

**Module Title:** Men, Women, and Song: Love Poetry in the Middle Ages

**Module Code:** SML4200

**Credit Value:** 15

**Level:** 4

**Pre-requisite modules:**

### **Content Description**

From boy bands to Valentines, our ways of expressing sexual love were first formulated in the Middle Ages. This module traces the early history of the language of love, through poetry and songs composed between the 12th and 15th centuries. With the help of English translations, you will explore different types of poetry in various languages: Spanish, French, Catalan, Galician- Portuguese, and the Occitan language of southern France. You will develop your ability to analyse complex poems, and to understand and respect cultural differences, through a range of activities including creative rewriting of translations.

### **Module Aims**

The primary learning outcome in this module is that you will think about learning as a mindset and a process - it has no end point.

By the end of this module you will have:

- Have knowledge and understanding of the literature and culture of the French and Spanish Middle Ages in particular with relation to love poetry in the Catalan, Galician-Portuguese, Occitan, and Spanish traditions.
- Engage with critical debates concerning the works considered in the module.
- Have an awareness of the impact of the works in the development of medieval literary culture.
- Show familiarity with some of the methods and critical tools employed by scholars to study medieval literature.
- Be acquainted with some key literary forms and have developed their interpretative skills accordingly.
- Engage critically with a selection of scholarly material including monographs and specialised articles.
- Present their findings in a scholarly fashion both orally – through participation in seminars – and in written form – through essays and text commentaries.
- Achieve clarity and precision of communication in written work and class debate.
- Recognise the multilingual and international dimensions of medieval culture.
- Develop the capacity to investigate and analyze unfamiliar cultures.
- Acquire understandings of literary forms that can be transferred to different cultural settings.

