Dr. Jennifer MacDonald  
Office: 447 BAC  
Office Hours: Until Spring Break – M 2:45-5:30, W 4:45-5:30, F 10:30-11:00  
After Spring Break – M 2:45-4:45, W 1:40-3:40  
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**Course Description:** Learn the history of medieval Europe through art, architecture and archaeology. Study culture through manuscript illumination, metal-working, stained glass, and sculpture; secular and ecclesiastical architecture; settlement, burial and landscape archaeology. Topics may include cross-cultural contacts, regional variation, stylistic changes, social structure, religions, preservation and conservation.

**Course Objectives:** Using objects, you will learn about medieval people and medieval life. Through this course, you will learn about artistic and architectural techniques and developments. You will become comfortable forming your own opinions about material culture and learn to express them, both in oral and written formats. Moreover, you will learn a vocabulary that will help you when looking at different genres from diverse periods and places.

**Marking**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Record your mark</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>Continuously</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment files</td>
<td>January 24, February 24, &amp; April 4</td>
<td>3@ 10% each</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>January 29 &amp; February 28</td>
<td>2@ 10% each</td>
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<tr>
<td>Story Board Sign up</td>
<td>January 20</td>
<td>1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annotated Story Board</td>
<td>March 17</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>March 31–April 4</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>See Registrar’s Office</td>
<td>25%</td>
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**Textbook**

Schedule and Textbook Readings. The full reading list will be on Acorn.
This is a guideline. Topics will be covered in roughly this order, but topics may carry on into the next day(s) depending on this class’s particular interests. I have only listed here the readings from your textbook. All other readings are available through Acorn. Acorn sources will be added throughout the term. Overall, you may notice significant changes as the term progresses. All adjustments will be discussed in class and it is your responsibility to stay on top of the reading schedule.

January 6  Introduction to the course
January 8  Late Roman, Jewish, and Early Christian- S&C: p. 215-231. Also, take note of p. 562-570.
January 10  Early Christian (continued) and Byzantine- S&C: p. 231-248
January 13  Celtic and Germanic- S&C: p. 428-434
January 15  Migration Period
January 17  Christian Art in the British Isles- S&C: p. 435-438
January 20  Vikings- S&C: p. 441-444
January 22  Carolingians- S&C: p. 444-452
January 24  Landscape
January 27  Early Medieval other media
January 29  Quiz 1
January 31  Early Islamic- S&C: p. 264-277
February 3  Middle Byzantine Art- S&C: p. 248-258
February 5  Ottonian- S&C: p. 452-457
February 7  Guest Speaker
February 10  Romanesque Architecture- S&C: p. 458-478
February 12  High Medieval Landscape
February 14  Romanesque Sculpture- S&C: p. 478-487
February 17-21  See Acorn for office hours
February 26  Romanesque other media- S&C: p. 467, 487-489
February 28  Quiz 2
March 3  Early Gothic Art and Architecture in France- S&C: p. 495-515
March 5  Early Gothic Art and Architecture in England- S&C: p. 515-520
March 7  Early Gothic Art and Architecture in Holy Roman Empire- S&C: p. 520-524
March 10  Early Gothic in Italy- S&C: p. 525-529
March 12  Late Medieval Technologies
March 14  Late Gothic France- S&C: p. 530-533, 548-554
March 17  Late Gothic England- S&C: p. 554-557
March 19  Guest Speaker
March 21  Late Gothic Holy Roman Empire- S&C: p. 557-561
March 24  Conservation Issues
March 26  Late Byzantine and Islam- S&C: p. 258-263, 277-293
March 28  Looking towards the Renaissance- S&C: p. 533-548
March 31  Presentations
April 2  Presentations
April 4  Presentations
April 7  Wrap up and Review
Description of Assignments
As this is a new area of study for many of you, I am asking you to do several assignments. These are intended to help you build your knowledge of the material and to help me monitor your progress.

