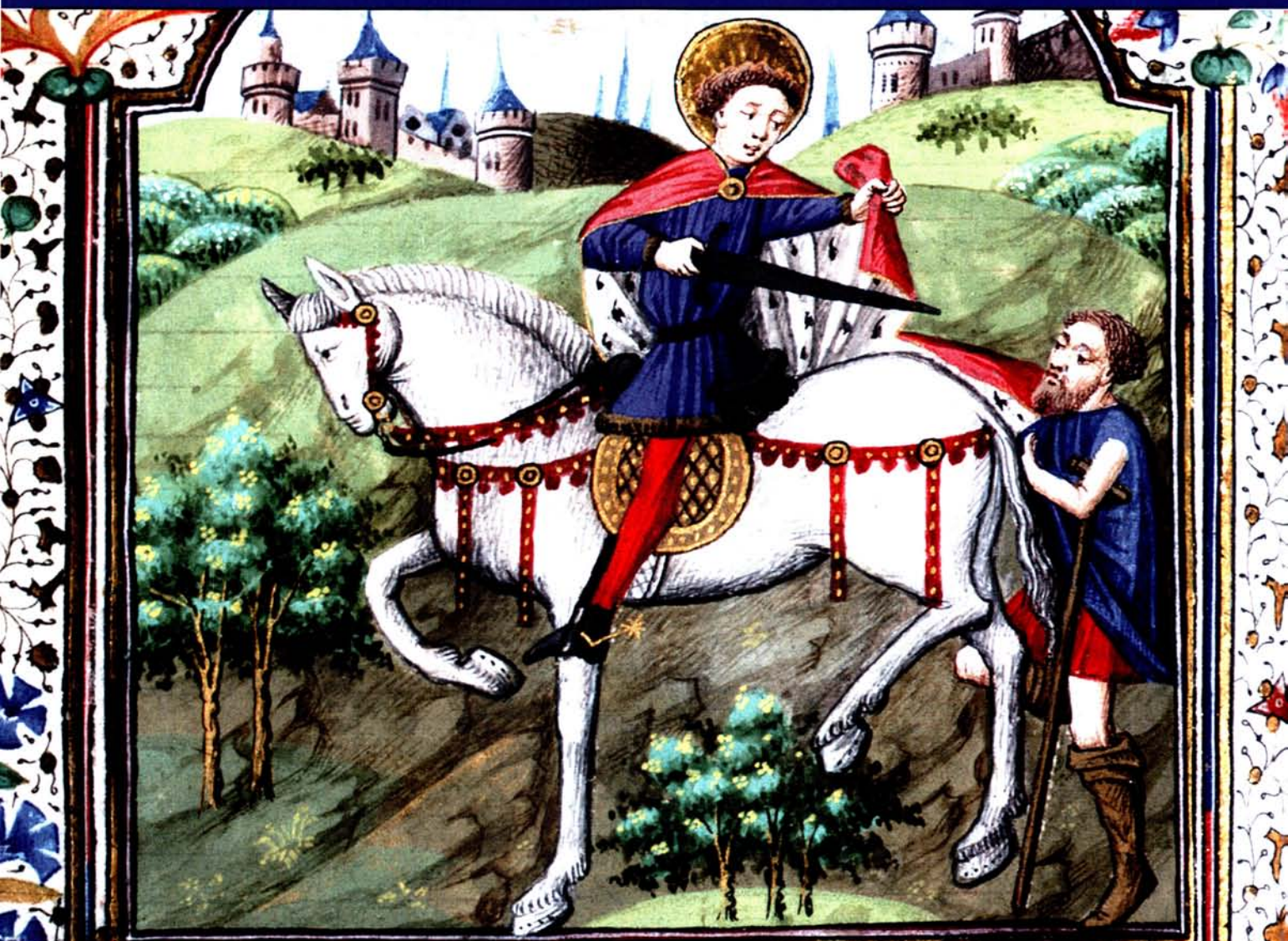


# Institute for Medieval Studies

FACULTY OF ARTS, HUMANITIES AND CULTURES



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS



**D**ignatus est enim  
dominus et  
ornavit eum  
stola glorie  
induit eum et ad portas  
paradisi coronavit eum. **A.**  
Confessor domini martini  
astantem plebem corro-  
bora sancta intercessione  
et precibus eius. **V.** Intercedi

premiuntur beatitudinis  
tue gloria subleventur  
et reducantur eterna vitam

*Postgraduate  
Study*

et exornant altissimum  
et muentus est in munio  
sanctorum **A.** O sanctum  
unum deus sacerdotum





### Important Information

Information provided by the University, such as in presentations, University brochures and on the University website, is accurate at the time of first disclosure. However, courses, University services and content of publications remain subject to change. Changes may be necessary to comply with the requirements of accrediting bodies or to keep courses contemporary through updating practices or areas of study. Circumstances may arise outside the reasonable control of the University leading to required changes. Such circumstances include industrial action, unexpected student numbers, significant staff illness (where a course is reliant upon a person's expertise), unexpected lack of funding, severe weather, fire, civil disorder, political unrest, government restrictions and serious concern with regard to the transmission of serious illness making a course unsafe to deliver. After a student has taken up a place with the University, the University will look to give early notification of any changes and try to minimise their impact, offering suitable alternative arrangements or forms of compensation where it believes there is a fair case to do so. Offers of a place to study at the University will provide up-to-date information on courses. The latest key information on courses, entry requirements and fees can be found at [courses.leeds.ac.uk](https://courses.leeds.ac.uk). Please check this website before making any decisions.

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# Institute for Medieval Studies

## *Postgraduate Study*

The Institute for Medieval Studies (IMS), part of the School of History at the University of Leeds, provides a unique environment for teaching and research in the Middle Ages. At our heart is a hundred-strong community of postgraduate students, staff, and associated specialists. Our interdisciplinary MA in Medieval Studies programme has run for over forty years, and offers modules which span 1000 years

and enable you to study either a closely interrelated set of subjects or to spread your interests.

