

MDST 300 Fall 2014
Pinterest Assignment #1

BY NOON ON MONDAY SEPTEMBER 1—YOU MUST

1. Read Marcus Bull's "Popular Images of the Middle Ages" which is in the course library on Blackboard.
2. If you do not already have a Pinterest account, go to www.Pinterest.com and set yourself up a free account.
3. Find the board <http://www.pinterest.com/ProfessorKoster/mdst-300-what-is-medieval/> and "follow" the board.
4. Send Dr. Koster an e-mail (kosterj@winthrop.edu) and tell her that you (1) have followed this board and (2) what your Pinterest username is (some of you may use names like "TruBelieber" rather than your own name).

Dr. K will give you permission to post on this board, so you can add pins to the collection.

----- **THEN BY FRIDAY 9/5 by MIDNIGHT** -----

5. Pin at least two, but no more than ten, images to the board that have contributed to your personal perception of "What is medieval"? This will build the "corpus" (a/k/a 'collection', but "corpus" is what medievalists call a body of information gathered to analyze a particular topic, so start using the word!) for your analysis.

----- **THEN BY MONDAY 9/8 by MIDNIGHT** -----

6. Go into the blog for our class on Blackboard and post an entry (or respond to a classmate's entry) in the blog thread for "Popular Images of the Middle Ages." This entry should be at least 400 words, and should analyze what you notice about the corpus—about trends in influences, and/or how your image of the Middle Ages fits or doesn't fit with your classmates' images, or with Bull's, etc. The goal here is for all of us to have a conversation about the cultural signals that 'say' "**medieval**" to us as we begin our explorations of the Middle Ages. The time deadline will allow me (wifi on the plane willing) to read all your responses on the 7-hour flight home so that I am ready for class on Wednesday!

If you have questions or run into problems, e-mail Dr. Koster at kosterj@winthrop.edu. I may have limited wifi access while I'm at the conference, but I will do my best to respond within 24 hours.

Grading Points: Total of 10 points for the entire assignment; up to 3 extra credit points may be awarded if you post more than the minimum number of pins (extra credit will be awarded for both the quantity and the **quality** of your pins).

Pinterest note: Pinterest can **only** be used on pages that have a picture. Find the page that you want to pin, insert the URL into Pinterest, and the possible pictures should come up—choose the one you want to show up on your "Pin." I will demonstrate this in class for you.