

# Travel in the Medieval World



This course explores the many ways people moved and traveled in medieval Europe between 300-1500 CE. Challenging the common perception of the Middle Ages as a static period, we will discover a society characterized by mobility and interconnectedness. From pilgrims and merchants to diplomats and warriors, medieval people were frequently on the move for faith, profit, politics, and conquest. Over the semester, we will investigate the reasons why medieval people undertook journeys and the logistics of how they traveled. What motivated people to face the perils of the road and sea? How did they navigate using maps and itineraries? What routes, infrastructure, and technologies facilitated their movement? To answer these questions, we will look at the travel experiences of a diverse cross-section of medieval society.

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