



# PAGE SCHOOL OF MERIDIES

## STUDENT/TEACHER HANDBOOK

Updated March 2019

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# Introduction

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The future of the Society will rest greatly upon the shoulders of the younger members who are presently attending events. It is only fair to those young SCA members that a real effort be made by the Society to provide a sound foundation to help them learn and develop.

The purpose of the Page School of Meridies is to provide the young gentles of the Society with an organized curriculum and the opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills of the Middle Ages. Furthermore, the school wishes to promote youth leadership and lifelong involvement in the Society.

## **We are working to...**

1. Integrate children into the Society at large, at events, meetings, and in our hearts and minds,
2. Give the children a sense of belonging, in local groups, at events, within their Kingdom at large,
3. Foster parental involvement with regards to activities and learning for children by making those activities enjoyable for all, and welcoming parents,
4. Eliminate the "babysitter mentality"...that's not what the office of Minister of Children is all about (it is about education and involvement),
5. Get rid of "glue-and-glitter" activities! Some plain old fun activities are welcome - and even needed, but falling back on "busy work" always is a disservice to the kids,
6. And finally, we hope that all (kids and adults, alike) learn, grow, and have a lot of fun doing it! Let's help develop that sense of pride in accomplishment, love of learning, responsibility, respect, and chivalry among our youth.

# Getting Started in Page School

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## How do I enroll?

Enrolling is easy! All you need to do is fill out the enrollment form (providing the information directly below) and email or mail it to the Dean of Page School. If emailing the Dean, please title the subject line “Page School Enrollment.” A note for caregivers, there are no copies made of this personal information - only the Dean keeps a file.

Students who wish to officially enroll must reside within the Kingdom of Meridies and be at least five years old. All that's required for enrollment are:

1. Student's names (modern and SCA)
2. Student's membership number, if available
3. Parents'/Guardians' names (modern and SCA)
4. Parents'/Guardians' membership numbers
5. Address, phone, and email
6. Student's birthdate
7. Home group name

## How do I get credit for my activities?

When you take a Page School class, make sure to complete the sign-in form. If you're taking an approved class outside Page School (e.g. Royal University of Meridies approved class or equivalent) have the teacher write a note vouching for you, filling in the name and date of the event, the name and synopsis of the class or project,...and make sure the teacher signs it and includes his or her contact information.

If you have finished a personal project, show it to your local A&S Minister, Seneschal, or Minister of Children, and have them write down the basic information about what you've done and then have them sign it. Likewise, if you do an hour (or more) of service for someone, get that person to write what you did, when you did it, and have him or her sign it, as well.

Projects, research, and service need to be verified by an adult (other than caregivers) and sent to the Dean for final approval before you can receive credit. Please remember to obtain documentation for non-class activities!

# Progressing in Page School

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## **Credit System**

With no credits, you enter as a Freshman Page, then complete:

3 Service hours

3 Arts & Science hours

3 Chivalry hours

Rise to Sophomore Page, then complete an additional:

3 Service hours

3 Arts & Science hours

3 Chivalry hours

A Final Project

Rise to Junior Page, then complete an additional:

3 Service hours

3 Arts & Science hours

3 Chivalry hours

A Final Project

Rise to Senior Page, then complete an Independent Study Program:

5 Class hours, minimum

5 Participation hours, minimum

An Independent Study Report

Rise to Adept

# Areas of Study

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## Service Hours

These pertain to doing things for others. Examples of this are: working in a kitchen, being on staff for an A&S Competition, serving at feast, being part of a set-up or clean-up crew, working with heralds, helping at the list table, teaching a class, service to a person (for example Royalty, an event steward, registration table) at an event. At each level, (freshman, sophomore, and junior), at least 1 hour must be active service, as opposed to classes about service.

