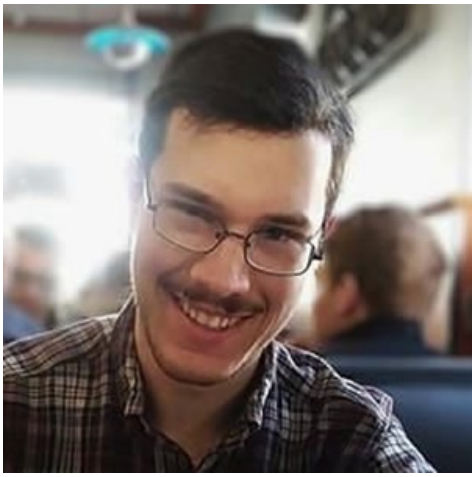




Graduate News

Chris Herde (Ph.D. Student, History) received the University of York Centre for Medieval Studies prize for best dissertation of 2021 for his thesis "Bidayat al Sul: a New Approach to Understanding the Art of Furusiyya." In March 2022 Chris Herde presented his paper, "Sites of Slavery in Frankish Acre" at the 21st Vagantes Conference on Medieval Studies in Case Western University (Cleveland).

Claire Kilgore (Ph.D. Candidate, Art History) presented her paper "Seeing, Tasting, and Touching: Sensing the Holy Pregnant Body in the Later Middle Ages" at the 21st Vagantes Conference on Medieval Studies and presided over the Vagantes Board of Directors meeting in her capacity as Chair of the Vagantes Board of Directors.



Patrick Eickman (Ph.D. Student, History) received Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowship for the Summer 2022 to continue his studies in Polish.

On March 11th he presented his paper "Illuminating Jews as Balts: Racial Ambiguities in the Teutonic Order's *Apokalypse*" as part of the Rethinking Monstrosity and Race in Medieval and Early Modern Text and Image session at the 2022 Medieval Academy of America Annual Meeting.

Tiffany Van Winkoop (Ph.D. Student, History) attended the annual Byzantine Studies Conference in Cleveland, Ohio (hosted by Case Western Reserve University) as one of the inaugural members of the Byzantine Studies Association of North America (BSANA) Graduate Committee. In the course of the three-day conference the first ever Graduate Student Panel organized by the Graduate Committee occurred.

In March 2022, Tiffany returned to Case Western Reserve (Cleveland) for the 21st Vagantes Conference on Medieval Studies where she presented her paper titled "Reception (Halls) of the First Crusade: Assessing Komnenian Foreign Policy in 1096-1097."

In May 2022, Tiffany will be presenting (virtually) for the Oxford Byzantine Graduate Seminar under the working title "Blueprints of Power: Roman Statecraft and Politics in Konstantinos VII's 'Book of Ceremonies.'"

Tirumular (Drew) Narayanan (Ph.D. Student, Art History) presented his paper, "'As Black as Ink": Text-Image Mismatches in Les Grandes Chroniques de France (Royal MS 16 G VI)" on Friday, March 11th as part of the Rethinking Monstrosity and Race in Medieval and Early Modern Text and Image session at the 2022 Medieval Academy of America Annual Meeting.

Tania Kolarik (Ph.D. Candidate, Art History) will be chairing the Historic Interiors Group sponsored session "Material Religion Through the Sacred Interior" at the Society of Architectural Historians' 76th Annual International Conference that will take place April 12–16th, 2023 in Montréal, Canada. The CFP will open through the Society of Architectural Historians website on April 19th, 2022.

Tania Kolarik also attended the 21st Vagantes Conference at Case Western Reserve (Cleveland) in her role as Webmaster on the Board of Directors. She took pictures and posted to social media throughout the conference, acted as a judge for the paper prize, and attended the Board of Directors meeting.

Andie Barrow (Ph.D. Student, English) presented their paper, "'Turkes' and 'Sultans' on the Isle of Mann: Political and Prophetic Others in The Turke and Sir Gawain" on Friday, March 11th as part of the Rethinking Monstrosity and Race in Medieval and Early Modern Text and Image session at the 2022 Medieval Academy of America Annual Meeting.

Charlotte Whatley won the First Annual Sandoway Graduate Writing Prize from the history department for my dissertation chapter, "Materiality and Authority: Creating the Plea Rolls, Creating Authority."

She was also one of the recipients of the 2022-2023 Dana-Allen Dissertation Fellowship, awarded by the Institute for Research in the Humanities at UW Madison.

Finally, she will be teaching Legal Studies 476/History 476: Medieval Law and Society from May to June of the Summer 2022 session.

Sarah Friedman (Ph.D. Student, Department of English) was recently awarded a Schallek Award and a Lemoine-Midelfort Fellowship to conduct research in England for my dissertation project this summer. Sarah Friedman also received the English Department Dissertator Fellowship.

Lemoine Fellowship

Congratulations to three graduate students who have won the Lemoine Fellowship this year!

Tania Kolarik (Art History), "The Fabric of the Trecento: The Culture of Textiles in the Long Fourteenth Century"

Claire Kilgore (Art History), "Sensing the Bodily Interior: Pregnancy and the Generative Body in Religious and Medical Practice in Late Medieval Germany"

Sarah Friedman (English), "Spectacular Pain: The Male Experience of Women's Suffering in Late Medieval England"

The Lemoine-Midelfort Fellowship was established as a memorial to Professor Fannie Lemoine (Classics and Comparative Literature).

Incoming Graduate Students

Luke Sturm is an incoming PhD student focused on the medieval Roman state. He is completing a Bachelor's degree in Classical Languages, Physics and Mathematics at the University of Oklahoma in May. He is interested in cultural exchange between the Latin and Greek worlds during the twelfth century. He will work with Prof. Leonora Neville (History).

