INTENT & DESCRIPTION:

This seminar, which is the tenth annual program in our outreach series, is designed to assist public school educators in their study and teaching of the history and culture of medieval Europe and the Mediterranean world. This year the program focuses on the medieval environment and the creation of ‘space.’ Hollywood and historical novelists depict medieval Europe as a primordial landscape thickly covered by virgin forests, a place where human beings were “minor interlopers” (Michael Crichton, *Timeline*), but in terms of human settlement and impact upon the environment, Europe by the beginning of the second millennium was already “old country” (to paraphrase historian R.V. Lennard). Medieval people from all walks of life created sacred and social ‘spaces,’ shaped natural landscapes, and were anxious to manage resources carefully and curb environmental degradation. Our presenters for 2008 include faculty from the departments of Music, Art & Art History, and History; and new this year, the outreach includes a recent graduate of the Medieval Studies Program, and a current Ph.D. candidate in that program to present their research.

The Medieval Studies Outreach series, which began in 1998, is offered in the hopes that public school and university educators will benefit from the opportunity to exchange ideas and discuss current scholarship on topics we all teach in our classes. The program’s mission has been enhanced, since 2004, by making this a cooperative venture with UConn Early College Experience.
**Faculty Participants**

**Eric Rice** is Assistant Professor of Music History and Director of the *Collegium Musicum* at the University of Connecticut. A specialist in music of the Middle Ages and Renaissance, his scholarship is focused primarily on music of the Western liturgy and its relationship to architecture, politics, and secular music. Current projects include “Young Choristers, 600-1750,” a co-edited collection of essays on child singers, and a book entitled “Music and Ritual at Charlemagne’s Marienkirche in Aachen.”

**Sherri Olson** is Associate Professor of History and Co-Director with Professor Robert Hasenfratz of the Medieval Studies Program at the University of Connecticut. Her research interests are the social and cultural history of the late medieval village, peasant mentality, and monastic estate administration. Her newest book, *A Mute Gospel: The People and Culture of the Medieval English Common Fields*, is forthcoming from the press of the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies. She is currently working on a book entitled *Daily Life in a Medieval Monastery*, a volume for the ‘Daily Life through History’ series for Greenwood Press.

**John P. Sexton** is Assistant Professor of English at Bridgewater State College in Massachusetts, and a 2007 Ph.D. graduate of the University of Connecticut’s Medieval Studies Program. His teaching focus is on medieval British and northern European literature. His most recent publication is an article on the early hagiography of the Anglo-Saxon cult of St. Swithin. He is currently writing a book examining the legal and hagiographical history of sanctuary in medieval England, tentatively titled “In the Saint’s Embrace: The Sanctuary Privilege in Medieval Religious Writing.”

**Thomas Jambeck** is Associate Professor of English and Head of the Medieval Studies Program at the University of Connecticut. His specialty is medieval drama and the history of the English language. He has recently published, with Professor Robert Hasenfratz, *Reading Old English*, a text which is currently being added to by the authors. He is also working on an essay on the religious backgrounds of the Towneley Creation Play.

**Erin Heidkamp** is a Ph.D. candidate in the Medieval Studies Program at the University of Connecticut. She received a grant from the *Deutsche Akademische Austausch Dienst* (German Academic Exchange Service) to conduct archival research in Germany in 2006, and in 2007 was awarded a scholarship to present her research at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. Her dissertation focuses on relations between Cistercian monasteries and the communities (urban and rural, noble and lay) in which they were established. She is also interested in environmental history and medieval urban ecology.

**Jean Givens** is Associate Professor of Art History at the University of Connecticut. Her research on scientific illustration and representations of the natural world has been supported by recent fellowships from the NEH and the ACLS (American Council of Learned Societies). Her publications include *Observation and Image-Making in Gothic Art* (Cambridge, 2005) and a co-edited volume, *Visualizing Medieval Medicine and Natural History, 1200-1500* (Ashgate, 2007). She recently completed a new book on the illustration of medieval texts on herbal medicine: *Reading Beyond the Text: Word, Image and the Illustrated Tractatus de herbis.*

**Seminar Program**

9:00—10:00  Registration and Coffee
Period music will be provided during registration by the University of Connecticut *Collegium Musicum*, Director, Eric Rice (Music)

10:00—10:15  Welcoming Remarks
Sherri Olson (History), UConn ECE Faculty Coordinator for History

10:15—11:00  John Sexton (Assistant Professor, University of Bridgewater) “The Tenants of the Holy Ones: Saints as Landlords in Medieval England”

11:00—11:45  Erin Heidkamp (Ph.D. candidate, Medieval Studies, University of Connecticut) “Brothers from the ‘Hood: The Monks of Altenberg Abbey, 1133-1511”

12:00—1:00  Lunch

1:00—1:45  Jean Givens, (Art & Art History) “Picturing the Medieval Landscape”

1:45—2:30  Sherri Olson (History) “Notions of Thrift in History: Re-cycle & Re-use in the Middle Ages”

**Enrollment Information**

Who should attend: This seminar is open to all secondary school teachers in the state of Connecticut who teach History, Social Studies and English. Students participating in History 100 through UConn Early College Experience are warmly invited to attend. Instructors teaching History 100: Western Traditions Before 1500 through UConn Early College Experience are encouraged to attend.

Fee: A registration fee of $35.00 includes all costs of instruction, lunch and parking. UConn ECE instructors and students may attend at no charge. Students who are not registered through UConn Early College Experience will be charged a registration fee of $15.00.

Location: The seminar will be held in the CUE Building, Room 134 on the campus of the University of Connecticut, Storrs.

Refunds The registration fee is refundable, less $15, up to 48 hours prior to the start of the program. To cancel, please call the ECE office at 860-486-1045. Participants who do not attend and fail to cancel are subject to the full fee.

Further Information: Please direct questions regarding program content to Professor Sherri Olson, Department of History, at (860) 486-3552 or 3722. For information on other program arrangements, please call UConn Early College Experience at (860) 486-1045.