In doctoral research we have numerous specialisms across the disciplines. The IMS also includes the International Medieval Bibliography, the leading bibliography of Medieval Studies, and the International Medieval Congress, the largest regular gathering of medievalists in Europe.

## What are the benefits of studying Medieval Studies at Leeds?

The Institute for Medieval Studies offers the unparalleled opportunity for truly interdisciplinary study in an environment enriched by the presence of the International Medieval Congress and the International Medieval Bibliography. Together, these unique enterprises will enable you to gain practical as well as academic experience, whilst links with publishers, museums, and research projects provide opportunities for internships and work experience.

Our research and teaching are enhanced by collaboration with various local and national museums, including the Royal Armouries, Britain's oldest museum and national collection of arms and armour, and Leeds City Museum. We celebrated our 50th anniversary in 2017 and Yorkshire offers matchless countryside,

medieval castles, churches and abbeys are near to hand. Kirkstall Abbey is a short bus ride from the University and other significant historical sites such as Bolton Abbey, Fountains Abbey, Ripley Castle and Ripon Cathedral make for excellent days out in and around Yorkshire.

As the Institute is part of the School of History, you will be able to access all of the School's facilities, events and opportunities, as well as those organised or offered by the Institute.

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## The International Medieval Bibliography

The International Medieval Bibliography (IMB), established in 1967, is the leading multidisciplinary bibliography of the Middle Ages. The IMB is produced by an editorial team at the University of Leeds and some 30 contributors worldwide. It covers periodical literature and miscellany volumes in all disciplines, and is published online and in printed form.

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*At our heart is a hundred-strong community of postgraduate students, staff, and associated specialists.*

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## International Medieval Congress

The International Medieval Congress (IMC) is an annual gathering of experts from across the world presenting their latest research findings into the European Middle Ages, c. 300-1500. Each year, nearly 3000 medievalists – from eminent scholars to postgraduate students – descend on Leeds from over 60 countries. The IMC is organised and administered by staff of the Institute. First started in 1994, it has now become a staple in academic calendars worldwide.

The main aim of the Congress is to provide an interdisciplinary forum for discussion on all aspects of medieval studies. Each year's IMC has one special thematic strand that focusses on an area of interdisciplinary study in a wider context. However, this special thematic strand is not exclusive, and alongside it the IMC provides a platform for debate in all areas of medieval research.

The Congress is a flagship event for Leeds and the University, providing the opportunity to meet scholars from across the world, and to learn about their research first-hand.





Birds of prey exhibition at the International Medieval Congress

## Did you know...

- The IMC is the largest conference of its kind in Europe
- More than 2000 papers are presented at each Congress, selected by an international Programming Committee with 35 members
- Around 20% of Congress delegates each year are postgraduates
- Around 30% of delegates are new to the Congress each year
- Around 60% of delegates are from outside the UK
- The Congress features a world-class main book fair with more than 80 stands, and a number of small fairs, including a second-hand and antiquarian book fair and a crafts fair
- Alongside the academic programme there are a wide variety of events, excursions, and workshops related to medieval studies



## Student Profile

Rory Sellgren  
MA Medieval Studies  
PhD Medieval Studies

I completed my BA in English and Theology from Alvernia College, Reading, PA (2005), MA in New Testament Theology from Claremont School of Theology, Claremont, CA (2009) and MA in Medieval Studies from University of Leeds (2010).

I decided to apply for the MA here because I was attracted to the Centre for Dante Studies and working on the theology of Dante's *Commedia* with Prof. Matthew Treherne. The interdisciplinary approach in the Institute allowed me to draw on my literary and theological background in my studies of history. My PhD is by nature interdisciplinary so I feel I was prepared very well to approach my research. I feel that the MA course prepared me very well for the PhD level.

The best feature of the IMS is the variety of topics and approaches available for student research. Currently there is very little overlap in topics. Students in the IMS aren't competing with each other which allows for a more relaxed and sociable atmosphere. I've heard this makes the IMS very unique within the University and amongst other medieval programs in the UK.



# Facilities within the Institute and University

The Institute's dedicated facilities for postgraduates are extensive and include:

- The Medieval Group is the oldest medieval studies related association at the University, dating back to the 1950s, and is run by a committee of volunteers from among the staff, PhD and MA students. It is open to all members of staff and postgraduate students who are interested in medieval studies. Every year in October there is a 'Medieval Research Afternoon' which showcases the range of current research in medieval studies across the University and includes presentations from museum curators and archivists about research opportunities, volunteering and internships in the Leeds area. Throughout the year the Group runs a seminar series with a broad range of speakers (archaeologists, medieval literatures and drama specialists, musicologists, theologians and medieval art and architecture scholars);
- Free access to the world-renowned International Medieval Congress for the students in the IMS;
- Organised field-trips to important medieval sites in northern England guided by experts from the University, English Heritage and other heritage organisations and where possible, by archaeologists and curators in charge;
- The Institute hosts 'Medieval Studies Online', a select guide to web-based sources, for interdisciplinary study and interest in the European Middle Ages: see <https://ims.leeds.ac.uk>

We have also calendar of cfp and conferences in the field of medieval studies happening across the world. Please see <https://ims.leeds.ac.uk/event-calendar/>

- Work-in-progress presentations by IMS PhD students that help to develop presentation skills and to provide constructive feedback in a supportive environment;
- Leeds University Student Union Medieval Society organised and run by the students hosts a lively programme of events including medieval film evenings, workshops and field-trips. <https://www.luu.org.uk/medieval/>
- Postgraduate community organises reading and discussion groups;
- Access to the Postgraduate Fund: all PhD students are entitled to £300 per academic year towards the cost of attending conferences, travelling to archives, external training, and other related activities. MA students can apply for up to £100;
- A dedicated postgraduate student space, the Le Patourel Room, which includes networked computers and printing facilities.

