

Women in Medieval and Renaissance Europe

COLT 324, 22019R, Spring 2014, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 12:30-1:50 pm, WPH 205

Mothers, wives, and daughters, virgins and saints, queens, witches, and warriors: this course focuses on the representation of women and the conceptions of femininity in European literature of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. This course explores the ideal images and nightmarish fantasies associated with women in these periods and investigates the uses that both male and female writers found for them. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural debates that focused on women: the argument about women, the marriage question, and women's relationships to authorship, government and rule, spirituality, and religious and social reform.

Readings include canonical and non-canonical texts and a variety of approaches, such as cultural, literary, historical, and theoretical. Readings include texts by Boccaccio, Jacobe de Voragine, Hildegard of Bingen, Christine de Pizan, Baldassare Castiglione, Marguerite de Navarre, William Shakespeare, Lope de Vega, and Margaret Cavendish.



COLT L/M/CT Track: This is a Literature concentration course.

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