## Arts and Sciences Hours

These are hours of classes, projects, or competitions pertaining to the arts & sciences of the SCA time period. For older students, teaching an A&S class (not previously earned) may also count for credit hours in this area. Topics include, but are not limited to,

the Static Arts: Animal Husbandry and Horticulture; Armor; Bone, Horn, and Amber; Calligraphy and Illumination; Ceramics, Glass, and Sculpture; Cooking; Costume Accessories; Fine Arts; Hair Dressing and Cosmetics; Heraldic Display; Historical Technology; Jewelry; Leatherwork: Non-armor; Metalwork: Non-armor; Printing Sciences; Stillroom Arts; Textile Arts; Woodworking; & Writing

the Costuming Arts, and

the Performing Arts: Bardic Recitation; Combined Musical Performance; Dance; Dramatic Performance; Instrumental Performance; Street Performance; Vocal Performance; & Historical Combat

## Chivalry Hours

These are hours spent learning or participating in the martial arts such as youth combat and rapier, equestrian, or archery, etc. Hours may also be used in researching and/or attending classes about military history, tactics, and other related martial/military subjects. At each level, (freshman, sophomore, and junior), only one hour of service to a fighter or a tourney (such as fighter support, running the list, etc.) may count toward the total Chivalry hours. \*\*If a Youth Combat Program is available in your area, students are encouraged to try at least one martial activity.\*\*

# Final Projects

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The Dean of Page School must approve final projects in order for them to be accredited. Please contact the Dean ahead of time to discuss final project ideas and expectations. Final projects can include, but are not limited to the following:

The final project can be an A&S project entered in a competition, with documentation, judges' notes, and any other helpful information (such as pictures) sent to the Dean, but is not limited to this alone.

Research projects are highly encouraged also, and can cover literally anything with a medieval theme. A corresponding essay should be written at an age-appropriate level. As this is a research project, it will be expected to have some substance and length to it.

For Pages obviously bent more towards service, the school will allow projects such as an office deputyship or a junior autocrat experience, assuming it is not "in name only." The Page should write an age-appropriate essay describing the experience, what was learned, what was enjoyed etc. The supervising adult should also write a letter to the Dean with feedback on the experience.

# Becoming an Adept

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The path to Adept provides a way for well-motivated students to pursue a topic of interest and make important decisions about how and where they will direct their talents in the future. Ideal for older students and teens, it is suggested that the path to Adept begin around the age of twelve. A Page may apply for this level earlier, but only if parents/legal guardians feel the Page is prepared and mature enough to work among older teens and adults.

## **Independent Study Program**

In order to become an Adept, the Student must form and complete an Independent Study Program. It is similar to a Final Project, but much more involved. You will create your own program of study in a specific topic that interests you.

When making arrangements for this course of study, be sure to get approval from parents/legal guardians. Before you begin your program, you will need to come up with a proposal that you will submit to the Dean of Page School for review and approval. In your proposal you should include a course topic description, a syllabus of classes, a list of reading materials, and a list of assignments.

While you are creating your Independent Study Program, keep the following in mind.

- You must Learn About your interest and devote at least 5 hours to classes on the topic.
- You must Participate In your interest and devote at least 5 hours to service, internship, or training.
- You must Report About your interest describing in detail classes, experiences, observations, etc.

As with credit hours and final projects, work in your Independent Study Program must be documented by supervising adults. Whenever you take a class or do a service for someone, please fill out the same form used for previous levels of Page School.

If you have any questions or need some guidance, please contact the Dean of Page School.

## Ranks and Regalia

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Rank titles in the Page School of Meridies are non-armigerous and carry no precedence. They simply denote the work the Student has done, and how much he or she has accomplished.

Upon enrollment in the school, students may wear a pouch with a center stripe of white between outer stripes of black. It should bear the token of the Page School of Meridies, to denote membership in the school. Students are entitled and encouraged to wear their academic regalia at any SCA event.

Regalia will be given to students when they have finished credit hours for each level, either by the Dean of Page School or by the Kingdom Minister of Children, and should be worn on their token. Students who have risen to Sophomore Page shall receive a white achievement ribbon. Students who have risen to Junior Page shall receive a black achievement ribbon. Students who have risen to Senior Page shall receive a purple achievement ribbon. Students who have risen to Adept shall receive a medallion bearing the token of the School.