## Research Seminars

The Institute runs an annual Open Lecture Series, delivered by a wide range of high-profile interdisciplinary guest speakers. Additionally, the School of History runs a Medieval Research Seminar Series, which includes staff, student and invited academic speakers. All events are free and open to the public, and are advertised on the Institute's website <https://ims.leeds.ac.uk/>

You will also be able to take advantage of other events organised by the Institute for Medieval Studies, the School of History, and the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures and the University in general. Details of Faculty-wide events can be found at [ahc.leeds.ac.uk/events](http://ahc.leeds.ac.uk/events)







## The University's Libraries

The University Library is one of the major academic research libraries in the UK, attracting scholars from around the world to its extensive print and manuscript collections. It has holdings of over 2.8 million books, including rare primary material in its special collections. The Library invests £5 million a year in developing its collections and ranks as one of the top libraries in the UK for the provision of electronic books, journals and databases. There are almost 1000 computer workstations in the library and all library buildings are connected to the University's wifi network. There are four libraries across campus with quiet study areas as well as group work facilities and a variety of opening hours. The Library runs an excellent training course to familiarise you with the Library systems and help you make the most of the resources on offer. For more information see [www.library.leeds.ac.uk](http://www.library.leeds.ac.uk)

The Library's extensive collections of electronic databases, many of which are networked for use throughout the campus, include the following of particular interest to medievalists: Cetedoc Library of Christian Latin Texts, the Patrologia Latina Database, In principio (Incipit Index of Latin Texts), The Illustrated Incunabula Short Title Catalogue on CD-ROM, Revue d'histoire ecclésiastique-bibliographie and the IMB-Online.

## Selected notable individual collections include:

The **Brotherton Collection**, a celebrated collection of rare books and manuscripts. Its nucleus is the private library of Lord Brotherton, presented to the University after his death in 1930 together with funds to finance its growth. There are important collections of medieval manuscripts and incunabula, to which additions continue to be made. For more information, see the Special Collection Website <http://library.leeds.ac.uk/special-collections>

The **Melsteth Icelandic Collection**, a collection of some 13,000 volumes and pamphlets made by Mr Bogi Melsteth and since augmented by many gifts from Iceland. It is one of the finest collections of Icelandic material in the world.

The **Archives of the Dean & Chapter of Ripon**. The Library has on long-term deposit both the **old library of Ripon Cathedral**, especially rich in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century theological works, and the Archives of the Dean and Chapter of Ripon. Both collections contain medieval manuscripts and documents.

The **Roth Collection**, containing post-Biblical Judaica, including manuscripts from the fourteenth century onwards, collected by the late Dr Cecil Roth.

The **Oriental Manuscript Collection** forms part of the University Library holdings. It contains over 500 manuscripts, some of which are medieval. Most of the manuscripts are Arabic and Persian and there are also several in other oriental languages, such as Syriac, Hebrew and Turkish.

The **Rigby Collection** contains 3500 glass slides taken in 1940-51. It covers all aspects of medieval ecclesiastical architecture in the UK and mainland Europe. The slides are of cathedrals, abbeys and 500 parish churches. Also of note are the 800 that cover important French churches.

The University possesses a unique collection of nineteenth-century slides of medieval buildings. The majority of these slides are from the **Godfrey Bingley Collection** and the **West Riding Collection**, which provide a remarkable set of photographs of ancient monuments, churches, castles and domestic architecture as they were before restoration.

The archives of the **Yorkshire Archaeological and Historical Society** include a wealth of medieval manorial records; of especial note are the Wakefield Court Rolls (1274-1925).

You can take a closer look at the Library, including taking a Special Collections virtual tour, and finding out more about the specific library support available for medieval studies, at [www.library.leeds.ac.uk](http://www.library.leeds.ac.uk).



## Regional Libraries and Archives

Beyond what our own libraries offer, there are a number of other collections within easy reach. The British Library has a Document Supply Centre in Boston Spa, a short bus ride away. The West Yorkshire Archives (in Leeds, Wakefield, Bradford, Halifax and Huddersfield) contain extensive records of the city and region. The nearby Royal Armouries Museum has extensive medieval collections.

## Language training

The University's Language Centre hosts facilities such as the Rosetta Stone Language Learning Suite for the study of a wide range of languages, including all the main European languages and also Hindi, Hebrew, Hungarian, Serbo-Croat and Swahili. Students may start to learn a new language or improve on previous knowledge. All PhD students study a modern European language relevant to their research.

## Careers

Undertaking postgraduate study at Leeds enhances your career prospects. Through its programmes the Institute fosters sought-after skills such as knowledge of languages, data analysis, qualitative research skills and effective communication skills. The Institute facilitates internships and research opportunities within national and local museums, publishers and heritage organisations. Experienced academics within the Institute provide specialist advice about professional development, and advice on future careers.

The employability of IMS graduates is reflected in the variety of areas in which they now work: university teaching and research, archives and libraries, museums and galleries, conference organisation, heritage industry, media, publishing, travel, and many parts of the commercial sector.

All IMS students have access to the award-winning University Careers Centre which offers advice, information and guidance to help with career decisions. See [careerweb.leeds.ac.uk](http://careerweb.leeds.ac.uk)

## Personal Support

All students are allocated a personal tutor who will provide support for academic study. The School of History also has a dedicated student support officer.

## Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures Careers events

The Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures, IMS and the School of History host a number of careers events, workshops, taster sessions and fairs which attract leading graduate employers.



# Postgraduate opportunities

## Internships

We have several paid internships which run for a year or more and offer you the opportunity to learn various skills, all of which enhance your employability.

### ■ IMS Lectures and IMC Support Internship

The holder of this internship will work within the team that organises the IMC. You will gain marketing experience in your promotion of the IMS Lecture series, and events organisation experience as you assist the IMC organising team with the day-to-day running of the Congress.

