

## Medieval Studies MA

### **1. Basic Information**

The MA in Medieval Studies at the Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena aims to broaden students' understanding of European Medieval history and to intensify subject specific knowledge, skills and scholarly methods.

The MA has been designed to be interdisciplinary and to build on general degrees in History, German, Art History, and other disciplines within the humanities. It provides the opportunity to gain a better understanding of these disciplines in respect to the medieval period.

The degree program combines the methodological perspectives of the following core and subsidiary disciplines:

#### **Core Disciplines:**

Early German Literature  
History of Art  
Medieval History / History of Thuringia  
Medieval Latin

#### **Subsidiary Disciplines:**

Early English Studies  
Early Romance Studies  
Arabic Studies  
German Linguistics (on a historical basis)  
Indo-European Studies  
Ecclesiastical History  
Musicology  
Archaeology

Students can choose from modules offered within these disciplines at the FSU Jena. Approximately half of the classes should be taken in disciplines other than the choice core discipline.

On completion of the course, students should show the ability to study and understand historic concepts independently, to analyze them critically and systematically, and to place them within their academic context. This qualifies alumni for academic occupations which require strategic thinking or skills in structuring and imparting knowledge.

Alumni of the MA in Medieval Studies are highly qualified to join the workforce without further study. The degree provides a wide range of job opportunities, especially in institutions such as museums, libraries, archives, and organizations for historic heritage. Areas of employment include teaching, public relations and occupations which require secure skills in communication and in analyzing complex situations. Lecturers from the participating departments can attempt to help students with making career choices, for example by meditating opportunities for internships. The skills acquired by alumni also offer an excellent basis for doctoral study and the pursuit of an academic career.

## 2. Admission

### BA Degree

Applicants to the MA in Medieval Studies are normally required to have attained a BA or equivalent with a good classification (minimum German grade 2,5).

### Specialization in Medievalism

The degree builds on skills honed during undergraduate study in the disciplines of History, German Literature, Art History and Classical Studies. Generally, specialization towards the medieval period (60 ECTS minimum) should be apparent in degrees previously acquired. If the relevant evidence is lacking, students may get admitted to the MA on condition that additional classes be taken to satisfy these requirements.

### Language Skills

Advanced knowledge of Latin and command of two modern foreign languages (B1 European Framework of Reference for Languages) are an additional requirement. When choosing Medieval Latin as core discipline, Latin language skills will be tested in an appropriate examination.

### Application

Application forms must be submitted by 15<sup>th</sup> January to start the course in April, or July 15<sup>th</sup> to start in October. Applications will be selected through a committee and may require an interview with applicants. For more details regarding the documents which are to be submitted together with the application form, refer to § 3 of the syllabus.

## 3. Curriculum

### ECTS

The MA in Medieval Studies is design to be completed within two years including the time allowed for writing the dissertation. A total of 120 ECTS need to be acquired, 30 of which are given for the dissertation. 9 modules, each of which is normally composed of two classes, need to be successfully completed. A maximum of 5 modules may be chosen from the core discipline (for example, Medieval History), at least 4 modules must be chosen from the other disciplines participating in the program.

### Modules

A single module is usually taken over one or two semesters. A catalogue (Modulkatalog) provides information on individual modules which can be taken towards the MA in Medieval Studies and how many ECTS are assigned to them. It also lists the following information for each module: which lecturer is responsible, requisites for attending, work load, type of classes to be attended and type of assessment.

### Sample Course of Study

The following model shows how an individualized curriculum of the MA in Medieval Studies with the core discipline in Medieval History / History of Thuringia could look:

Semester	Module / Classes			ECTS
1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Core Discipline</b> MAStudHist 620 (2 lectures, one with	<b>Interdisciplinary</b> MAStud622 (2 non-core-discipline lectures, one	<b>Individual Suppl.</b> can be chosen from Core Discipline (e.g.	30

	exam)	with exam)	MAStudHist 720 or MAStudHist 820)	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Core Discipline</b> MAStudHist 720 (2 practical exercises, both with essay)	<b>Individual Suppl.</b> 2 classes from the core discipline (e.g. 1 lecture and 1 practical exercise class with exam / essay) OR 6-week internship + report	<b>Individual Suppl.</b> 2 non-core-discipline classes (e.g. 1 lecture and 1 practical exercise class with exam / essay)	30
3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Core Discipline</b> MAStudHist 820 (1 seminar + 1 source study class, 1 essay)	<b>Interdisciplinary</b> MAStud 920 (2 research seminars, presentation of MA-topic in one)	<b>Individual Suppl.</b> 2 non-core-discipline classes (e.g. 1 lecture and 1 practical exercise class with exam / essay)	30
4 <sup>th</sup>	MA dissertation (written in a period of 6 months, approx. 100 pages long)			30

This model curriculum can be widely adjusted within the framework of the syllabus according to one's individual interests and needs. The two classes which usually make up each module can be taken over the course of two semesters. This possibility (and often necessity) was not considered in the model above.

### Optional Classes

The model curriculum shows the minimum number of classes required for attaining the MA in Medieval Studies. It is possible and encouraged to visit additional lectures and classes.

### Questions?

For more information contact:

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