Benjamin Wilson is an incoming PhD student in Scandinavian Studies for the Fall 2022 semester. Originally from eastern Pennsylvania, he received his Bachelor of Arts degrees in History, Medieval Studies, and Political Science from Penn State University. His focus of research for his undergraduate honors thesis was the Viking conversion to Christianity under the supervision of Dr. Benjamin Hudson. At UW, he plans to pursue his interests in Scandinavian studies and medieval history. Outside of academics, he enjoys hiking, music, and spending time with his boyfriend.

Schulenburg Prize

Congratulations to Cole Roecker on winning Schulenburg Prize for his paper 'Singing Out of Time: Avian Atemporality in Medieval and Nineteenth Century Texts', which he wrote in Prof. Lisa Cooper's English 803 class. Cole Roecker is a third-year undergraduate student majoring in English literature, history, and French. He particularly enjoys environmental humanities, with a special interest in ornithological literature and history. His enthusiasm for medieval studies began with Professor Lisa Cooper's English 241 survey on early English literature. Since beginning his medieval studies with one of his favorite texts, Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, he has appreciated the many medieval courses he has since taken at UW-Madison. Following graduation, he hopes to attend graduate school in English literature or history. He would like to thank the Program in Medieval Studies for their wonderful instruction and for this recognition of his work. Thank you to Jennifer Pruitt and Scott Mellor for serving on the Schulenburg Prize Committee.

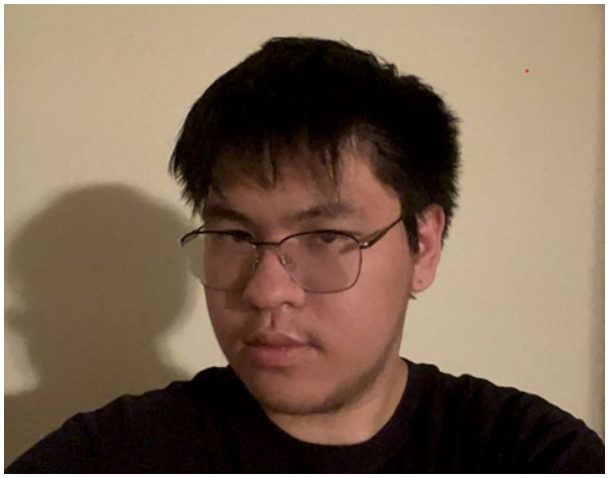
Undergraduate Certificate News

A certificate alumni got in touch with us! **Julia Talbot** (BA'89) graduated with History major, a certificate in Medieval Studies and a concentration in Creative Writing. After graduation, she taught at an alternative high school in Chicago followed by graduate school in Public Administration at the University of Maine. She graduated with concentrations in community and economic development and research methodology. Her thesis topic examined the role of entrepreneurship as a poverty alleviation measure. She currently works for the City of Chicago in social service procurement. Here is how the program shaped her:

"I totally fell into the certificate. I happened upon a trifold brochure about the certificate while

in my last year at UW and realized that I had completed all or almost all of the requirements. At the time, no one had completed a certificate in many years. My professors, while supportive, had clearly forgotten about the certificate as an option. I am so happy to see that this program has continued and grown at UW. While I have not used my medieval studies certificate or knowledge professionally, rarely a week goes by that I do not reflect on what I learned through the coursework (mostly that human nature has not changed much), or actively employ the research and analytical skills I learned on my way to the certificate/degree. Other than those rather large gifts, my other main takeaways are that I am really annoyed by the gross historical inaccuracy of Renaissance fairs and am occasionally good for trivia and crossword puzzle answers. I have also been known to brag about graduating with seven (different!) copies of Beowulf."

Congratulations to **Thomas Yan** (BA'22) for graduating with a Certificate in Medieval Studies as well as majors in History, Anthropology, Math and Physics! Thomas writes:



"I ventured into the art and history of the Middle Age through a class about the Byzantine, and since then I have come to know a Medieval world that is colorful, vibrant, and never fails to capture my imagination. We studied manuscripts, sagas, letters, and many more! One of the most special parts of my experience is learning about the history of Black Death in a time of global pandemic. It really convinces me that history often repeats itself. I might not have a chance to work in a related field, but the program has provided me the tool to better understand our past and present."

Congratulations to **Benjamin Isaacs** for graduating with three majors in Scandinavian Studies, Cartography & Geographic Information Systems, and Geography, and a certificate in Medieval Studies. Benjamin writes:

"I was always attracted to the mysterious oblivion of the so-called Dark Ages, and through my Scandinavian Studies major was able to take several classes that revealed the nature of the era. These classes looked at the Middle Ages through many lenses and mediums, including literature (like The Sagas of Icelanders, which I have come to devote much time to analyzing through my studies of the Icelandic hot springs), film (including what is now one of my favorites, Ingmar Bergman's "The Seventh Seal"), and archaeology (learning both history and a new alphabet with runestones!). I was also able to hone in on my individual interests by conducting a directed study with Professor Kirsten Wolf, in which I analyzed the intersection of landscape and culture in medieval Iceland in my essay, "The Hot Springs of the Icelandic Sagas: A History and Analysis", which

won the Schulenburg Prize for best undergraduate paper on a medieval topic in 2021. I presented this paper at the Ninth Annual GAMS Medieval Studies Colloquium and hope to have it published in an academic journal in the near future. I am planning on continuing my interests in Medieval Studies after graduation by applying to the University of Iceland's Viking & Medieval Norse Studies graduate program, where I will spend two years earning a master's degree at several institutions across Scandinavia."

For alumni profiles, as well as information on forthcoming events, visit our website: medievalstudies.wisc.edu

You can now find Medieval Studies Program at UW-Madison on Facebook!