


# THE RETURN OF THE COURSE

5 September, the 1219<sup>th</sup> Year of the Fourth Age

One course to rule them all



## THE CREATED MEDIEVAL HISTORY OF J.R.R. TOLKIEN'S MIDDLE-EARTH

HSTR336T

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UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA  
FALL 2019  
Thursdays 2:30 to 5:20

Much that once was is lost, for none now live who remember it.  
And some things that should not have been forgotten were lost.

THE WORLD IS CHANGED



The narrative of *The Lord of the Rings* covers less than two decades and marks the end of the Third Age of Middle Earth. The three tales and the films based on them, along with *The Hobbit*, have a unique quality of richness, depth, culture and chronology because J.R.R. Tolkien over his lifetime built a comprehensive history from which they grew. The 3,000 years of the Third Age, 3,300 of the Second and 600 years of the First, the 14,300 Years of the Trees, the 34,000 Years of the Valar and the creation of the universe by Ilúvatar represent a complex, sometimes contradictory, usually fragmentary, often difficult, multi-fold, 55,000-year account of the history of this world. It is a history of Aman, the Sea and Middle-earth, written in the form of annals, stories, epic tales, songs and poetry. The history he created was built largely on what