

The Medieval Studies program at the University of Connecticut in collaboration with the Center for Professional Development presents the first Medieval Studies Secondary Schools Outreach Seminar

The Fate of Medieval Europe & the Black Death

A One-Day
Seminar
for
Middle and
High School
Teachers



Friday
April 3, 1998

University of Connecticut
Student Union Building, Room 382
Storrs, Connecticut

Intent and Description

This seminar is designed to provide and promote discussion of a major topic in the history and culture of the Middle Ages, the impact of the great plague that struck Europe in 1347. Assessing the effects of the Black Death and its many recurrent visitations over the late medieval period has long generated tremendous controversy among scholars. Our speakers, all of whom research and teach this important period, hope to give some sense of that debate by discussing select topics of current interest in their own work, from the standpoint of both content and teaching.

It is the conviction of the Medieval Studies faculty that such an outreach initiative to secondary school teachers is an essential part of the mission of the University of Connecticut, and that, as educators, we may all benefit from an opportunity to meet, exchange information and ideas, and debate important topics. Additionally, and perhaps obviously, the faculty of the Medieval Studies program believe in the importance of fostering understanding of the history and culture of the Middle Ages, the formative age of European history and, therefore, a fundamental root of our modern western societies.

Faculty Speakers

Sherril Olson is an associate professor of History at the University of Connecticut. Her field is late medieval history with a special focus on English agrarian society. Her first book, published in 1996, is a comparative study of self-government and cultural change in the late medieval village.

Thomas Jambek is an associate professor of English at the University of Connecticut. His areas of specialty are medieval drama and history of the English language. He is currently researching the influence of contemporary theology on 15th century English drama and is at work on an electronic collection of all English grammars up to 1800.

Benjamin Liu is an assistant professor of Spanish language and literature in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages. His field is the literatures of medieval Spain, and he is currently engaged in research on the poetry of jokes and laughter of medieval Spain.

Jean Griens is an associate professor of Art History at the University of Connecticut. Her field is the history of medieval art and architecture, with a special focus on English gothic sculpture. She has recently completed a book on the observation of nature in medieval art.

Seminar Program

9:00 Registration and coffee
Room 386, Student Union Building

9:45 **Welcoming remarks**, Room 382
David Benson
Medieval Studies Program

10:00 *Sherril Olson*,
"The 'Great Mortality' and the Social Response"

10:30 *Thomas Jambek*
"The Image of Mankind in the Late Middle Ages"

11:00 Break

11:15 *Benjamin Liu*
"Deadly Doctors and Medical Practice in the Middle Ages"

11:45 **Morning wrap-up and preliminary questions**

12:00 Lunch

1:30 *Jean Griens*
"Picturing the Black Death"

2:15 **Question and answer session and discussion with audience**

3:15 **Closing remarks**

Enrollment Information

Fee
The registration fee of \$60 includes all costs of instruction and refreshment breaks. Registrants wishing to receive CEUs must pay an additional \$15. Registrants can purchase lunch at several convenient locations, such as Jonathan's Restaurant or the Nutmeg Grille in the Student Union Building, or at lunch trucks on campus.

Location
The seminar will be held in Room 382 of the Student Union Building on the Storrs campus of the University of Connecticut.

Refunds
The registration fee is refundable, less \$15, up to 48 hours prior to the first day of the program if you notify our business office at 860-486-4905 or 800-622-9905. Participants who do not attend and fail to cancel are subject to the full fee. Participant substitutions may be made. The Center for Professional Development reserves the right to change instructors and cancel or reschedule the program in the event of insufficient enrollment or unforeseen circumstances.

Further Information
Please direct questions regarding program content to Professor Sherril Olson, Department of History, at 860-486-3552 or 3722. For information on other program arrangements, please call the Center for Professional Development at 860-486-3231.

Continuing Education Units (CEUs)
Connecticut Department of Education CEUs are available to teachers at a cost of \$15.00. You will be awarded .4 CEUs for this program.



This series is approved by the Center for Professional Development, University of Connecticut, which is an approved provider of Connecticut Department of Education CEUs (provider no. 706).

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