General Instructions, Referencing and formatting: All papers must be properly referenced using Turabian style footnotes and bibliographies. You may not cite class lectures. You may not use Wikipedia or other non-specialist websites. If you have questions about acceptable web resources, come see me. Please double space your papers, use a font like 12pt Times New Roman, use 2.54cm margins, and number your pages. Add a title on at the beginning of your paper, include my name and the course number, and put your name on the right hand side of the first page. If you are having problems with any assignment, please come see me during office hours.

Participation: You are expected to do the readings for each class. You will be marked on oral participation and written work done during class in groups and/or as individuals. You will also be given marks for contributing to Acorn. Criteria for marking include sophistication and completeness of ideas, originality of thought, knowledge of material covered and ability to present the material clearly.

Assignment Files: Throughout the term, you will be keeping a file of short assignments. I will collect these three times during the term. Each time you submit your file, you must include the following: 1) a detailed analysis of a new piece of art; 2) discussion of material discussed in class; 3) assignments as described. You must start with an index and end with a bibliography. You are being marked on content, style, grammar, structure and presentation. Further details on each required section are as follows:

1) In the analysis section, you will be creating a three part description of the evolution of a particular genre or material related to a specific theme. For example, you could choose to look at manuscript developments, clothing, evolution of tools of war, or ways of dealing with the dead. There is tremendous scope here for you to choose something that particularly interests you. Focus on one region. In assignment file 1 you will write on the Early Medieval period. Assignment file 2 will be Romanesque and assignment file 3, Gothic. I would like you to concentrate on one or two examples for each assignment file and these cannot be taken from the textbook. You are to find your own images, online or in books in the library. In this section, you should describe the objects on which you are concentrating and situate them within the greater context of their period. Over the course of the term, you should gain a strong understanding of how things changed during the medieval period. These should each be 400-500 words. Illustrations may be helpful in explaining your ideas.

2) In the comment section, you are to write a substantial paragraph or two discussing objects from class and/or from your textbooks. You need to include at least example from each week, including the week of presentations. Analyze the piece concerned and tell me what your opinions are. Remember you are allowed to like or dislike any piece of art. You will be marked on your analysis of the piece and your ability to justify your ideas.

3) These are specific assignments given for individual assignment files. The descriptions of these are given below.

Assignment File 1
You are to discuss a world class museum or library with substantial medieval holdings (ie Vatican Museum, British Library, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, etc.). If you have visited such a place in the past, you can discuss it; otherwise, you will do this by exploring a museum/gallery’s website. Discuss the museum’s range of medieval holdings (chronological, geographical and genres). Give specific examples. Think about how important the medieval collection is to the museum. Consider things such as: does it hold a prominent position with floor/web space comparable to other collections; is it even displayed as a collection; is it a selling point? Word count: 300-400 words.

Assignment File 2
Choose a specific important event from any time in the Middle Ages and write a 300-400 word essay about how we can see that event through material culture.
Assignment File 3

a) We see a number of symbols repeating themselves in the art of the Middle Ages. These are things that you can memorize and they will help you figure out what is going on in individual works of art. I want you to create a list of these, with one specific example for each. I’m letting you decide how long a list you want to make, but I’ll mark as follows: a list of 10 correctly described and illustrated symbols is worth a D; 15 is worth a C; 20 a B; and 25 an A. If you use examples from the textbook, you can give full picture title, figure number and page number. If you use examples from outside the textbook, please also include an image.

b) Also, include a section on the presentations. You will critique your own presentation (100 to 200 words). Tell me what you think went well and how you could have improved.

Annotated Story board: You are working on a major project throughout the entire term. In some ways, this is a whole class project. Your topic needs to focus on an aspect of medieval material culture and I am going to weave together topics of your choice, to create a picture of medieval Europe. I am leaving the topic selection up to you. However, no two topics may be identical.

Sign up: Sign up is on a first come, first serve basis in my office. I will post ‘taken’ topic titles (not student names) on Acorn as soon as I can after receiving them. You may submit your ideas starting now, but they must be in by the deadline listed above.

Annotated Story board: You will explore an aspect of medieval material culture and present your findings through images with a discussion of the elements involved, why they are important, and what they signify. You must delve into significant detail, showing all elements of your topic. I expect there to be substantial visual components and well-crafted explanations. There is considerable leeway in this assignment, but I do expect a rigorous examination of your topic. The absolute maximum word count for the discussions is 2500 words.

