

Interdisciplinary Programmes Office – Postgraduate modules 2018-19

IPA665 Cities and Cultures in Medieval Europe (15 credits)

In this interdisciplinary module, students will identify the ways in which urban spaces, politics, and residents influenced the production and reception of literature, art, architecture, and music in late medieval Europe. Students will conduct hands-on analysis of a rich array of primary sources, including paintings produced in city-states, music from mercantile centres, and plays performed on the streets of English towns. Students will not be expected to become proficient in any discipline outside their own; instead, they will use sources and methods from other disciplines to enrich their understanding of a historical period and to identify directions for future research.

This unit aims to

- Introduce students to cutting-edge research in medieval cities and cultures in multiple disciplines.
- Encourage students to interact with and analyse literature, music, art, and architecture produced in cities in late medieval Europe.
- Introduce students to different research methods by referencing multidisciplinary methods of analysis throughout the course of the module.
- Prompt students to identify connections between cultural production (literature, music, art, and architecture) and urban topography, politics, and history.
- Develop students' understanding of the nature of late medieval cities.
- Help students learn to communicate their ideas to audiences outside their own discipline.

Assessment: 1 x 3000 word essay

IPA650/651 Language in Use: An Introduction to Corpus Linguistics Research

Corpus linguistics - the use of large-scale text databases to shed light on regularity and structure in language - has assumed a centrality in linguistic research that would have been unthinkable twenty years ago. This module will introduce students to the use of corpora in linguistic research and language learning. We look at the way corpora are constructed and annotated, as well as the way linguists make use of them for a variety of tasks and in a variety of languages. The subject matter is suitable for students of all modern European languages, including English.

IPA650 (15 credits)

By the end of the unit, a candidate will be able to demonstrate:

- Knowledge of the principles of linguistic research and how to implement them using corpora
- Knowledge of the corpora available, their structure and composition
- A critical and informed understanding of the methods of analysing the results of linguistic searches
- The ability to reflect critically (orally and in writing) on research that makes use of corpora

IP651 (15 credits)

By the end of the unit, a candidate will be able to demonstrate:

- the ability to formulate a relevant research question and clear understanding of how to approach this question from a corpus-linguistic perspective
- the technical skill to extract and annotate linguistic data effectively
- an understanding of relevant theoretical models and quantitative methods, and an ability to deploy them selectively and critically
- the ability to present the results of independent corpus research

Assessment: Literature Review (30%), Poster research results with Presentation (70%)