



Summer 7-21-2010

## Medieval Studies Minor Goes Live in Fall 2010

Winthrop University

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### Recommended Citation

Winthrop University, "Medieval Studies Minor Goes Live in Fall 2010" (2010). *Winthrop News 2010*. 101.  
<https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/winthropnews2010/101>

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# Medieval Studies Minor Goes Live in Fall 2010

## Quick Facts

- The minor in Medieval Studies (MDST) is an 18-hour interdisciplinary minor.
- Approved in 2009, the minor includes courses in English, art history, anthropology, theatre and more.

ROCK HILL, S.C. - This August, Winthrop students will be ready to go medieval on their transcripts.

Beginning in fall 2010, students can declare the **minor in Medieval Studies (MDST)**. Approved in April 2009, the **18-hour interdisciplinary minor** offers three dozen courses – both existing and newly created – that are particularly useful to students studying fields such as history; English; political science; philosophy and religious studies; art history; music; theatre and dance; and modern languages.

**Jo Koster**, professor of English, and **Laura Dufresne**, professor of art history, began discussing the idea for a new minor about six years ago. The two collaborated with **Peter Judge**, chair of Philosophy and Religious Studies, and **Andrew Vorder Bruegge**, chair of Theatre and Dance, to create the program. The minor, which took two years to put together, includes interdisciplinary courses in English, anthropology, history, art history and more, as well as a variety of relevant special topics courses. The program also allows students to pursue global studies opportunities.

The **minor in MDST**, Koster explained, is an excellent way “to pull together students’ interdisciplinary interests in pre-modern studies.” She noted that the program will prove especially helpful to students who want to go into pre-modern fields of study.

Students in the **MDST minor** will be encouraged to meet with members of the **Medieval Studies Advisory Committee** to explore ways to study medieval culture and history abroad. In the future, the program may expand to offer more global study opportunities, as well as create additional special topics classes geared toward medieval studies.

**Koster** added that the medieval period – an age of near-constant change and shift – has much to illustrate about the modern world.

“The medieval period is a good mirror of our period: There was popular resistance to government; people were examining the role of faith in their lives; the role of women was changing on a daily basis; and new technologies were changing the way people thought about their world,” said Koster.

For more information about the medieval studies minor, contact Koster at 803/323-6557 or [kosterj@winthrop.edu](mailto:kosterj@winthrop.edu), or [visit the Medieval Studies Minor website](#).

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IN THE HEART OF THE CAROLINAS

