

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY CHANNEL ISLANDS**

**NEW COURSE PROPOSAL**

DATE MARCH 7, 2006  
PROGRAM AREA ART

**1. Catalog Description of the Course.** *[Follow accepted catalog format.]*

**Prefix** ART **Course#** 353**Title** THE MEDIEVAL WORLD: SPIRITUALITY AND REPRESENTATION

**Units** (3)

**3 hours** Lecture **per week**

☐ **Prerequisites**

☐ **Corequisites**

**Description** This course will investigate the essential visual modalities of expression and reflections developed during the medieval period. The discussions will include examples from the western as well as non-western tradition. This course will focus its analysis on revealing the diverse representation and visual meaning of medieval spirituality in a variety of historical and geographical contexts.

☒ **Gen Ed** **Graded** ☐ **CR/NC** ☐ **Repeatable for up to**      **units**

**Categories** C-1

☐ **Lab Fee Required**

**X A - F**

☐ **Optional** (Student's choice)

**Total Completions Allowed**

☐ **Multiple Enrollment in same semester**

**2. Mode of Instruction.**

	<b>Units</b>	<b>Hours per Unit</b>	<b>Benchmark Enrollment</b>	<b>Graded Component</b>	<b>CS #</b> (filled in by Dean)
Lecture	3	1	40	X	
Seminar				<input type="checkbox"/>	
Laboratory				<input type="checkbox"/>	
Activity				<input type="checkbox"/>	

**3. Justification and Learning Objectives for the Course.** (Indicate whether required or elective, and whether it meets University Writing, and/or Language requirements) *[Use as much space as necessary]*

This upper division general education course is open to both art majors and non-majors. The topic of the course covers a very important art historical period not discussed in any other class offered in the program. This class will widen the choices art majors have in selecting their upper division art history courses required for graduation. These requirements are: a minimum of two (6 units) upper division art history courses for the studio option and a minimum of 6 courses (18units) upper division art history courses for the art history option. The course will also provide other students with additional courses for their GE and elective requirements This course will introduce students to the diverse and complex links between art and spirituality/religion in the Medieval world. The cross-cultural and cross-geographical analysis will expose the development of visual and theoretical vision of this period from the end of the Roman Empire to the beginning of the Renaissance. The discussions will focus on the relationship between images and texts that led to the development of a very complex visual codification of concepts and feelings. The course will provide the students with the tools for understanding the creation and deciphering of symbols and will examine the dynamics between narratives and representations in the middle ages. The course will demonstrate the use of specific art historical methodologies to analyze works of art. To enhance the learning experience of the students a variety of activities will be included. In addition to lectures the course will include discussions, visual presentations, readings, and museum visits. This comprehensive understanding of the period will enable students to reflect beyond the specificity of the time period and develop personal artistic views and opinions, which they will be able to express in oral and written form. The museum visits will give students the opportunity to see original art and to critically reflect upon museum practices and their role in preserving, displaying, and defining the narrative of art and its history for contemporary viewers.

**Learning Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

*(Press enter for the next bulleted item)*

- Identify and discuss the connections between medieval art, history and spirituality in various religions and cultural contexts of the period.
- Outline and discuss the specificity of art and cultures in the middle ages.
- Critically compare various artistic development of the period across different geographical areas.
- Interpret the significance of art in medieval cultures and consequently understand the relevancy of the material studied in class to contemporary culture.
- Analyze the processes of creating symbols and decipher the visual meanings of images within the middle ages and apply this knowledge to modern signs.
- Critically identify and analyze the role of art, artists, audience, patrons, materials, in the middle ages.
- Explain the mechanisms of visual and cognitive processes and art historical methodologies learned in this course and apply them to various written and oral assignments in this and other courses.
- Present and communicate effectively their points of view in oral and written form.
- Analyze the role of modern cultural institutions, such as museums, and novel resources, such as the web, in preserving and interpreting medieval art and past artistic traditions.

Students' assessment will be based on:

Term/research paper

Class participation

Take-home reflective essays/ and or reading/ museum reports

Final exam

4. Is this a General Education Course      YES ☒      NO ☐  
If Yes, indicate GE category and attach GE Criteria Form:

**A (English Language, Communication, Critical Thinking)**

A-1 Oral Communication

☐

A-2 English Writing

☐

A-3 Critical Thinking

☐

**B (Mathematics, Sciences & Technology)**

B-1 Physical Sciences

☐

B-2 Life Sciences – Biology

☐

B-3 Mathematics – Mathematics and Applications

☐

B-4 Computers and Information Technology

☐

**C (Fine Arts, Literature, Languages & Cultures)**

C-1 Art

☒

C-2 Literature Courses

☐

C-3a Language

☐

C-3b Multicultural

☐

**D (Social Perspectives)**

☐

**E (Human Psychological and Physiological Perspectives)**

☐

**UD Interdisciplinary**

☐

5. **Course Content in Outline Form.** *[Be as brief as possible, but use as much space as necessary]*  
*(Press enter for the next bulleted item)*

1. Medieval narratives and representations: a cross-cultural analysis.

2. Architecture and spirituality: meanings, experiences and forms.
3. Defining spirituality in visual terms: medieval canons and patterns.
4. Deciphering medieval symbols: a cross-cultural view.
5. The dialogue between image and text in the medieval world.
6. Institutions, events and influences in the middle ages: a cross-cultural analysis.
7. Identities and values in medieval art

Does this course overlap a course offered in your academic program? YES ☐ NO ☒

If YES, what course(s) and provide a justification of the overlap?

