

**■ ARHS 510: The Way of the Pilgrim: Medieval Art and Culture of the Pilgrimage Roads**

Shelly Nordtorp-Madson

Tuesdays, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

This course looks at the idea of pilgrimage: *A journey (usually of a long distance) made to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion; the action or practice of making such a journey.* (Oxford English Dictionary online, 2007). While such journeys are not limited to either Christian Europe or the Middle Ages, the class will concentrate on this important period in European artistic and cultural history. The roots of pilgrimage, both pagan and early Christian, the role of Crusade as Pilgrimage, as well as parallel developments in lands that touch on the Christian West, such as Byzantium and the Islamic countries, will be studied. The lively culture that grew up along the pilgrimage roads and shrines, both well-known and obscure, will help to put the art and architecture into context and give a more complete understanding of both religious and secular life of the period.

In Spring 2009, an exhibition called *Sacred Steps on the Camino*, which deals with modern North American pilgrims to Santiago da Compostela, as important a pilgrimage site today as it was in the Middle Ages, a collaborative effort between the Department of Art History, The College of Arts and Sciences, and the Embassy of Spain, will be on display in O'Shaughnessey Education Center Gallery. This course is developed in conjunction with that exhibit in order to show the link between Medieval and Modern Pilgrimage.

*This course fulfills the Pre-Modern Art core requirement.*

Background Reading (Available also electronically on the JSTOR database):

Carr, Annemarie Weyl, "Icons and the Object of Pilgrimage in Middle Byzantine Constantinople," *Dumbarton Oaks Papers*, Vol. 56 (2002), pp. 75-92.

Foss, Clive, "Pilgrimage in Medieval Asia Minor," *Dumbarton Oaks Papers*, Vol. 56. (2002), pp. 129-151.

Harvey, L.P., "The Moriscos and the Hajj," *Bulletin (British Society for Middle Eastern Studies)*, Vol. 14, No. 1. (1987), pp. 11-24.

Nebolsine, George, "The Pilgrimage Route to Rome," *Gesta*, Vol. 1. (1964), pp. 2-8.

Petersen, Andrew, "The Archaeology of the Syrian and Iraqi Hajj Routes," *World Archaeology*, Vol. 26, No. 1, Archaeology of Pilgrimage. (Jun., 1994), pp. 47-56.

Nolan, Mary Lee, "Irish Pilgrimage: The Different Tradition," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, Vol. 73, No. 3 (Sep., 1983), pp.421-438.

Stopford, J. "Some Approaches to the Archaeology of Christian Pilgrimage," *World Archaeology*, Vol. 26, No. 1, Archaeology of Pilgrimage, (Jun., 1994), pp.57-72.