### ■ IMS Editorial Internships (IMB)

These internships offer the opportunity to gain experience working in the teams which produce the International Medieval Bibliography. You will acquire specialist transferable skills and training, and your tasks will include assisting with the editing and production of the 'Bulletin of International Medieval Research'.

### ■ IMS Website Internship

The holder of this internship will gain extremely valuable work experience developing and updating the Institute's website with a particular remit for Medieval studies online. Please note that training will be offered as part of this internship.

### ■ IMS Publicity Internship

This internship offers an opportunity to gain transferable skills in presenting the work of the Institute to the wider public through updating IMS social media and editing weekly newsletter and extensive bi-annual bulletin.

## Presenting at the IMC

IMS students are encouraged to propose a paper or organise a session for the Congress. It should be noted, however, that all proposals will be vetted by the Programming Committee in the standard fashion, and only those deemed to be of the required quality will be approved.

## Employment at the IMC

Each year the IMC employs up to 40 students from across the University to assist in various tasks in preparation of the annual International Medieval Congress, mainly in the run up to, and during the Congress, but also at other times throughout the year. These tasks range from manual work preparing and filling registration packs to clearing the sites, staffing the registration desk, event and excursion stewarding, organising session rooms, and selling tickets and souvenirs.



## Alumni Profiles

**Dr Ralph Moffat**  
Doctorate in Medieval Studies (2010)  
Curator of European Arms & Armour at Glasgow Museums

After studying at Edinburgh University and most enjoying the medieval aspects of historical study and having had a lifelong interest in arms and armour I hoped to pursue this in more depth.

There were various seminars, teaching opportunities, and work-in-progress presentations as well as the International Medieval Congress to take part in during my studies. The greatest facility at Leeds was the excellent expertise of the staff and the most surprising thing was the international makeup of the student body.

**Dr Nicky Tsougarakis**  
MA in Medieval Studies, Doctorate in Medieval Studies (2008)  
Senior Lecturer at Edge Hill University

My MA and PhD at Leeds were absolutely crucial in determining my future. I already knew when I started my MA that I would try to pursue a career in academia, but my studies at the IMS further convinced me that this was the right path for me, mainly by instilling in me a love, not just for my own topic, but for the wider field.

I was particularly impressed by how welcoming the staff were, the quality of the teaching and the strong emphasis on core skills like Latin. The IMS also gave me my first academic post after my graduation. All of these things were essential for my career and my professional development.



# MA in Medieval Studies

**(12 months full-time; 24 months part-time)**

The MA in Medieval Studies will enable you to develop a European and interdisciplinary perspective on the Middle Ages; to acquire reading knowledge of at least one of the languages read or spoken internationally in medieval Europe (Latin, Old Norse, Old and Middle English, Old French and Medieval German); and to acquire the technical, palaeographical, bibliographical and other skills necessary to produce high-level research. All students write a supervised dissertation on a subject of their choice.

## Course structure

- An MA consists of 180 credits. The distribution of credits in the MA varies according to student module choice and the level of Latin on entry and vernacular language training (if chosen)
- Credits should be balanced as evenly as possible across semesters 1 and 2

## Full Time MA

Type of module	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core Skills modules (compulsory)	Research Methods & Bibliography 15 credits	Palaeography 15 credits
Medieval Languages (of which Latin is compulsory) 30-90 credits	Introduction to Medieval Latin 30 credits or advanced Latin 30 credits	Intermediate Medieval Latin 30 credits (optional if taking a vernacular language)
Optional modules 30-90 credits	At least one optional module of 30 credits	At least one optional module of 30 credits some language modules run all year
Dissertation 30 credits (compulsory)		10,000 word Dissertation

*The MA in Medieval Studies will enable you to develop a European and interdisciplinary perspective on the Middle Ages*

## Course content

### Core Modules:

All students take two core modules designed to provide them with necessary technical skills.

**1) Research methods and bibliography :** This module gives students practical training in finding resources and relevant bibliographies. Students will be trained in referencing and presentation of academic work, use of style-sheets, proof-reading and correction; editorial principles; as well as introductions to codicology, elements of digital humanities, different types of medieval sources, the Bible, numismatics, and medieval weights and measures.

**2) Paleography: Reading medieval manuscripts:** This module focuses on hands-on palaeographical training, familiarising students with a range of scripts used in different types of documents from Carolingian to the late medieval period. Examples include formal European and English book-hands, a variety of cursive documentary hands, and cursive book-hands.

### Medieval Language modules:

It is compulsory to study Latin for at least 30 credits. The level is decided in a placement test at the start of the year. Students who do not do a medieval vernacular language must do 60 credits of Latin, unless taking advanced Latin.



# Alumni Profile

Suzanne Paul

MA Medieval Studies (part-time) 1998, PhD Medieval Studies 2002,

Keeper of Manuscripts at Cambridge University Library

What I enjoyed the most about the MA was the sense of community among the medievalists in Leeds, both staff and students. I learned so much from hearing about other people's research. Within the actual MA course, I really enjoyed the palaeography and manuscript studies. There's a real joy alongside all the intellectual enquiry of the MA in learning the practical skill of how to read manuscripts. Now, as a manuscripts librarian, I get to use that skill every day – and I still enjoy it!

■ **Introduction to Medieval Latin** (30 credits, semester 1) is for beginners or near-beginners who wish to gain a basic ability in reading and translating moderately easy medieval texts. It concentrates on the acquisition of Latin grammar (except for certain complex sentence forms) and vocabulary. Students who wish to read complex Latin texts for their research element or future doctoral study should follow this module with the Intermediate Medieval Latin module in semester 2.

■ **Intermediate Medieval Latin** (30 credits, semester 2). Students complete the acquisition of Latin grammar and medieval orthography, and gain reading and translating ability across the various genres of medieval literary Latin for use in their research and future studies. (Prerequisite: Introduction to Medieval Latin or placement test).