The Page School of Meridies is a non-accredited institution and degrees awarded are not associated with any modern school or academy.

### **An Important Reminder**

This all may seem like so much work, but remember, there's no rush! The Page School of Meridies was designed to be enjoyed over years, so that you don't hurry through and get bored too quickly. Keep in mind, rushing through the credits will only make the work no fun, since you'd be stressed out about it all, and what could have been fun will be over all too quickly. So, if something in particular strikes your interest, play with it for a while, and try something new whenever you get the chance, or when the mood strikes you. Have fun!

# Accreditation Information & Hosting Classes

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## **How do Activity Leaders and volunteer teachers accredit the classes they want to teach?**

Adults must write a synopsis of their class and send it in to the Dean, along with bibliographies, handouts, and activity descriptions, at least a month before they plan to teach the class. They should remember to keep actual lectures short (15-30 minutes), engaging, and fun, preferably followed by a hands-on activity. A synopsis can be as short as a paragraph, if the teacher includes all of the necessary information to teach that topic within a medieval scope in an age-appropriate manner. The Dean will then contact you to let you know any additional information.

A teacher or activity leader should also remember to include, along with the synopsis, his or her names (mundane and SCA), address, phone, email, home group, copies of any handouts, and at what event he or she plans to teach this class. Once the teacher is accredited for that class, he or she is accredited for that particular class for a lifetime, though the teacher must submit any new classes separately to receive more accreditation. The teacher should send in a copy of the sign-up sheet within two weeks after the class has been taught, so we can file all of the participants' credits. Be sure to include all of the earlier information, plus the name of the group that hosted the event, and the date of that event.

## **Who can teach a Pages' School class?**

Anyone who has a sincere interest in educating the youth of Meridies about the Middle Ages and our current application of the lifestyle of that time to our own can teach a Pages' School class. That "anyone" includes all walks of life, all different interests within our hobby, and numerous teaching methods.

The basic point is this - you don't have to be a Minister of Children or a caregiver to teach a class. MoCs have an obvious advantage to organizing a session, as they have direct access to all of the paperwork and information, but they're absolutely willing to share the information they have. And they do need the assistance! Despite common belief, it is not a requirement of the MoC or whomever happens to be organizing the session to actually teach the classes themselves. Besides, if an MoC knows nothing about period weaving, but Lord John Doe has studied it his whole life, well...that MoC is likely to be quite relieved when Lord John steps up and volunteers his time to teach.

## **Requirements for running Pages' School approved classes**

While anyone is welcome to teach a Page School class, all organized SCA activities for minors must be run by at least one warranted Minister of Children, who should be present for the entirety of the session. Events or meetings that feature Page School approved classes must also comply with Meridies Kingdom Law (2015 Revision) Article VII Section 109 Subsection G, more commonly referred to as the "Two Deep" Rule. It requires a minimum of two adults unrelated by blood, marriage, or relationship, to be present. Please see the Appendix for the complete definition and enforcement of this rule and others pertaining to minors. If classes are taught simultaneously in different locations, each location must have present a warranted MoC and follow the Two Deep Rule.

That aside, anyone that wishes to host Page School approved classes at an event should let the Dean know about it several months in advance--mostly to arrange for accredited teachers. Please don't hesitate to contact the Dean, and ask for any assistance you may need.

# Appendix

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## Meridies Kingdom Law Regarding Minors

### VII-109 Minors

- A. Minors must attend any Society event in the company of a parent/legal guardian or a designated adult with the appropriate Society approved waivers.
- B. Parents/legal guardians or the designated adult, are responsible for any, and all, acts of the minor.
- C. Children must not be left unattended at events.
- D. Children under the age of 12 must be within the sight or voice range of a responsible adult or teenager at all times.
- E. Children under the age of 5 cannot be left unsupervised by the parent/legal guardian or designated adult at events. Failure to comply with these rules may result in sanctions ranging from expulsion from site to notification of mundane authorities depending on the circumstances.
- F. Waivers
  - 1. The designated adult of a minor child must present 2 sets of properly executed Society waivers at the registration table before the minor(s) enters the event.
  - 2. Each waiver includes instructions for completion; failure to follow the instructions may result in a denial of admittance to the event.
  - 3. The branch must retain one set of the waivers and the other set retained by the Designated Adult.
  - 4. Waiver forms are on the Society or the kingdom websites. The branch Seneschal can also provide them.
- G. For any official Society sponsored children's activities, there must be 2 unrelated (non-married, non-dating, non-kin) adults in charge for the duration of the activity; at least one of which must have an active valid background check on file with the Society.

