

The Medieval Studies Program presents a lecture.  
Wednesday, 14 April 2010  
4:00-5:30 PM, HSSB 6056 (The IHC Seminar Room)

## “Friars under Fire: The Scale and Scope of Anti-Mendicant Violence”

Guy Geltner  
Professor of Medieval History  
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Prostitutes beat up a friar for non-payment.  
Urs Graf, 1521

Medieval friars were the butt of numerous jokes, objects of satire, and the targets of several polemical treatises written by contemporary theologians. But did such attitudes reflect or lead to social action as well? In this talk Professor Geltner will establish the scale of anti-mendicant violence in the thirteenth and fourteenth century using both narrative and administrative sources. He will then explore the scope of these incidents and ask what they can tell us about the friars' social standing and the uses of violence as a form of communicative action in the medieval urban public sphere.

If you have any questions, please contact Edward D. English at [english@history.ucsb.edu](mailto:english@history.ucsb.edu)