■ **Advanced Medieval Latin** (30 credits) is for those who have already done a substantial amount of Latin and would like to be able to read difficult texts in a wide range of genres (prerequisite: placement test).

## Optional modules:

All students choose from a list of options run by the Institute or by other schools at the University. These optional modules offer the opportunity to concentrate on similar topics by taking linked themes in different semesters or to widen the scope of interests.

Examples include:

- Vikings, Saxons, and heroic culture
- Warfare in the age of the crusades (1095-1204)
- How to be a saint in the middle ages: Saints' cults and their impact on culture and society (500-1500)
- Religious communities and the individual experience of religion, 1200-1500
- Medieval bodies
- Medieval preaching: Understanding sermons as literature and historical source
- The margins of medieval art
- Arthurian legend: medieval to modern
- Christian society and the crusades
- Lifecycles: Birth, illness, and death
- The medieval tournament

Instead of one option you may choose additional language modules (Medieval English, Old Norse, Old French or Medieval German).

Please note that this is an indicative module list: our modules change regularly and a different selection is available every year. For a complete listing of available modules see the programme catalogue.

**Dissertation:** All students will complete a dissertation on a subject of their choice supervised by a specialist. It will involve the detailed analysis of a defined topic and makes excellent preparation for future doctoral study.

## Teaching and assessment

- Introduction to Medieval Latin, intermediate Medieval Latin and advanced Medieval Latin are assessed through class tests and an exam; vernacular languages are assessed by translation portfolio or exam;
- Research methods and bibliography is assessed by two class assignments and an essay;
- Palaeography: reading medieval manuscripts is assessed through three written assignments, involving transcription of documents;
- Optional modules are generally assessed with the submission of two 3000 word essays, but may also include other forms of assessment, such as source commentary;
- The dissertation is 10,000 words in length, to be submitted at the end of the academic year.
- Students who take the MA in Medieval Studies are able to take a vernacular language option instead of Intermediate Latin. They can also take options in schools others than History.



# MA in Medieval History

(12 months full-time; 24 months part-time)

The MA in Medieval History will enable you to develop an in-depth historical understanding of the Middle Ages; to acquire reading knowledge of Latin, and to acquire the technical, palaeographical, bibliographical and other skills necessary to produce high-level research. All students write a supervised dissertation on a subject of their choice.

## Course structure

- An MA consists of 180 credits. The distribution of credits in the MA varies according to student module choice and the level of Latin on entry and vernacular language training (if chosen)
- Credits should be balanced as evenly as possible across semesters 1 and 2

Type of module	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core Skills modules (compulsory)	Research Methods & Bibliography 30 credits	Palaeography 15 credits
Medieval Latin 30-60 credits	Introduction to Medieval Latin (30)  Or advanced Latin (30 credits)	Intermediate Medieval Latin (30 credits)
Optional modules 30-90 credits	At least one optional module of 30 credits	At least one optional module of 30 credits
Dissertation 30 credits (compulsory)		10,000 word Dissertation

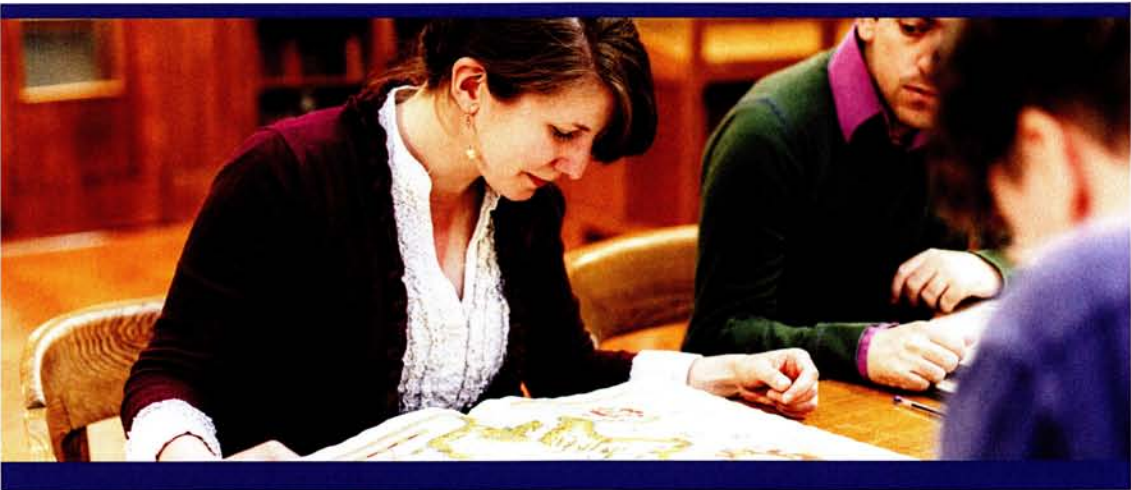
## Course content

### Core Modules:

All students take two core modules designed to provide them with the necessary technical skills.

**1. Research methods and bibliography:** This module gives students practical training in finding resources and relevant bibliographies referencing and presentation of academic work, use of style-sheets, proof-reading and correction; editorial principles; as well as introductions to codicology, elements of digital humanities, different types of medieval sources, the Bible, numismatics, and medieval weights and measures.

**2. Paleography: reading medieval manuscripts:** This module focuses on hands-on palaeographical training, familiarizing students with a range of scripts used in different kinds of documents from Carolingian to the late medieval period. Examples include formal European and English book-hands, a variety of cursive documentary hands, and cursive book-hands.



