

# WHERE DO WE COME FROM AND WHERE ARE WE GOING?

The cultures and languages of Europe provide the basis on which our future depends. A new generation of medievalists should learn how cultures and languages developed, what discussions took place – and then draw their own conclusions. This is important not only for our common future in Europe, but also for young Europeans to be able to develop professionally.

The study of the cultural and literary history of pre-modern Europe can be made into a resource which can allow us to mould the future of our open, pluralistic society – by being aware of our history, well-prepared for a variety of jobs and having the ability to move between different cultures. TALC\_me, the European network for medieval studies and career orientation, connects academic scholarship, learning, and career training in an intercultural framework.

TALC\_me has two main objectives: to offer excellent training for students in the humanities with a major in cultural and literary medieval studies. At the same time, TALC\_me aims to equip students with the necessary skills and tools for succeeding in the job market. Thirteen European partners from universities, cultural institutions, and the media are striving to attain these goals.



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# BACK TO THE FUTURE MIEVEAL STUDIES INTERLINKS EUROPE

# TALC\_me

Textual  
and Literary  
Cultures  
in Medieval Europe

How has Europe been shaped the way it is? How will it develop in the future? What processes and transfers took place? What does studying historical literature teach us about cultural developments and cultural exchanges long before today's nations were formed?





## TEXTUAL AND LITERARY CULTURES IN MEDIEVAL EUROPE

Especially in the field of historical humanities, students feel a great disconnect between the requirements of the world of work – including employability, the capability for vocational training – and everyday life at their universities. Many lack practical experience on how to apply their skills outside the university context.

The European network TALC\_me gives students the opportunity to develop workplace competences already during their studies, covering such areas as organization, project development, intercultural processes, and communication.

To that end, TALC\_me is developing methodological guides derived from practical pilot projects and numerous surveys. Elements of career and competence orientation are combined with academic studies to form an international study programme.

The TALC\_me consortium of thirteen European partners is convinced that academic exchange, communication in different languages, and insights into different cultural systems are as important for the heritage and the future of Europe as they are for the future of our graduates. The experiences gained from the GLITEMA Erasmus-Mundus programme and the GLEMA European Master provided a valuable foundation for the formulation of our goals and for their realization.

The demand for professional skills and competence orientation in the humanities is rising and, in response, TALC\_me is working to develop highly effective measures.

## WHAT ARE WE DOING?

We develop guidelines and recommendations aimed at providing students with intercultural and career-related competences for teaching in the humanities, using literary medieval studies as a case in point.

We develop a course curriculum for an international Joint Master Degree.

We develop a module on „intercultural competence and career orientation“, which, as a best practice model, can be implemented in Bachelor's, Master's and PhD programmes in the humanities.

We develop an open-access platform supplying study and teaching materials and offering competence and career orientation to students of European humanities and cultural studies.

In order to put the teaching and study materials into practice, to evaluate them and to optimize their efficiency in a sustainable manner, there are, among other measures, three intensive study programmes bringing together students and faculty from ten different countries with partners from the working world. All project results are made public. You can find us at [www.talcme.uni-mainz.de](http://www.talcme.uni-mainz.de)