Presentation: I will endeavour to pull together your various topics and will orchestrate presentations to unify the totality of the work done. You need to be prepared to explain your contribution in 4 or 5 minutes. You may not go over time. You will be marked on content and presentation style. You need to provide digital visuals to me by 2:00pm, March 21. Missing this deadline will lead to a zero on the presentation. This can be done through Acorn. These will be scheduled by me for dates in late March and early April.

Quizzes: There will be two quizzes in this course. They will include images and essay questions. They may cover any of the material in your assigned readings and anything discussed in class. You must show detailed knowledge of the material.

Exam: The exam will take place during the exam period. It will start with a section that functions as the Gothic Quiz and it will have a cumulative section. The rest will be cumulative, covering material from the entire term. We will talk more about this towards the end of term.

Useful Information

Contact Information
My email address and office number are given at the beginning of this syllabus. If you send an email, please include your full name and the course number. I normally check my email once a day during the week and this term I may not be available some Tuesdays and Thursdays. I never check email in the evenings or on the weekends. You are encouraged to visit the office during my posted office hours and I am happy to arrange to meet you at other times. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, concerns or interests that are not being covered in class. You may post questions of general interest on Acorn.

Class Attendance: The best way to succeed in this course is to come to class. There is a participation mark in this course and if you are not in class, you cannot participate.
**Late Assignments:** Hardcopies of assignments are due at the times specified above. Late assignments will be penalised one letter step per day. If the paper is one week late, it will receive a maximum of 50%. I stamp all hardcopies with date on which I receive them and that is the only date that counts. If you have a legitimate reason for not being able to hand in work on time, please contact me as soon as you can and attach documentation to the assignment when you submit it. The exception to this is the presentation. If you miss the deadline for the submission of digital images for the presentation, you will receive 0% on the presentation.

**Computer Usage:** I expect all students to check their university email on a regular basis. This course makes use of Acorn for discussions, some assignments, updates and the like. Please note: I will not post lectures online. Some websites of interest for this course are:
http://www.rosenweinshorthistory.com/
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/sbook.html
http://omacl.org/
http://www.the-orb.net/
http://www.georgetown.edu/labyrinth/labyrinth-home.html

**Students with disabilities that affect learning:** If you are a student with a documented disability who anticipates needing accommodations in this course, please inform me after you meet with Jill Davies (jill.davies@acadiau.ca or 585-1127) or Kathy O’Rourke (disability.access@acadiau.ca or 585-1823) in Disability Access Services, located in the Student Resource Centre, which is on the lower floor of the Old SUB.

**Writing Centre:** The Writing Centre offers free help to all students wishing to improve their writing skills. You can sign up online today. To book a one-on-one appointment with a writing tutor, see the following:
- is English your first language? writingcentre.acadiau.ca/writing-tutorials.html
- is English a second language? writingcentre.acadiau.ca/esl-writing-tutorials.html
To see which helpful presentations and workshops you might want to attend this year, see the following:
writingcentre.acadiau.ca/workshops-and-presentations.html

**Plagiarism**
The University’s policy on academic integrity, cheating and plagiarism can be found in the Calendar on. It includes the following definitions:
- Cheating is copying or the use of unauthorized aids or the intentional falsification or invention of information in any academic exercise.
- Plagiarism is the act of presenting the ideas or words of another as one’s own. Students are required to acknowledge and document the sources of ideas that they use in their written work.
- Self plagiarism is also a form of plagiarism. It is the presentation of the same work in more than one course without the permission of the instructors involved.
- A student who knowingly helps another to commit an act of academic dishonesty is equally guilty.
- Penalties are levied in relation to the degree of the relevant infraction. They range from requiring the student to re-do the piece of work, through failure on that piece of work, to failure in the course, and to dismissal from the university.

See the Calendar for more on procedures concerning infractions. The Library has a helpful tutorial on plagiarism. It can be found at http://library.acadiau.ca/tutorials/plagiarism/.