MINOR IN ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL STUDIES

Through a wide variety of subjects drawn from a number of disciplines, this program provides a curricular framework for exploring topics in ancient and medieval studies which range from the history of ideas and institutions to that of material artifacts, literature and certain of the original languages. The chronological span of the program includes some 6,500 years between 5000 B.C. and 1500 A.D.

The goal of this program is to develop knowledge and understanding of the more distant past both for itself, in its uniqueness, and as an object of specifically modern questions and methods of inquiry. The program has an interest in the structure of institutions and social systems, and in relationships between the social order and learned traditions, values, ideologies and ideas. Ancient and medieval studies derive a special claim to our interest from the fact that the record is so full and multiform and that much of it is of exceptionally high quality at once in substance and form.

The minor is designed for students who, in addition to the focus of their major program of study, are seeking a fuller understanding of the forces which shaped the ancient and medieval world. The geographical and chronological scope of the Minor program is broadly conceived and is intended to be comparative. Subjects range in content from Classical Greece and Rome, and the ancient societies of Asia and South America, to medieval Europe and Japan. Students will be required to demonstrate intermediate level language proficiency in either Greek, Latin, or a medieval vernacular, but they need not concentrate their other subjects on the area associated with that language. Students are also expected to have some distribution across the ancient and medieval time periods. We expect that students will consult closely with the minor advisor in order to devise a coherent program of study.

The minor consists of six subjects (at least three of which must be MIT subjects), arranged in four primary areas of study:

- **Area I: Language**
- **Area II: Humanities and the Arts**
- **Area III: Social Sciences and Material Sciences**
- **Area IV: Historical Studies**

One subject from a fifth area of study—Methodology—may be included in the minor with the permission of the minor advisor.

Subjects in Ancient and Medieval Studies are also available from Harvard University and Wellesley College through cross-registration. Students must receive permission from the minor advisor prior to registering for a class at another institution.

Five of the six minor subjects may be counted toward the eight-subject Institute HASS Requirement. Of these five, at most one shall count toward satisfaction of the HASS Distribution Requirement.

Of the six subjects required for the minor, at least four cannot be counted toward a major or another minor.

### Area I: Language

Select one of the following:

- 21G.303 French III
- 21G.304 and French IV
- 21G.403 German III
- 21G.404 and German IV
- 21G.703 Spanish III
- 21G.704 and Spanish IV

Two intermediate-level subjects in Greek, Latin, Italian, Norse, or Arabic

Select four subjects from at least two of the following areas:

### Area II: Humanities and Arts

Select from among the following:

- 4.605 A Global History of Architecture
- 4.614 Architecture in the Islamic World
- 4.635 Early Modern Architecture and Art
- 21L.001 Foundations of Western Literature: Homer to Dante
- 21L.455 Classical Literature
- 21L.458 The Bible
- 21L.460 Medieval Literature
- 21L.611 Latin I (6-unit subject)
- 21L.612 Latin II (6-unit subject)
- 21M.220 Medieval and Renaissance Music

### Area III: Social Sciences and Material Sciences

Select from among the following:

- 3.981 Communities of the Living and the Dead: the Archaeology of Ancient Egypt
- 3.982 The Ancient Andean World
- 3.983 Ancient Mesoamerican Civilization
- 3.993 Archaeology of the Middle East

### Area IV: Historical Studies

Select from among the following:

- 21H.007 Empire: Introduction to Ancient and Medieval Studies
- 21H.333 Early Christianity
- 21H.130 The Ancient World: Greece
- 21H.132 The Ancient World: Rome
- 21H.236 The Making of a Roman Emperor
- 21H.237 The City of Athens in the Age of Pericles
The subject list above is not exhaustive. Additional information can be obtained from the minor advisor, Professor Anne McCants (amccants@mit.edu), E51-263, 617-258-6669, or from the History Office, E51-255, 617-253-4965.