Students using the Special Collections in the Brotherton Library



## Medieval Language modules:

Each student follows two Latin modules: **Introduction to Medieval Latin** and **Intermediate Medieval Latin**

- 1. Introduction to Medieval Latin** (30 credits) is for beginners or near-beginners who wish to gain a basic ability in reading and translating moderately easy medieval texts. It concentrates on the acquisition of Latin grammar (except for certain complex sentence forms) and vocabulary.
- 2. Intermediate Medieval Latin** (30 credits). Students complete the acquisition of Latin grammar and medieval orthography, and gain reading and translating ability across the various genres of medieval literary Latin for use in their research and future studies. (Prerequisite: Introduction to Medieval Latin).
- 3. Advanced Medieval Latin** (30 credits) is for those who have already done a substantial amount of Latin and would like to be able to read difficult texts in a wide range of genres (prerequisite: placement test).

## Optional modules:

You can choose from a list of options run by the Institute or by the School of History. Our optional modules enable you either to concentrate on similar topics by taking linked themes in different semesters or to spread your interests.

Examples include:

- Warfare in the age of the crusades (1095-1204)
- How to be a saint in the middle ages: Saints' cults and their impact on culture and society (500-1500)
- Religious communities and the individual experience of religion, 1200-1500
- Medieval bodies
- Medieval preaching: understanding sermons as literature and historical source
- Bede's Northumbria
- The holy land under the Franks: The kingdom of Jerusalem and its enemies, 1099-1187
- Christian society and the crusades
- Lifecycles: birth, illness, and death
- The medieval tournament

**Please note** that this is an indicative module list: our modules change regularly and a different selection is available every year. For a complete listing of available modules see the programme catalogue.

**Dissertation:** You will complete a dissertation on a subject of your choice supervised by a specialist. It will involve the detailed analysis of a defined topic and makes excellent preparation for future doctoral study.

## Teaching and assessment

- Introduction to Medieval Latin, Medieval Latin and advanced Medieval Latin are assessed through class tests and an exam;
- Research methods and bibliography is assessed by two class assignments and an essay;
- Palaeography: reading medieval manuscripts is assessed through three written assignments, involving transcription of documents;
- Optional modules are generally assessed with the submission of two 3000 word essays, but may also include other forms of assessment, such as source commentary;
- The dissertation is 10,000 words in length, to be submitted at the end of the academic year.
- Students who do the MA in Medieval History must take at least one option in the School of History. Latin is compulsory all year.



# PhD in Medieval Studies



(3 years full-time;  
5-7 years part-time)

Few things are as satisfying as the successful completion of a major research project. Not only do our students develop immense expertise in their chosen field, they also extend and polish key transferable skills, such as problem solving, high-level written and oral communication, project management, and the ability to handle and analyse large quantities of complex (and often contradictory) evidence.



## Our expertise/your research topic

You may already have a clear idea for your thesis topic: if so, you can look at our list of academic staff and their research interests, to see who you may be interested in working with. Alternatively, we can match your interests to a supervisor, discuss your options with you if you have not yet chosen a topic and answer any general questions you may have. Interdisciplinary projects are particularly welcome as this is one of our key strengths.

Our team of staff and associated researchers have research interests that are broad and diverse, and we hope to be able to offer you supervision in almost any topic relating to medieval studies.

Current PhD topics include:

- Chivalry at the Habsburg court
- Women and warfare in the *Romans d'Antiquité*
- Education in Carolingian Europe
- Healing miracles in Norman Sicily
- The Carthusian Order and the laity
- Mobility aids and disability
- Veterinary medicine for horses
- The Hauteville family
- Medicine in the Eastern Mediterranean
- Weland Smith
- Changelings
- Dante's christology
- Deception in warfare
- Late medieval tapestry
- Jousting in literary context
- Anglo-Saxon women
- Medieval anchorites
- Cross-dressing in French and English literature

## Course structure

### Subject-specific training

There are a number of taught modules that PhD students may be required to take during their first year, following assessments of your abilities in various areas. You can acquire key research skills through attendance at 'Research methods and bibliography' (for more information see page 10). If you have not already studied the medieval and/or modern languages that are relevant for your research project, you will also attend modules in either/both of these.

### Your supervision

You will usually have two co-supervisors, who will help to shape your project and give you bibliographical and methodological guidance.

### Assessment

PhD students are examined exclusively by a thesis of 100,000 words, with a viva voce examination.



# Postgraduate Research student specific facilities, opportunities and events

## Faculty of Arts Graduate School

The Faculty of Arts Graduate School, housed in the Leeds Humanities Research Institute (LHRI), brings together postgraduates working across the Faculty. They provide social space and seminar rooms for postgraduates to mix and exchange ideas, as well as providing funding for graduate-led workshops and conferences, and coordinating training in personal and professional skills via the Leap Training Hub. Courses offered under this programme include: doing interdisciplinary research; research ethics in the arts and humanities; getting published; the REF and applying for research funding. Other courses also provide guidance on applying for your first academic job.

## IMS Conference

The IMS postgraduate students have the opportunity to organise an annual conference, with a wide range of local and international postgraduate speakers and high-profile keynote presenters. For the students involved in the organising committee it is a great opportunity to gain organisational skills, including fundraising from external sources, publicity, chairing and moderating sessions. For those presenting their research, it is a very useful platform for development and feedback.

## Work-in-Progress seminars

IMS PhD students have the opportunity to give a 20 minute paper on the topic of their PhD project in the Work-in-Progress seminars each year, to which all IMS staff and students are invited. This provides a great opportunity to receive detailed feedback on the research content and presentation skills.

## Organisational Development and Professional Learning

Through Organisational Development and Professional Learning, the University offers a range of training opportunities for postgraduate research students, under the umbrella headings of: research degree process; managing research projects; presenting research; writing and publishing; academic integrity. For more information, see their website <http://peopledevelopment.leeds.ac.uk>.

## Leeds Doctoral College

All postgraduate research students are members of The Leeds Doctoral College which brings together the support services and opportunities you will need to enhance your research. The college runs regular drop-in and training sessions for our postgraduate researchers, and organises seminars and other events including the annual Doctoral College Showcase.

