

## **Fall 2019 Course Descriptions**

**Instructor:** Nancy Warren

**Course:** ENGL 481

**Title:** Medieval Afterlives: The Middle Ages and Its Representations

**Description:** This course jointly considers medieval texts and cultural phenomena in their own historical moments and later representations of those texts and phenomena. We will investigate what sorts of literary, historical, and political questions get negotiated through engagements with the Middle Ages. We will ponder why particular characters, tropes, and themes recur so persistently in texts of various genres. We will consider such figures as Joan of Arc, Julian of Norwich, and King Arthur, among others. Students will be expected to participate actively, read both extensively and intensively, and conduct research using both primary and secondary sources.

**Proposed Readings:** Documents from Joan of Arc's trial, early modern English chronicles, Shakespeare's *Henry VI Part I*, Shaw's *Saint Joan*, saints' lives, the Showings of Julian of Norwich, Hansen's *Mariette in Ecstasy*, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, excerpts from Malory's *Morte Darthur*, Tennyson's *Idylls of the King*, selections of Arthurian films