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Evropa Indivisa: Toward a Global Middle Ages

The presentation describes a pilot graduate seminar project to be taught at the University of Pennsylvania in the spring of 2015. The goal of the seminar is to instruct students on a range of topics in Medieval Studies using a methodological approach that views European medieval civilization as encompassing the whole ("global") geographic and cultural space of Europe and disregards reference to contemporary socio-political division of Europe into "Western" and "Eastern." This approach allows examination of correspondences between various linguistic, textual, political, and religious communities, at the same time, highlighting their diversity. As a case study, the course focuses on the reign of the Holy Roman Emperor Charles IV and examines this monarch's vision of a "Global Europe."