## Teaching opportunities

We offer our PhD students the opportunity to apply to teach undergraduates wherever possible. This experience provides valuable skills whether you go onto an academic career or pursue employment paths where the ability to communicate ideas, inspire creativity and direct group work are marketable assets. No experience is required and we aim to fit teaching in with your research specialisms. Current postgraduate student teachers are paid per class, and usually teach two classes per year. Full training is provided.



Students in the Brotherton Library Special Collections





# Scholarships, Funding and Admissions

## How to apply

You can apply for all our degrees online. For further information see: [ahc.leeds.ac.uk/medieval](http://ahc.leeds.ac.uk/medieval)

## What you need to provide with your application

For the MA in Medieval Studies and the MA in Medieval History you should submit:

- copies of previous degree transcripts (if you have not yet finished your degree, please send details of your courses and marks so far)
- two academic references
- an example of your written work (approximately 3000 words), such as an undergraduate assessed essay, preferably on a medieval topic; please supply the module name and level on the work

Research degree applicants must also include:

- a detailed research proposal on your intended topic.
- guidance on the preparation of your proposal can be found on the IMS website [ahc.leeds.ac.uk/medieval-research-degrees](http://ahc.leeds.ac.uk/medieval-research-degrees)

## English Language Requirements

Applicants for whom English is not their first language may require an English language qualification to gain entry to the University of Leeds.

The most commonly accepted qualification is IELTS with an overall score of 6.5 with no less than 6.0 in all components.

Other tests or qualifications may be accepted, please contact us for clarification.

## Entry Requirements

### Taught MA

A good honours degree (1st or 2:1) or equivalent. Previous specialisation in some aspect of the Middle Ages is an advantage.

### PhD

Applicants should have an MA either in Medieval Studies or in a programme which has a strong medieval component, but we are aware that circumstances can vary, so do get in touch with us if you need clarification of your own particular position. Please note that you may also be invited for an interview as part of the application process. In exceptional circumstances we will consider PhD applications from students with an undergraduate degree only, provided you have sufficient previous specialisation in Medieval Studies and research skills.

If at all possible, please contact us for informal discussion before you make your application. We can help by offering advice in the early stages of your application, when your PhD topic is taking shape, so that you end up with a proposal that sets the agenda for beginning your work on the PhD. This helps us put together the most effective supervision team for you and your project, and gives you a proposal that can be adapted for use in funding applications.



## Postgraduate Scholarships and funding

There are three categories of Scholarships available to IMS students.

- University of Leeds Scholarships
- Institute for Medieval Studies Scholarships\*
- External Scholarships

A complete list of all the awards available this year can be found at: [www.scholarships.leeds.ac.uk](http://www.scholarships.leeds.ac.uk). The University offers a wide range of Taught and Research Postgraduate Scholarships to all students. IMS students are encouraged to apply for a Scholarship from the University.

Both the School of History and Institute for Medieval Studies offer a variety of scholarships, some paying full home/EU fees; and some paying fees plus a matching maintenance contribution.

\*IMS scholarships are administered by the School of History. School scholarship awards are reviewed by the Scholarship committee on an annual basis and are subject to change. Applicants are advised to check the website regularly for the most current information and criteria.

The major external scholarship providers outside the University are WRoCAH (White Rose Consortium for the Arts and Humanities), which administers scholarships from the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), although there are other less frequent funders such as the Wellcome Trust. All awards pay full fees (for home/EU students only) and a substantial maintenance payment (home students only).

Please email us if you would like to discuss your funding situation. [historypgt@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:historypgt@leeds.ac.uk)

## What next?

We aim to process your application for a place on a course as soon as possible once we have all your documentation, which is usually within 2-4 weeks of receipt. However, during our busiest times (April-June), this process can take up to 6 weeks. We will contact you when a decision has been made on your application.

## Open days

We hold two open evenings a year: a taught MA event, usually in November and both an MA and a research degree event, usually in February. Information about our open evenings can be found on the IMS website. If you have missed the open evening, or are unable to make the date, we would be very happy to arrange an informal visit. The open day in February is a University-wide event which allows visitors to explore the campus, attend funding talks, meet academics and discover the facilities Leeds has to offer.

## Contact us

**Institute for Medieval Studies**  
School of History  
University of Leeds  
Leeds  
LS2 9JT

tel: +44 (0)113 343 8747  
e: [ims@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:ims@leeds.ac.uk)

## International Students

Half of our current postgraduates are from overseas. Some of the reasons they have chosen us are:

- Small seminar groups and one-to-one supervisions with leading international scholars
- Collegial postgraduate community and vibrant research culture
- Guaranteed university accommodation for the duration of your course (application deadlines apply)
- Graduation after one year as a full time MA student
- The presence and stimulation of the world-renowned International Medieval Congress and International Medieval Bibliography
- Leeds is one of the most cost-effective university towns in which to study in the UK
- The support available through our International Office, who provide extensive information and advice to help you adjust to living and studying at Leeds. The team also help with immigration and visa matters; visit their website for further information: [www.internationalstudent.support.leeds.ac.uk/](http://www.internationalstudent.support.leeds.ac.uk/)

