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.
Thursday, March 1
All public events will take place in the Hodges Library Auditorium on UT campus, except where noted.

7:00pm Welcome by Heather Hirschfeld, Riggsby Director
The Marco Institute
Keynote address: Anthony Grafton
Henry Putnam Professor of History
Princeton University
“Reading Across Borders in Renaissance Europe”
Reception to follow in Hodges Library, First Floor

Friday, March 2
8:30am – 9:25am Registration, coffee and refreshments outside Hodges Library Auditorium
9:25am Welcome by John Zomchick, Executive Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
9:30am – 11:00am Session 1, moderated by Jacob Latham
Megan Williams (San Francisco State University)
“Books, Libraries, and the Circulation of Historical Knowledge in Late Antiquity”
David Ganz (University of Notre Dame)
“Scribes and their Patrons: Learning from Lowe”

11:00am – 11:30am Coffee break
11:30am – 1:00pm Session 2, moderated by Thomas Heffernan
Anna Grotans (Ohio State University)
“Ekkehard IV of St. Gall: Teacher, Glossator, Monk and Courtier”
Alison I. Beach (Ohio State University)
“Remnants of Liturgy: Space, Community, and Materiality in the Manuscripts of Twelfth-Century Zwiefalten”

1:15pm – 2:30pm Lunch break

Saturday, March 3
10:15am – 11:45am Session 4, moderated by Anthony Welch
Christopher Celentza (Johns Hopkins University)
“Lorenzo Valla’s Prefaces to his Annotations on the Vulgate: Scripture, Theory and the History of Philology”
Robert Black (University of Leeds)
“Illustrated Manuscript Schoolbooks”

12:00pm – 1:00pm Lunch break
1:00pm – 2:30pm Session 5, moderated by Dorothy Habel
William H. Sherman (University of York)
“Reading the Renaissance Villa: How Bembo the Elder Read His Pliny the Younger”
Jennifer Summit (Stanford University)
“Mary’s Book”

2:30pm – 3:00pm Coffee break
3:00pm – 4:30pm Roundtable Discussion led by Thomas Burman
4:45pm Refreshments

Cosponsors: The departments of History and Modern Foreign Languages & Literatures, the Hodges Better English Fund, the Ready for the World Initiative