

# COURSE DETAIL

## THE MEDIEVAL UNIVERSE

**Country**

United Kingdom - England

**Host Institution**

University College London

**Program(s)**

University College London

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

History

**UCEAP Course Number**

157

**UCEAP Course Suffix**

N

**UCEAP Official Title**

THE MEDIEVAL UNIVERSE

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

MEDIEVAL UNIVERSE

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

6.00

**UCEAP Semester Units**

4.00

### **Course Description**

The Medieval Universe was considered vast, but its structure of perfect spheres was ordered, limited and intelligible. Within the harmony of this system, many questions remained. How can human free will exist alongside an omnipotent God? What of the competing forces of celestial influences - whether good and bad spirits, or the "science" of astrology? Despite these tensions, a cosmological model of nested spheres with the earth at its center captivated medieval thinkers for nearly half a millennium. The first half of this course explores how medieval people engaged with the invisible and sacred forces of the heavens, and how this worldview gave meaning to human experience. Students study the pious and illicit rituals medieval people used to try to influence sacred beings and explore medieval concepts of time, imagination, and geography.

### **Language(s) of Instruction**

English

### **Host Institution Course Number**

HIST0513

### **Host Institution Course Title**

THE MEDIEVAL UNIVERSE

### **Host Institution Course Details**

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/module-catalogue/modules/the-medieval-universe-affiliate-...>

### **Host Institution Campus**

### **Host Institution Faculty**

### **Host Institution Degree**

### **Host Institution Department**

History

**Course Last Reviewed**

2025-2026

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