Cultural differences in medieval European literary practice are reflected in many different ways, as this volume illustrates. The essays cover a wide range of courtly topics, in particular questions of context, genre and poetic voice. The five sections explore contexts for courtliness, especially the position of the vernacular poet at or near the court; the ways in which cultural differences in medieval European literary practice are reflected in many different ways, as this volume illustrates. The essays cover a wide range of courtly topics, in particular questions of context, genre and poetic voice. The five sections explore contexts for courtliness, especially the position of the vernacular poet at or near the court; the ways in which cultural differences in medieval European literary practice are reflected in many different ways, as this volume illustrates. The essays cover a wide range of courtly topics, in particular questions of context, genre and poetic voice. The five sections explore contexts for courtliness, especially the position of the vernacular poet at or near the court; the ways in which cultural differences in medieval European literary practice are reflected in many different ways, as this volume illustrates. The essays cover a wide range of courtly topics, in particular questions of context, genre and poetic voice.
French Romance of the Later Middle Ages: Rosalind Brown-Grant 2008-11-13 Whilst French romances of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries have long enjoyed a privileged place in the literary history of France, romances from the later middle ages have been largely neglected by modern scholars, despite their central role in the chivalric culture of the day. In particular, although this genre has seen as providing a forum within which ideas about masculine and feminine roles were debated and prescribed, little work has been done on the gender ideology of texts from the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. This study seeks to fill this gap in the scholarship by analyzing how the views of gender found in earlier romances were reassessed and reshaped in the texts produced in the moralizing intellectual environment of the later medieval period. In order to explore these topics, this book discusses fifteen historico-realistic prose romances written in the century from 1390, many of which were commissioned at the court of Burgundy. It addresses key issues in recent studies of genre in medieval culture including the construction of chivalric masculinity, the representation of adolescent desire, and the social and sexual roles of husbands and wives. In addition to offering close readings of these texts, it shows how the romances of the period were informed by ideas about gender which circulated in contemporary works as manuals of chivalry, moral treatises, and marriage sermons. It thus aims not only to provide the first in-depth study of this little-known area of French literary history, but also to question the critical consensus on the role of gender in medieval romance that has arisen from an exclusive focus on earlier works in the genre.

Persian Literature as World Literature: Mostafa Abdelfard 2021-07-15 Confronting nationalistic and nativist interpreting practices in Persianate literary scholarship, Persian Literature as World Literature makes a case for reading these literatures as world literature as transnational, worldly texts that expand beyond local and national penchants. Working through an idea of world literature that is both cosmopolitan and critical of any monologic view on globalization, the contributors to this volume revisit the early and contemporary circulation of Persianate literatures across neighboring and distant cultures, and seek innovative ways of developing a transnational Persian literary studies, engaging in constructive dialogues with the global forces surrounding, and shaping, Persianate societies and cultures.

Writings on Love in the English Middle Ages: H. Cooney 2006-09-02 This is a set of essays from many of the leading scholars in the world of medieval studies, which addresses a wide diversity of texts and genres and their diverse perspectives on love. Attention is given to interaction between English writings and putative continental and international influences, with particular emphasis on the works of Chaucer.

The Songs and Travels of a Tudor Minstrel: Andrew Taylor 2012 A reconstruction of the life and works of a sixteenth-century minstrel, showing the tradition to be flourishing well into the Tudor period.

Magick and Magicians in the Middle Ages and the Early Modern Time: Albrecht Classen 2010-07-23 There are no clear demarcation lines between magic, astrology, necromancy, medicine, and even sciences in the premodern world. Under the umbrella term ‘magick,’ the contributors to this volume examine a wide range of texts, both literary and religious, both medical and philosophical, in which the topic is discussed from many different perspectives. The fundamental concerns address issue such as how people perceived magic, whether they accepted it and utilized it for its own purposes, and what impact magic might have had on the mental structures of that time. While some papers examine the specific appearance of magicians in literary texts, others analyze the practical application of magic in medical contexts. In addition, this volume includes studies that deal with the rise of the witch craze in the late fifteenth century and then also investigate whether the Weberian notion of disenchantment pertaining to the modern world can be maintained. Magic is, oddly but significantly, still around us and exerts its influence. Focusing on magic in the medieval world thus helps us to shed light on human culture at large.


