

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES
WESTERN UNIVERSITY

CLC/GERMAN/SPANISH/ITALIAN 4500G
WINTER 2017

SENIOR RESEARCH PROJECT

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CONTENT

In this capstone course for several programs in Modern Languages and Literatures, the theme in 2017 will be “Food and Medicine in the Middle Ages”. Chicken soup for a cold or flu is not a recent concept but an age-old remedy. Students will be given an overview of ancient and medieval preventative medicine and its underlying theories, as well as the close connection of food with health and healing, magic, ritual, religion, social status, science, technology, explorations, and trade. Avenues to explore may range from medieval ideas about nutrition, sick-dishes, foodstuffs and drugs, to cooking and dining practices, regional preferences and intercultural influences. For the presentation of their findings, students will choose their own medium which may be of a traditional or experimental nature.

AIMS

- develop an in-depth understanding of food’s central role in medieval science and culture
- study the connection of food with areas of human endeavour from the arts and humanities, to the sciences, business and law
- develop an awareness of the factors that influenced medieval dietary choices and food practices

OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course students will have

- acquired the tools to conduct advanced research in medieval food culture and history of medicine
- been introduced to and have applied a multi-disciplinary approach to food culture and science
- acquired the skills to work effectively in conjunction with professors and peers
- communicated the results of their research in an engaging way and a format suited to the topic of their choice

ASSESSMENTS

Participation 10%

Research Project 90%

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures Policies which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in Modern Languages and Literatures courses is available in the Undergraduate section of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures website at <http://www.uwo.ca/modlang/undergraduate/policies.html>. It is your responsibility to understand the policies set out by the Senate and the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, and thus ignorance of these policies cannot be used as grounds of appeal.

CLC 4500G

Antirequisite(s): German 4500F/G, Italian 4500F/G, Spanish 4500F/G

Prerequisite(s): CLC 2200F/G, 3300F/G, or permission of the Department

Corequisite(s):

Pre-or Corequisite(s):

Extra Information: 0.5 course

German 4500G

Antirequisite(s): CLC 4500F/G, Italian 4500F/G, Spanish 4500F/G

Prerequisite(s): German 2215F/G

Corequisite(s):

Pre-or Corequisite(s): German 3305 or permission of the Department

Extra Information: 0.5 course

Italian 4500G

Antirequisite(s): CLC 4500F/G, German 4500F/G, Spanish 4500F/G

Prerequisite(s): Italian 2215F/G

Corequisite(s):

Pre-or Corequisite(s): Italian 3300 or permission of the Department

Extra Information: 0.5 course

Spanish 4500G

Antirequisite(s): CLC 4500F/G, German 4500F/G, Italian 4500F/G

Prerequisite(s): Spanish 2215F/G or 2216F/G

Corequisite(s):

Pre-or Corequisite(s): Spanish 3300 or permission of the Department

Extra Information: 0.5 course

SYLLABUS (tentative)

Jan. 9	Introduction, Ancient and Medieval Medical Theories
Jan. 16	Medieval Dietetics, Foodstuffs and Drugs
Jan. 23	Food and the Supernatural
Jan. 30	Workshop - Researching Medieval Food Culture and History of Medicine
Feb. 6	Food, Medicine and Regions I
Feb. 13	Food, Medicine and Regions II
Feb. 20	Reading Week
Feb. 27	Food, Medicine and Status
Mar. 6	Food and/as Art, Food and Literature
Mar. 13	Project Presentations
Mar. 20	Project Presentations
Mar. 27	Project Presentations
April 3	Medieval Gastronomy and Nutrition Event