The Marco Institute for Medieval and Renaissance Studies of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, is the university’s hub for the study and teaching of the early periods, from late antiquity to the late 17th century. The institute promotes interdisciplinary research, curricular development, and programming in the histories and cultures of Western Europe, the Mediterranean, and Western Asia from late antiquity through the Renaissance. With an active, accomplished faculty spread across eight different academic departments, Marco offers a range of disciplinary specializations in and methodological approaches to relevant fields in humanities, social sciences, languages, and arts.

The Marco Institute grew out of the university’s successful Medieval Studies Interdisciplinary Program and built on its longstanding record of attracting accomplished scholars in this field. The institute was catalyzed by a 2003 National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant that helped secure, with substantial fundraising efforts, a $3-million endowment.

Housed now in Temple Court, the institute provides space for classes and meetings, as well as an expanding reference library. Marco hosts internationally recognized scholars for a yearly symposium and for annual lectures, sponsors faculty and graduate research seminars, and provides a range of fellowships for visiting scholars and graduate students. Marco continues to be the home of the Medieval Studies Interdisciplinary and offers an undergraduate major and minor, as well as graduate certificate. With its rich programming and interdisciplinary curriculum, the institute maintains a vibrant scholarly profile and commitment to academic distinction.

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Thursday, March 10
All public events will take place in the Toyota Room of the Howard Baker Center for Public Policy on UT campus, except where noted.

7:00 p.m. Welcome by Heather Hirschfeld, Riggsby Director
The Marco Institute

Keynote address - Deirdre Larkin, the Cloisters, the Metropolitan Museum of Art
“Hortus Redivivus: The Medieval Garden Recreated”

Reception to follow in Baker Center rotunda

Friday, March 11
All public events will take place in the Toyota Room of the Howard Baker Center for Public Policy on UT campus, except where noted.

8:30am – 9:25am Registration, coffee and refreshments outside Toyota Room

9:25am Welcome by John Zomchick, Executive Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

9:30am – 11:00am Session 1, moderated by Gregory Kaplan
Oliver Creighton (University of Exeter)
“Shaping Nature: The Archaeology of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Medieval England”

Johanna Bauman (ARTstor)
“Medieval Gardens of Love and Delight: The Pleasure of the Garden in the Text”

11:00am – 11:30am Coffee break

11:30am – 1:00pm Session 2, moderated by Thomas Burman
Dede Fairchild Ruggles (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)
“Scent and Sensibility in Islamic Gardens”

Ioli Kalavrezou (Harvard University, Dumbarton Oaks)
“Gardens in Byzantium, the real, symbolic and imaginary”

1:15pm – 2:30pm Lunch break

Saturday, March 12
All public events will take place in the Toyota Room of the Howard Baker Center for Public Policy on UT campus, except where noted.

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Coffee and refreshments

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Session 4, moderated by Gregor Kalas
Raffaella Fabiani Giannetto (University of Pennsylvania)
“Garden Making from Habit to Art”

Mirka Beneš (University of Texas at Austin)
“Leaping the Fence before the English Picturesque: Gardens and the Larger Landscape, Real and Imagined, in the Rome of Claude Lorrain”

11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Coffee break

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Session 5, moderated by Mary Dzon
Maryanne Horowitz (Occidental College)
“Garden of the Mind”

Rebecca Bushnell (University of Pennsylvania)
“Gardens and Memory: The Shakespeare and Modern Elizabethan Garden”

1:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Lunch break

2:30 p.m. - 4 p.m. Roundtable Discussion led by Laura Howes

4:15 p.m. Refreshments