

PhD program: *Medieval General history*

Professional direction: 2.2. *History and Archaeology*

Scientific specialty: *History*

Faculty of Law and History

Department: *History*

Annotation:

This Program suggests study of the history of Middle Ages in Western Europe. In a millennium from Vth to XVIth centuries societies in Europe lived major changes: at the beginning is a time of transition and slowly dying of the institutions of the late Roman Empire; than a new ethnic map of Europe is created and lay the foundations of modern states and the imposition of Christian religion; between X-XIII century began a period of urban development, revitalization of the economy and the Crusades; and finally in the late Middle Ages - Renaissance began in Italy, new economic tendencies emerged and Europe is preparing for the opening of the New World.

In this framework the doctoral students is given the opportunity to choose the topics for their research that combine interdisciplinary approach, knowledge and skills from different areas of historical and non-historical disciplines. They will be encouraged to explore new fields of research - within the economic and social history, as well as within transconfessional or cultural and religious interactions.

The rapid development of medieval studies allows free access to virtual spaces and libraries, which greatly facilitates the search for information. The program offers a high level of research in response to current trends towards new reading and interpretation of the sources and the rediscovery of the Middle Ages.

Competencies of doctoral students:

The aim of the doctoral program is to create young scientists and future teachers. To achieve this goal there is need to construct their capabilities for research work:

- ability to carry out research on the topic: construction of a scientific text; building logically justified exposure and opportunities to open new perspectives on the issues;
- Capacity for analysis and synthesis of information from various historical sources of related fields of humanities.

Training Plan for training of doctoral studies (PhD students) on *Medieval General history*:

A) OBLIGATORY COURSES:

1) *Political and socio-economic history of European regions and the Mediterranean between Vth and XVIth century.* (according to the chosen topic for a dissertation)

- examination

- Assoc. Prof. Snezhanka Rakova, PhD

2) *Methods of preparing and writing a thesis in historical sciences*

- examination

- Assoc. Prof. Kostadin Paev, PhD

B) SELECTABLE COURSES: Elective courses are offered after formulating the topic of research. Included in the Individual Education Plan and approved by the scientific unit. PhD student selects 2 courses.

C) OPTIONAL DISCIPLINES:

The PhD student can study the optional each academic discipline involved in doctoral programs of SWU "Neofit Rilski", other universities in the country and BAS within no less than 30 teaching hours in training plan.

Graduation:

- Exams
- Defense of doctoral thesis