ARCH 412: MEDIEVAL ARCHITECTURE
Fall 2019, CRN 29972
Tuesday/Thursday, 11am-12:20pm
Prof. Heather Grossman (hgrossma@illinois.edu)

From Late Antiquity to the beginning of the Renaissance, a range of architectural monuments shaped Byzantine and western European medieval daily life, religious experience, and royal and civic spectacle. This course introduces students to the architecture, monumental arts, and built environment of the eastern and western European Middle Ages from the third to the fifteenth century C.E. We will learn about the awe-inspiring basilicas of the Early Christian Mediterranean, the domed churches and gilded palaces of Byzantium, the cloistered monasteries and pilgrimage destinations of Romanesque Europe, and the formidable fortresses, great commercial cities, and Gothic cathedrals that rose across Europe. The course integrates the study of the architecture and its related arts (monumental painting, mosaics, furnishings) with the study of medieval culture and society, exploring the roles of royal courts and secular civil authority, religious performance and observance, crusading and trade between East and West, and rising urbanism. The course will proceed chronologically, with thematic and topical issues simultaneously addressed.

3 UG hours/3 grad hours. Lecture with frequent discussions and group work. Evaluation is by participation (including short written and drawing assignments), quizzes, two slide and essay examinations, and a research assignment. Students from all disciplines welcome but may be of particular interest to those in architecture, art and design, art history, landscape architecture, medieval studies, history, and engineering.