



University College Dublin
College of Arts and Celtic Studies



Why UCD?

- One of the world's top 100 universities
- Ireland's largest and most international university
- Emphasis on Research and Innovation
- Safe, modern campus in Dublin, capital city of Ireland
- Extensive accommodation options with 24 hour security
- 1 hr flight from London

MA IN MEDIEVAL STUDIES

Medieval Studies in UCD

UCD is a university with real depth and breadth of expertise in medieval studies, located in a city with a rich medieval heritage. The study of the Middle Ages has flourished at UCD for over a century, and medieval subjects are now offered across a variety of disciplines, including Archaeology, Art History, Classics, English, History, Irish, Languages, and Music. In short, UCD offers the broadest selection of medieval courses in Ireland. UCD's archives hold some of Ireland's most important medieval manuscripts, and the library's resources include the source collections and databases essential for medieval scholarship. Students are able to take advantage of UCD's location in Dublin, a Viking foundation which became the center of Norman rule in Ireland, and may avail of resources nearby, including the National Library and the collections of Trinity College. They will also be welcome to attend a variety of research seminars which take place regularly across the city. Dublin is an ideal base from which to explore Ireland's medieval sites; it also allows for easy access to centers of interest across Europe.

Students who choose to study the Middle Ages come from a variety of academic backgrounds and ultimately follow a multitude of career paths. UCD's graduate offerings in medieval studies are designed to give students essential technical and interpretive skills, but will also match module choices to their individual needs and interests. As such, it is a suitable preparation for those intending to go on to a research degree or a professional career, or for those who simply want to extend their understanding of the medieval period. Students can expect to emerge from their graduate study

well equipped with the skills to work within the field of medieval studies and apply it to their choice of career.

There are two main ways to study the Middle Ages at UCD: from within a particular discipline, or from a variety of disciplines in Medieval Studies. Existing programs devoted to the medieval period or with a significant medieval component include:

MA in Archaeology

MA in History (Early Irish History or Irish History & Civilization)

MA in Medieval Celtic Languages and Literature

MA in Medieval History

MA in Medieval Literature and Culture

The **MA in Medieval Studies** is a new initiative – an interdisciplinary program comprising courses designed especially for this MA, as well as a variety of offerings in participating disciplines. It draws on the range of expertise across the College. As well as modules on technical and interpretive skills (Approaching the Middle Ages, Manuscript Studies, Palaeography) and medieval languages, students may choose from thematic modules on such topics as Medieval Dublin, Early Medieval Archaeology and fourteenth-century English literature. These are designed around small-group sessions in which students work with a specialist in the field, and are allowed to develop



their own areas of interest and research skills to produce a dissertation.

Why is this course for me?

If you have an interest in the medieval world, and wish to extend your knowledge and understanding, the MA in Medieval Studies provides the ideal opportunity. It appeals to those who wish to gain the necessary scholarly skills in the field whilst still having flexibility in subject matter. If your interests in the medieval world cross the boundaries of traditional disciplines, this is the perfect way of pursuing those interests



Glendalough, Co. Wicklow.

What will I study?

On successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

1. Show an understanding of medieval society, culture and politics.
2. Show the technical skills necessary to interpret medieval documents and materials.
3. Show specialized knowledge and understanding of a particular area of choice.
4. Show the research and interpretive skills necessary to produce a scholarly piece of research.

Career Opportunities

Medieval Studies graduates are provided with specific knowledge skills, but also with skills easily transferred to a range of careers. These include the ability to gather and organize information; to understand information and apply it to new situations; to write up reports and give presentations. Such skills are fundamental to almost every career.

Prospective Employers

Medieval Studies graduates enter a wide diversity of careers. However, they are particularly sought in the following areas:

Education

Tourism

Cultural Affairs including museums and galleries

Libraries and Archives

Questions?

If you are interested in this program or in any of our medieval courses and would like more information, please contact Ms Barbara Gannon, Graduate School Manager, College of Arts and Celtic Studies.

email: gs.artsceltic@ucd.ie



Initial from Geoffrey Chaucer, *The Canterbury Tales* (Lansdowne 851, folio 2), British Library.