Undergraduate Research Opportunity

PROJECT

Slavery in the Medieval World: Archival and Pedagogical Approaches

Prof. Hannah Barker
History

The goal of this project is to create a publicly available website with two parts. The first part will be a finding aid for scholars who want to conduct research on slavery in the late Middle Ages in the state archives of Venice and Genoa. In essence, this is an expanded and annotated version of the archival section of my book’s bibliography, helping other scholars translate call numbers into source collections. The second part will provide pedagogical resources for professors who want to teach a unit or an entire course on slavery in the medieval world. The core of this section will be a collection of primary sources which have never before been translated into English.

Research assistant’s duties:
In Fall 2019, I want to get the website up and running, upload some primary sources, and tackle the Genoa section of the archival guide. Your duties will include helping me design and implement the website in an accessible and aesthetically pleasing way. I would like this to be a website that undergraduates feel comfortable using, so your participation in its design is important. If you have appropriate language skills, we might then translate some sources together. Otherwise we might work on writing introductory text for the website, finding historically appropriate images, and compiling bibliographies on slavery-related topics.

Required skills or qualifications:
Required: interest in medieval history and/or history of slavery. Desired: experience in web design, intermediate-level competence or better in any language beyond English.

Skills student will acquire:
Knowledge about medieval slavery in comparative perspective, web design, translation (possible), online and library research (possible)