MARRIAGE IN FEUDAL SOCIETY: SACRAMENT, CONTRACT AND ALLIANCE

WINTER 2014 HTST-423

DR. FRANCINE MICHAUD T-R: 9:30-10:45

The course will adopt a comparative approach to the problem of matrimonial alliance in the context of medieval Christianity and feudalism (c.400-1400). It will focus on the changing concept of marriage throughout the period, that is, from its roots in the Judeo-Christian tradition and the influence of Germanic customs in its formative stages, to its difficult evolution in a Christian but warrior society. Geared toward the emergence of the modern concept of Christian marriage, this course is designed to grasp the cultural contour of medieval society through the institution and practice of marriage, from a wide range of perspectives: anthropological, theological, legal, and economic.

Books to be purchased: TBA