Skin of a Beast: Peggy McCracken 2017-05-17 In medieval literature, when humans and animals meet—whether as friends or foes—isues of mastery and submission are often at stake. In the Skin of a Beast shows how the concept of sovereignty comes to the fore in such narratives, reflecting larger concerns about relations of authority and dominion at play in both human-animal and human-human interactions. Peggy McCracken discusses a range of literary texts and images from medieval France, including romances in which animal skins appear in symbolic displays of power, fictional explorations of the wolf’s desire for human mastery, and tales of women and snakes converging in a representation of terrestial claims and noble status. These works reveal that the quality of master-ness, the ability to impose one’s will—whether on human or animal—on another from a position of power or honor among them—are in fact mobile and contingent. In medieval literary texts, as McCracken demonstrates, human dominion over animals is a disputed model for sovereign relations among people: it justifies exploitation even as it underwrites and calls into question the inequality and care, and it depends on reteans in human-animal difference that paradoxically exposes the tenuous nature of human exceptionalism.

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A Companion To The Book Of Margery Kempe: Professor of Medieval History John H Arnold 2004 Margery Kempe’s Book provides rare access to the “marginal voice” of a lay medieval woman, and is now the focus of much critical study. This Companion seeks to complement the existing almost exclusively literary scholarship with work that also draws significantly on historical analysis, and is concerned to contextualize Kempe’s Book in a number of different ways, using her work as a way to in the culture and society of medieval northern Europe. Topics include images and pilgrimage; autobiography and gender. Contributors JOHN H. ARNOLD, P.H. CULLUM, ISABEL DAVIS, ALLYSON FOSTER, JACQUELINE JENKINS, KATHERINE J. LEWIS, KATE PARKER, KIM M. PHILLIPS, SARAH SALISH, CLAIRE SPONSORLS, DIANE WATT, BARRY WINDEATT.

Medieval Into Renaissance: Matthew Woodcock 2014 The borderline between the periods commonly termed “medieval” and “Renaissance”, or “medieval” and “early modern”, is one of the most hotly, emotionally and productively contested facts in literary history studies. The essays presented in this volume build upon and respond to the work of Professor Helen Cooper, a scholar who has long been committed to exploring the complex connections and interactions between medieval and Renaissance literature. The contributors re-examine a range of ideas, authors and genres addressed in her work, including pastoral, chivalric romance, early English Drama, and the writings of Chaucer, Langland, Spenser and Shakespeare. As a whole, the volume aims to stimulate active debate about the categories and methodologies that Renaissance writers used, adopted, and remembered. Andrew King is Lecturer in Medieval and Renaissance Literature at University College, Cork, Matthew Woodcock is Senior Lecturer in Medieval and Renaissance Literature at the University of East Anglia. Contributors: Joyce Bor, Ailing Byrne, Nandini Das, Mary C. Flannery, Alexandra Gillespie, Andrew King, Megan G. Leitch, R.W. Maslen, Jason Powell, Helen Vincent, James Wade, Matthew Woodcock

Outlawry in Medieval Literature: T. Jones 2010-11-22 Drawing on new historical principles, this book examines literary and historical narratives, legal statutes and records, sermons, lyric poetry, and biblical exegetics circulating in medieval England in order to theorize the figure of the outlaw and uncover the legal, ethical, and social assumptions that underlie the practice of outlawry.

Olde Clerks Speche: William A. Quinn 2013 Olde Clerks Speche affirms both the historical legitimacy and the interpretive benefits of reading Trolius and Criseyde as if the text were initially composed for Chaucer’s own recital within a familiar audience. Proposition aqualification rather than contradiction of the “person” as a reading premise, Quinn revitalizes the interpretive context of Chaucer’s original performance milieu. The central five chapters offer a “close hearing” of the possible tonal strategies of each book of Trolius and Criseyde during actual recital. Particular attention is given to expressions now normally overlooked, phrasing that does not advance the modern reader’s appreciation of plot or character development or theme; such “filler” did, however, once offer Chaucer’s own “reader response” (or enarration) during the recital event. These five chapters simultaneously evaluate the probability that Chaucer himself revised each recital script for subsequent manuscript circulation. Together, these chapters provide a sustained case study of the interplay between the author’s anticipations of recital presence and textual absence. Although this study does not pretend to detail an inaugural staging of Troilus and Criseyde, it does attempt to the histrionic potential of Chaucer’s own “specie” in poetry” (T&C 1585-5). The final chapter discusses how such a recital premise impacts several current controversies among Chaucerians, including the dating of Chaucer’s individual acts of composition, the underlying assumptions regarding the publication of each text, the editorial imposition of punctuation on the manuscript record, and the poet’s increasing anxiety regarding his future absence from the reading event. Olde Clerks Speche will be of interest to all readers of Chaucer as well as everyone interested in performance theory and the history of reading.