Does this course overlap a course offered in another academic area? YES ☐ NO ☒

If YES, what course(s) and provide a justification of the overlap?

Signature of Academic Chair of the other academic area is required on the consultation sheet below.

**6. Cross-listed Courses (Please fill out separate form for each PREFIX)**

List Cross-listed Courses

Signature of Academic Chair(s) of the other academic area(s) is required on the consultation sheet below

Department responsible for staffing: ART

**7. References.** *[Provide 3 - 5 references on which this course is based and/or support it.]*  
(Press enter for the next number)

1. Cantor, Norman F., The Civilization of the Middle Ages, HarperCollins Publishers, 1994.
2. Diebold, William J., Word and Image, Perseus Publishing, 2002.
3. Fiero, Gloria, The Humanistic Tradition, Book 2: Medieval Europe and the World Beyond, Vol. 2., McGraw-Hill, 2001.
4. Le Goff, Jacques, Medieval Civilization, 400-1500, Barnes and Noble, 2000.
5. Marilyn Stokstad, Medieval Art, Prentice Hall, 2004

**8. List Faculty Qualified to Teach This Course.**

Irina D. Costache Ph.D and other art history faculty

**9. Frequency.**

a. Projected semesters to be offered: Fall ☒ Spring ☒ Summer ☐

**10. New Resources Required. YES ☐ NO ☒**

If YES, list the resources needed and obtain signatures from the appropriate programs/units on the consultation sheet below.

- a. Computer (data processing), audio visual, broadcasting needs, other equipment)
- b. Library needs
- c. Facility/space needs

**11. Will this new course alter any degree, credential, certificate, or minor in your program? YES ☐ NO ☒**  
If, YES attach a program modification form for all programs affected.

Irina D. Costache, Associate Professor of Art History  
Proposer of Course

11/6/2005  
Date

**Approvals**

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Program Chair	Date
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General Education Committee Chair	Date
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Curriculum Committee Chair	Date
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## GE CRITERIA APPROVAL FORM

Course Number and Title: **Art 340.**

THE MEDIEVAL WORLD: SPIRITUALITY AND REPRESENTATION (3)

Faculty Member(s) Proposing Course: Irina D. Costache

**Indicate which of the following categories would be satisfied by this course by marking an "X" on the appropriate lines.**

Courses may be placed in up to two GE categories as appropriate. Upper Division Interdisciplinary GE courses may be placed in two categories plus the UDIGE category.

	A1: Oral Communication
	A2: English Writing
	A3: Critical Thinking
	B1: Physical Sciences
	B2: Life Sciences
	B3: Mathematics
	B4: Computers and Technology
x	C1: Fine Arts
	C2: Literature
	C3: Languages & Cultures
	D: Social Perspectives
	E: Human Psychological & Physiological Perspectives
	Upper Division Interdisciplinary GE

Lab Included? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No x\_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a brief explanation of how the proposed course meets each of the criteria for the selected General Education categories.

Category C courses:

Develop students' ability to respond subjectively as well as objectively to experience

Cultivate and refine students' affective, cognitive, and physical faculties through studying great works of the human imagination

*Students will be exposed to the connections between art, history and religion in various cultures.*

*The course will analyze the ways in which religion and spirituality have influenced and defined art within diverse cultural and geographical contexts of the medieval world*

\* Increase awareness and appreciation in the traditional humanistic disciplines such as art, dance, drama, literature, and music

*Students will learn the meaning and cultural values of art in a variety of medieval cultural contexts*

- Examine the interrelationship between the creative arts, the humanities, and self

*Through comparative analyses students will learn about the processes of making art and reflect about their continuous relevancy to contemporary times and their own identity.*

\* Include an exposure to world cultures.

*Students will learn about medieval art in a variety of contexts from different continents.*

**Category C-1 Art courses shall:**

- Impart knowledge and appreciation of the visual and performing arts.

*Students will learn about medieval art and its links to history, religion, conceptual contexts and visual culture*

*Students will learn to use the mechanisms of visual and cognitive processes and art historical methodologies in new contexts*

*Students will examine the ways in which religion and spirituality have influenced and defined art within diverse cultural and geographical contexts of the medieval world*

- Promote students' ability to effectively analyze and respond to works of human imagination

*Students will critically analyze the meaning of images within their original context and in relationship to contemporary cultures.*

*Students will become visually more literate through an understanding of art as a vehicle for disseminating ideas and triggering emotions.*

*Students will develop a greater understanding of the visual environment and the value of the art.*

*Field trips to museums and galleries will give the students the opportunity to better understand the complex diversity of the arts and the continuous meanings and values of past traditions.*