# Page School of Meridies Enrollment Form

Student SCA Name:	
Student Modern Name:	
Member Number:	Expiration Date:
Birthdate:	

**Note:** If the Student does not have a membership number at the time of enrollment, please mark N/A. If the Student acquires a membership number at a later date, please notify the Dean of Page School.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and correct.

Student  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian SCA Name:	
Parent/Guardian Modern Name:	
Member Number:	Expiration Date:
Home Group:	
Address:	
Phone Number:	
Email:	

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and correct and that I have read the National Criminal Justice Reference Service publication [\*Personal Safety for Children—A Guide for Parents\*](#) and NetSmartz webpage [\*Basic Internet Safety, Tips, Discussion Starters, and Additional Resources\*](#).

Parent/  
Guardian  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Page School of Meridies Outside Credit Form

For Use By Page School Staff
Credit Type:
Credit Hours:

Student SCA Name:	
Student Modern Name:	
Activity Type:	Activity Date:
Activity Description:	

**Note:** In your correspondence please be sure to include any relevant documentation.

Supervisor SCA Name:
Supervisor Modern Name:
Phone Number:
Email:

**Note:** The Activity Supervisor is the person who gave instruction, received service, or evaluated a project. The Activity Supervisor must be someone other than a parent or guardian.

Parent/Guardian SCA Name:
Parent/Guardian Modern Name:
Phone Number:
Email:

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and correct.

Student  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/  
Guardian  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Page School of Meridies Graduation Request Form

Student SCA Name:
Student Modern Name:
Parent/Guardian SCA Name:
Parent/Guardian Modern Name:
Home Group:
Address:
Phone Number:
Email:

**Note:** In your correspondence please be sure to include any relevant documentation.

Degree applying for (select all that apply)

Sophomore

Junior

Senior

Adept

Do you wish to participate in graduation ceremonies at Royal University of Meridies?

Yes

No. Please contact me to coordinate receiving my scroll and regalia.

Please submit the following along with this request form:

**For ALL degrees:** An itemized credit checklist for each degree you are applying for.

**For Junior & Senior degrees:** A copy of your Final Project.

*Note: Candidates for this degree must have all paperwork submitted at least one month ahead of intended graduation date.*

**For Adept degree:** A copy of your proposal (containing course topic description, syllabus of classes, list of reading materials, and list of assignments), a copy of your Independent Study report, and any other relevant documentation.

*Note: Candidates for this degree must have all paperwork submitted at least one month ahead of intended graduation date.*

# Page School of Meridies Class Accreditation Form

For Use By Page School Staff

Course Number:

Course Type:

Class Name:	
Category (Performing Arts, Science, etc...):	
Instructor's SCA Name:	
Instructor's Modern Name:	
Member Number:	Expiration Date:
Home Group:	
Address:	
Phone Number:	
Email:	
Synopsis:	
Activity Description:	
Bibliography:	
Special Needs: (Electricity, Space, etc...) :	

**Note:** The Dean of Page School should receive synopses for new classes at least one month in advance. In your correspondence please be sure to include what event the class will be taught at as well as copies of handouts. Students will NOT receive credit for classes which have not been accredited.

# Page School of Meridies Class Attendance Form

For Use By Page School Staff  
Course Number:  
Course Type:

Class Name:	
Class Description:	
Teacher:	Member #
Event:	Date:

Students, please PRINT CLEARLY both your SCA Name and Modern Name.

SCA Name	Modern Name
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	