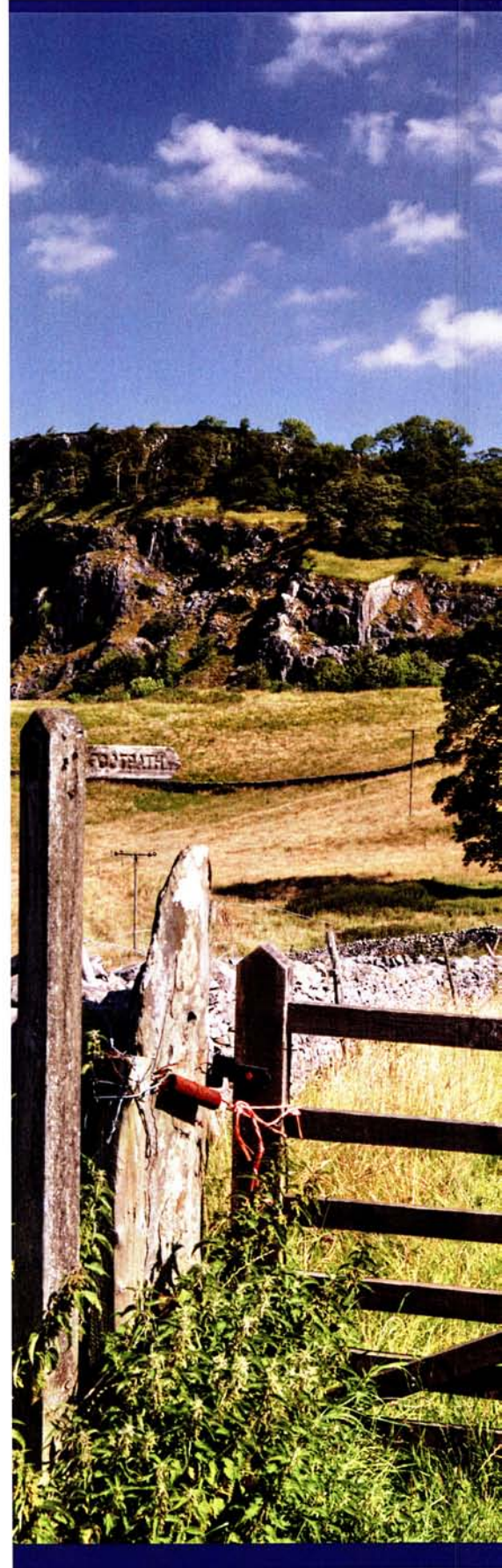




Leeds' historic Kirkgate markets



One-to-one support from tutors is available.



The picturesque Yorkshire Dales is easily accessible from the city.





# Life in Leeds

## University life

The University of Leeds is an outstanding place to study. A member of the Russell Group of leading British research universities and in the heart of one of the UK's most vibrant and student-friendly cities, it has long been recognised as one of the giants of higher education. The University has more than 5000 postgraduate students completing Masters courses, postgraduate diplomas and certificates, and more than 2500 postgraduate researchers. As a postgraduate student at Leeds, you will be studying among internationally renowned academics and your lectures and seminars will be highly engaging and very relevant to today's world.

Known worldwide for the quality of its teaching and research, the University has invested heavily to provide students with first-class facilities across its single-campus. This includes modern, well-equipped lecture theatres and laboratories, an internationally acclaimed university library containing a huge collection of communications literature, first rate computing resources, a well-resourced language centre. We also boast one of the biggest and most active student unions in the country. The Students' Union is at the heart of the campus and boasts a variety of shops, food outlets and social spaces. The Edge, our £12.5m indoor sports facility, provides over 140 exercise classes during termtime, a 250-station fitness suite and a 25m swimming pool. We also have outdoor facilities in Weetwood, two miles from the campus, and outdoor centres in the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales National Park.

The University is a creative community with a vibrant and distinctive cultural life and there are plenty of opportunities to enjoy the arts on campus, including: Treasures of the Brotherton Gallery, our Public Art Trail, [stage@leeds](mailto:stage@leeds) and the Stanley & Audrey Burton Gallery. You will also be supported throughout your studies by a network of specialist services that are centred on you and your wellbeing. Find out more at [www.students.leeds.ac.uk/#support-and-wellbeing](http://www.students.leeds.ac.uk/#support-and-wellbeing)

## Accommodation

UK or EU postgraduate students: there are usually a number of vacancies in University accommodation each year. The University offers postgraduate-only accommodation at the newly built St Marks Residences. The flats are arranged around a central courtyard, with the buildings protecting and enclosing a communal garden in the centre and are just a five minute walk from campus. UK/EU and international postgraduates can apply for a place here. Accommodation is easily available in the private sector too. Help in locating this can be found at [www.unipol.leeds.ac.uk](http://www.unipol.leeds.ac.uk). New international postgraduates paying fees at the full international rate have a guaranteed place in University accommodation during their first year at Leeds subject to certain conditions. See [www.accommodation.leeds.ac.uk](http://www.accommodation.leeds.ac.uk)

## The City of Leeds

As a postgraduate student at the University of Leeds you will be part of a vibrant student community situated in the heart of a cosmopolitan and student-friendly city located in the centre of the UK, which offers a diversity to suit all budgets.

Leeds, home to 700,000 people, is the capital of the Yorkshire and Humber region, and the social and cultural hub of the North. The city's roots lie firmly in the textile industry but more recently it has become a centre for trade and commerce, and one of Britain's most important financial, banking and legal centres outside of London. Leeds has all you can expect from a major city yet is surrounded by the beautiful and accessible Yorkshire Dales. The city centre is a mere 10-minute walk from the campus with fast and frequent transport links to all other major UK cities.

Leeds is unrivalled in the north of England as a major shopping destination and centre for entertainment, nightlife, the arts and leisure. The city boasts stunning Victorian and Edwardian arcades and more than a thousand commercial outlets and a new shopping and leisure complex: Trinity Leeds. People from around the region regularly visit Leeds to shop in a centre, which includes everything from designer boutiques to the historic Kirkgate market for local produce. The city offers an extensive choice of places to eat and drink no matter what your taste or budget.

Nightlife in and around the city is well known for its diversity and popularity. Numerous bars, clubs, and venues in Leeds offer a sophisticated and relaxed experience with a variety of music to suit all tastes. Leeds Arena is a 13,500 capacity purpose built entertainment venue in the heart of the city, hosting live music, comedy, sporting events and a wide mix of entertainment shows. Leeds also offers a unique selection of commercial and independent cinemas, hosting the annual Leeds International Film Festival. Leeds is also home to Opera North, Northern Ballet, the Henry Moore Institute, the Royal Armouries, and Leeds City Museums and Galleries.





**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS**

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