

OFFERED ONLY THIS SUMMER!

The Art of Chivalry

Knights, Their Cult and Culture 1000-1700

c. 1410-15 St Victor, Breviaire a l'usage de Paris, MS 2 fol. 23r, Bib Muni, Chateauroux.



CROSS-LISTED AS:
ENGL 4290 (23-746)
HIST 4700/6700 (43-747/63-748)
ROML 4120/6120 (53-742/73-743)

WHEN:

SUMMER SHORT SESSION I - 9:15-11:30 DAILY

WHO:

Dr. Tobias Capwell (The Wallace Collection, London, UK)



c. 1462 Joust scene, MS 9017, fol 240r, Biblio Roy, Brussels.

This course will examine the visual, literary, and material culture of the medieval and Renaissance knight in Europe. The fully-armored knight on horseback is a routinely misunderstood figure, shrouded in over two hundred years of stereotyping, lampooning and conflation. The culture of chivalry has often been misinterpreted because of its pronounced contextual complexity – it cannot be understood through the exclusive study of documents, or of pictorial representations, or of surviving material evidence such as weapons and armor. The knight was at once a socio-political figure, a heroic symbol, an economic problem, a demonstration of high technology, a professional sportsman, and a deadly warrior. Therefore we will explore his history in a suitably interdisciplinary way.

On this journey through seven centuries we will examine the knight in all his multi-layered intricacy. We will examine his portrayal by poets, historians, artists, and –perhaps most importantly– by himself, in the form of chivalric texts, histories, and treatises on horsemanship and the martial arts, written by knights for knights. We will trace him through the study of such diverse sources as illuminated manuscripts, funerary effigies, martial arts manuals, and even everyday objects such as candlesticks, mirror-cases and “aquamanile”. By combining the exploration of the knight’s physical world (notably the real function and use of his horse, weapons and armor) with literary and art-historical investigations, we will build up a more complete sense of the actual significance of the knight in his beautiful and dangerous world. Since the medieval knight was a “global” figure who operated in an international arena the course will focus broadly on English, French, Italian and Spanish source material. *Given in English.*



c. 1415 Perseus and Andromeda, Works of Christine de Pisan, British Library, Harl. 4431, fol 98v.



Dr. Capwell is Curator of Arms and Armor at The Wallace Collection. He is one of the top specialists in the world on European arms and armor of the Middle Ages and Renaissance, and the materiality of chivalric culture. His books include *The Royal Armouries: Armour and Equipment for the Joust* (forthcoming), *The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Knives, Daggers & Bayonets* (2009), *A Celebration of Arms and Armour at Hertford House* (2008), and *The Real Fighting Stuff: Arms and Armour at Glasgow Museums* (2007).

This course is part of the Summer 2010

FRANKLIN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM (FISP)



The purpose of the *Franklin International Scholars Program* is to move beyond traditional paradigms of student study abroad and pursue substantive faculty collaborations with partner institutions throughout the world. In this sense Franklin College shares the mission of UGA’s Office of International Education, and *FISP* will be a key element of that mission. Since teaching and research are indissolubly linked, participants in the *Franklin International Scholars Program* will always be expected to teach as well as to conduct research. Teaching a class will allow international scholars to rehearse their research agendas before an enthusiastic and critical audience of UGA students. As a means of promoting interdisciplinarity, when possible the international scholars will teach split-level graduate/undergraduate classes, or cross-listed courses at either level. In addition, they will be expected to deliver one public lecture at the Athens-Clarke County Library.

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Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, the Office of International Education, the Office of the Vice President for Instruction, UGA-Croatia Program Fund, UGA en Buenos Aires Study Abroad Program, the Georgia Center for Continuing Education Conference Center & Hotel, the Department of Comparative Literature, the Department of English, the Department of Germanic & Slavic Studies, the Department of History, the Department of Romance Languages, the Department of Sociology, the Department of Speech Communication, the Latin American & Caribbean Studies Institute, and the Linguistics Program.