

Specialist Course

# Cities and Exchange in Medieval Europe

20 - 24 June 2011  
Bruges, Ghent and Lille

Participants to the Specialist Course “Cities and Exchange in Medieval Europe” will explore the development of the late medieval city from several perspectives and with particular focus on the city of Bruges. During the last centuries of the Middle Ages, the city of Bruges was a prosperous financial and trading center as well as a city of international importance and cultural influence.

Through a series of lectures and presentations with prominent scholars and curators, participants will evaluate the economic growth of the city on the basis of the charters, city accounts, registers of confraternities and inventories, assessing urban growth by maps of Bruges held in the City Archives. Surviving objects from the Groeninge Museum, Memling in Sint-Jan and the Public Library, bear witness to the high quality production of paintings, manuscripts, literature, in Bruges during the 14th and 15th centuries. Participants will discover how art manufactured in Bruges was widely exported, influencing the artistic production in other parts of Europe.

A number of the sessions have been designed to encourage discussion between speakers and the course participants. Students will be invited to make assignments on one or more subjects relating to their personal research and discuss it in public. The participants are offered the possibility to build up a network of contacts with younger and established scholars within the field of medieval studies.

The course is primarily intended for Ph.D. students in archeology, art, history and literature with a research interest in a (late-)medieval topic.



# PROGRAMME

## MONDAY 20 JUNE 2011: BRUGES

*Location: City Archives of Bruges*

09.00 – 11.00: **James Murray** (Western Michigan University, Director of the Medieval Institute)  
General introduction to the medieval history of Bruges and the historical sources relating to the international commerce. First assignments for the students

*coffee break*

11.15 – 13.00: **Noël Geirnaert** (Chief Archivist of the City Archives of Bruges) and **Jan Dhondt** (Archivist of the City Archives of Bruges)  
Presentation of several types of economic documents in the City Archives of Bruges

*lunch*

15.00 – 17.00: **Jan Dumolyn** (Ghent University) and **Bram Vannieuwenhuyze** (Catholic University of Leuven)  
Workshop with maps: the growth and the morphology of medieval Bruges

*coffee break*

17.15 – 19.00: **Jan Dumolyn** and **Bram Vannieuwenhuyze**  
Walk through the town

## TUESDAY 21 JUNE 2011: BRUGES - GHENT

*Location: Public Library of Bruges*

9.00 – 11.00: **Peter Stabel** (University of Antwerp) and **Katherine Wilson** (University of York)  
Trade and material culture: introduction and assignments for the students

*coffee break*

11.15 – 13.00: **Ludo Vandamme** (Head Special Collections of the Public Library of Bruges)  
Presentation of some important manuscripts and incunabula of the Public Library of Bruges

*lunch*

14.00 – 16.00: Discussion groups for students: tutors are **Peter Stabel** and **Katherine Wilson**

*Location: Ghent University*

17.00 – 19.00: Participation in the 8th seminar of the Medieval Seminar Series organized by the H. Pirenne Institute for Medieval Studies at Ghent University  
Lecture by **James Murray**: Bruges, a cradle of capitalism  
Meeting with other staff members belonging to the H. Pirenne Institute for Medieval Studies

## WEDNESDAY 22 JUNE 2011: BRUGES

*Location: Groeninge Museum*

9.00 – 11.00: **Jessica Buskirk** (University of Dresden)  
Exchanges in Art and Culture Visual arts: introduction and assignments for the students

*coffee break*

11.15 – 13.00: **Till-Holger Borchert** (Curator of the Groeninge Museum)  
Presentation of the collection of old masters in the Groeninge museum

*lunch*

15.00 – 17.00: **Manfred Sellink** (director Musea Brugge and acting curator Hospitaalmeusea)  
Visit to Memling in Sint-Jan

*coffee break*

17.15 – 19.00: Group discussion

*Conference dinner*

## THURSDAY 23 JUNE 2011: GHENT

*Location: Department of History, Henri Pirenne Room*

9.00 – 11.00: **Johan Oosterman** (Radboud University Nijmegen)  
Literature: introduction and assignments for the students

*coffee break*

11.15 – 13.00: Library of the History Department  
Students work on their assignments

*lunch*

15.00 – 17.00: **James Murray**  
Students present their assignments

*coffee break*

17.15 – 19.00: **James Murray**  
Evaluation of the assignments; feedback

## FRIDAY 24 JUNE 2011: LILLE

*Location: Maison européenne des Sciences de l'Homme et de la Société*

9.00 – 11.00: **Elodie Lecuppre-Desjardin** (Université Lille III – Charles de Gaulle)  
The city as a platform for cultural exchanges  
Discussion of the assignments

*coffee break*

11.15 – 13.00: **James Murray**  
Discussion of the assignments (continued)

*lunch*

15.00 – 17.00: **James Murray**  
General discussion and evaluation of the intensive course.

# PRACTICAL INFORMATION

## APPLICATION

The application deadline is **May 15, 2011**. There will be a maximum of 20 participants. Applications should be sent to [Martine.DeReu@UGent.be](mailto:Martine.DeReu@UGent.be).

## LODGING AND TRANSPORT

Participants need to provide for their own lodging and transport. Useful information can be found on the following websites:

*for lodging:*

[www.brugge.be/internet/nl/toerisme/logies\\_restaurants/hotels.htm](http://www.brugge.be/internet/nl/toerisme/logies_restaurants/hotels.htm) or  
[www.brugge.be/internet/en/index.htm](http://www.brugge.be/internet/en/index.htm)  
[www.booking.com/Brugge](http://www.booking.com/Brugge)  
[www.guesthouses.be/Brugge/](http://www.guesthouses.be/Brugge/)  
[www.hotels-brugge.org](http://www.hotels-brugge.org)

*for trains:*

[plannerint.b-rail.be/](http://plannerint.b-rail.be/)

## MEALS

Lunches will be organized by the H. Pirenne Institute for Medieval Studies. Upon their arrival, participants will be asked to pay 100 EUR in cash for five lunches.

A **conference dinner** is organized on Wednesday, 22 June 2011. Participants are kindly asked to mention in their letter of application whether they want to take part in this dinner. The dinner is offered by the organizers of this Specialist Course.

## INSCRIPTION FEE:

There is an inscription fee of 50 EUR to be paid on the account of Ghent University, Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 25, B-9000 GHENT. Account details: IBAN: BE59-3900-9658-0026 - SWIFT: BBRU BE BB 900. The VAT-number of Ghent University is BE 0248.015.142. The bank transfer should mention "Cities and exchange". Payment of this fee is considered as a final inscription.

The inscription fee is waived for Ph.D.-students from Ghent University.

This project is organized by the H. Pirenne Institute for Medieval Studies in collaboration with

