

Living through the Plague: Lessons from Medieval Europe

Zoom link: <https://illinois.zoom.us/j/5991147274?pwd=NEtqdTZOMXVtQWtHdUIlQ3NhbTRLdz09>
Meeting ID: 599-114-7274 | Password: EUCENTER

“The Black Death: What We Know Now”

Tuesday, April 7, 4-4:45pm

Carol Symes, Associate Professor of History, Theatre, Classics, and Medieval Studies

Our knowledge of what caused the first global pandemic, when it began, and how it spread has been revolutionized in the past decade. In this lecture, Carol Symes,

Associate Professor of History, will look briefly at how people of the time understood and responded to it, and then introduce new evidence derived from collaborations among historians, archaeologists, epidemiologists, and others.

“The Black Death: What We Know Now” is part of “Living through the Plague: Lessons from Medieval Europe,” a new virtual lecture series organized by the EU Center.

“Reading Contagion through Boccaccio’s Decameron”

Wednesday, April 15, 4-4:45pm

Eleonora Stoppino, Associate Professor of Italian

In 1348, as the plague hit Florence, seven women and three men moved to the countryside with their servants, to protect themselves from contagion. This is the setting of Giovanni Boccaccio’s Decameron, which narrates the hundred tales the group tells to pass time. In this lecture Eleonora Stoppino, Associate Professor of Italian, explores the moments of social and ethical breakdown described by Boccaccio, as well as the potential for reconstruction after the plague.

“Life After [the Black] Death”

Wednesday, April 22, 4-4:45pm

Carol Symes, Associate Professor of History, Theatre, Classics, and Medieval Studies The world was a very different place for those who survived the medieval pandemic. What were its environmental, economic, social, and cultural effects? What lessons might we derive from learning about them? Carol Symes, Associate Professor of History, will address these questions in her lecture, “Life After [the Black] Death.” This presentation is part of “Living through the Plague: Lessons from Medieval Europe,” a new virtual lecture series organized by the EU Center.

