Welcome. Benvenuti.

This course is about Gothic art, culture and people in Europe. Unlike the Renaissance, it is a subject that does not usually captivate the attention, maybe because of what we recall: the Dark Ages, the Inquisition, the Crusades, wars, famine and poverty. But Europe during the Gothic era was a unique environment that is more than its Cathedrals. It is the last time people and faith followed rules that were not modern. Take, for instance, Paris, smaller than Ogden, the capital of a recent kingdom where an abbot was able to create a new artistic style that spread all over the continent through architects, artisans and even friars. And so were cities like Venice, Barcelona, Bologna, Palermo, London. We will see what these small and quarrelsome countries were like, as we still see today in their monuments, masterpieces, food and human characters.

1) April 3rd, HISTORICAL OVERVIEW: Europe and the Europeans Before and during the Middle Ages

2) April 10th, The Medieval Way of life: Society, Games and Fashion

3) April 17th, Cathedrals, Towers, Castles and the Arts

4) April 24th, Inquisition, Culture and Medieval Cities

5) May 1st, The Black Plague and the Birth of a New Fancy Way of Life

6) May 8th, How to Cook a Medieval Dinner