The Dynamics of the Medieval Manuscript: Karen Pratt 2017-07-17 This collection of essays examines the various dynamic processes by which texts are preserved, transmitted, and modified in medieval multi-text codes, focusing on the meanings generated by new contexts and the possible reader experiences provoked by novel configurations and material presentation. Containing essays on collections from many different European countries and in a wide range of medieval languages, this volume sheds new light on common trends and regional differences in the history of book
Between Sequence and Sirventes - Catherine Leglu 2017-12-02 “Parody marks the troubadour lyric from the outset, informing composition, performance and reception. This groundbreaking study moves away from courtliness, the focus of most previous studies, and places troubadour parodic practice in the context of the social and spiritual debates of 12th and 13th century Occitania. Leglu analyses the complex relationship between troubadour verse and the Aquitanian para-liturgical Latin corpus. She charts the development of a chain of texts linked by a common formal mode derived from this Latin sequence and traces patterns of rewriting, ranging from scurrilous attacks, through playful competition, to recuperation of the sacred content in serious parody.”

Disability and Medieval Law - Cory James Rushton 2020-05-15 Disability and Medieval Law: History, Literature and Society is an intervention in the growing and complex field of medieval disability studies. The size of the field and the complexity of the subject lend themselves to the use of case studies: how a particular author imagines an injury, how a particular legal code deals with (and sometimes creates) injury to the human body. While many studies have fruitfully insisted on theoretical approaches, Disability and Medieval Law considers how medieval societies directly dealt with crime, punishment, sanch-taking, and mental illness. When did medieval law take disability into account in setting punishment or responsibility? When did medieval law choose to cause disabilities? How did medieval authors use disability to discuss not only law, but social relationships and the nature of the human? The volume includes essays on topics as diverse as Francis of Assisi, Margery Kempe, La Manekine, Geoffroy Chaucer, early medieval law codes, and the definition of mental illness in English legal records, by Irina Metzler, Wendy J. Turner, Amanda Hopkins, Donna Trembinski, Marian Lupo and Cory James Rushton.


A Companion to Middle English Prose - Anthony Stockwell Garfield Edwards 2004 Survey of and guide to all the major authors and genres in Middle English prose.

Disability and Medieval Law

Write History for the King - Charity L. Urbanski 2013-10-15 Writing History for the King is at once a reassessment of the reign of Henry II of England (1135–1189) and an original contribution to our understanding of the rise of vernacular historiography in the high Middle Ages. Charity Urbanski focuses on two dynastic histories commissioned by Henry: Wace’s Roman de Rou (c. 1160–1174) and Benoît de Sainte-Maure’s Chronique des ducs de Normandie (c. 1174–1189). In both cases, Henry adopted the new genre of vernacular historical writing in Old French verse in an effort to disseminate a royalist version of the past that would help secure a grip on power for himself and his children. Wace was the first to be commissioned, but in 1174 the king abruptly fired him, turning the task over to Benoît de Sainte-Maure. Urbanski examines these histories as part of a single enterprise intended to cement the king’s authority by enhancing the prestige of Henry II’s dynasty. In a close reading of Wace’s Rou, she shows that it presented a less than flattering picture of Henry’s predecessors, in effect challenging his policies and casting a shadow over the legitimacy of his rule. Benoît de Sainte-Maure’s Chronique, in contrast, mounted a staunchly royalist defense of Anglo-Norman kingship. Urbanski reads both works in the context of Henry’s reign, arguing that as part of his drive to curb baronial power, he sought a history that would memorialize his dynasty and solidify his claim to England and Normandy.

Medieval Outlaws - Thomas H. Ohlgren 2005-07-21 This revised and expanded edition of Medieval Outlaws gathers twelve outlaw tales, introduced and freshly translated into Modern English by a team of specialists. Accessible and entertaining, these tales will be of interest to the general reader and student alike.

The Court and Cultural Diversity: Selected Papers From The Eighth Triennial Meeting Of The International Courtly Literature Society, 1995

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