Master of Medieval and Early Modern Studies

About the Course
The Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies at The University of Western Australia offers an inter-disciplinary Master by Coursework in Medieval and Early Modern Studies (MEMS), which explores key texts and themes in the history and culture of Europe from the fifth to the eighteenth centuries.

In this course students learn how to read manuscripts, historical records and literary works of the period AD 500-1800, and to interpret key issues and events in thought and society. They conduct their own research projects in history, literature, philosophy and art, with expert staff guidance. Two core seminars introduce skills – paleography, editing, early document study, early language – and explore major ideas in areas such as science, medicine, religion, economy and trade.

Career Prospects
MEMS graduates are well prepared for employment in areas such as journalism, the media, cultural and heritage institutions (e.g. museums and art galleries), the diplomatic corps, publishing, education, business and private administration, the Commonwealth and state public service.

Course Structure
The course consists of units to a total of 96 points for non-honours graduates and 48 points for honours graduates. Study may be completed full or part time. International students may only study on a full time basis. The course can be commenced in Semester 1 or 2 of each year.

The Master of MEMS components are as follows:

The core Master coursework seminars
MEMS8401 Interdisciplinary Core Seminar 1 (6 points)
Reading the Pre-modern World
This unit consists of three four-week modules, designed to prepare students to understand a variety of medieval and early modern document sources in manuscript and print form. Attention is paid to the construction of medieval and early modern documents in relation to their particular historical contexts and functions.

MEMS8402 Interdisciplinary Core Seminar 2 (6 points)
Interpreting the Pre-modern World
This unit analyses three key themes of the pre-modern world in order to provide a deeper understanding of this era. Each theme will draw on a diverse range of evidence, from the literary and historical to the artistic, and is examined from different disciplinary perspectives.

The elective coursework seminars:
MEMS8405 Elective Seminar 1 (6 points)
MEMS8406 Elective Seminar 2 (6 points)
MEMS8407 Elective Seminar 3 (6 points)
Elective seminars for 2012 are to be confirmed. These usually cover a range of topics in English and Cultural Studies, History and Visual Arts.
The research units:
MEMS8403 Research Project (12 points)
MEMS8404 Individual Reading Contract (6 points)
MEMS8408/MEMS8409/MEMS8410/MEMS8411 Masters Dissertation 1, 2, 3 and 4 (48 points)
Note: MA MEMS students continuing from the Honours degree or equivalent will write a shorter research thesis (24 points) over two semesters, and undertake a further 24 points of coursework.

Admission requirements
Admission to the Master of MEMS is a UWA Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in a related area of study, or equivalent, as recognised by the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

Prior to applying for admission, make an appointment with the Director of the Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies to discuss your course program and obtain the necessary approval.

If you are interested in applying please contact:
Director of CMEMS
Professor Andrew Lynch
Arts building (M200) Room 1.09
Tel: +61 8 6488 2185
Email: andrew.lynch@uwa.edu.au
mems.arts.uwa.edu.au

This should be during October for the first semester entry or June for mid-year entry. Enquiries at any time are welcome.

Both the Centre and the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences must approve all applications.

The UWA Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies
UWA CMEMS promotes excellence in all aspects of humanities research in the period AD 500-1800. The Centre draws on UWA’s nationally acclaimed research and teaching expertise in this area. It has links to national and international research networks and collaborative projects, and to the UWA-hosted ARC Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions.

CMEMS Staff are representative of a broad range of Disciplines including Archaeology, Classics and Ancient History, English and Cultural Studies, European Languages and Studies, Fine Arts, History, Medicine and Music.

Some key staff in the MA MEMS
Dr David Barrie (History)
Crime, policing and punishment in 18th-19th century Scotland; urban and municipal history.

Professor Susan Broomhall (History)
Late medieval and early modern European history; women and gender; science, medicine and technologies; religious change, poverty and work.

Professor Yasmin Haskell (Classics and Ancient History)
Neo-Latin literature; didactic poetry from antiquity to Romanticism; early modern Jesuits; classical tradition; history of medicine.

Professor Andrew Lynch (English and Cultural Studies; Director of CMEMS)
Medieval literature and culture; war and peace writing; Arthurian studies; modern medievalism.

Professor Philippa Maddern (History)
15th century English history; gender history; landscape history, history of emotions.

Professor Richard Read (Visual Arts)
17th century European art and architecture; the Grand Tour; history of images.

Professor Jacqueline Van Gent (Women’s Studies)
Gender, body and self in early modern Europe; religious change; witchcraft and magic.

Professor Bob White (English and Cultural Studies)
Shakespeare and early modern drama; Renaissance literature and thought.

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JEROME IN HIS STUDY, CURING THE LION;
TITLE PAGE OF EPISTOLÆ BEATI HIERONYMI
(LETTERS OF ST. JEROME).
NICOLAUS KESSLER, BASEL, VOL. 1, 2ND ED. 1492
(NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA).