

Reading List for English Medieval Literature (12th to the 16th Century) as a Historical Field

[Students standing in this historical field are encouraged to demonstrate some knowledge of literature from the Old English Field as well as History of the English Language as background.]

Primary Texts:

Geoffrey Chaucer

The Canterbury Tales

Troilus and Criseyde

Dream Visions:

Book of the Duchess

The Parliament of Fouls

The House of Fame

The Legend of Good Women, including the F-text of the Prologue

Selected lyrics

Thomas Hoccleve

Selections from *Regiment of Princes*

John Gower

Confessio Amantis

William Langland

Piers Plowman B-text, with some consideration of differences in the A- and C-texts

The Pearl Poet

Pearl, Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Patience, and Cleanness

Arthurian Literature

Sir Gawain: Eleven Romances and Tales (METS)

The Alliterative Morte Arthure and *The Stanzaic Morte Arthur*

Sir Perceval of Galles

Chretien de Troyes, *Ywain*

The Works of Malory

Middle English Romances (METS volumes)

Middle English Breton Lays

King Horn, Havelok the Dane, Bevis of Hampton, Athelstan

Sir Isumbras, Octavian, Sir Eglamour, Sir Triamour

Amis and Amiloun, Robert of Cisyle, Sir Amadace

The Storie of Asneth and *The Pistel of Swete Susan*

Floris and Blancheflour, The Squire of Low Degree, The Tournament of Tottenham

Selection of Middle English Lyrics. Explore *Middle English Lyrics*, ed. Maxwell Luria and Richard L Hoffman (Norton Critical Edition) to review 245 poems on many subjects.

The Gest of Robin Hood, Sir Gamelyn, and other selected Robin Hood Tales

At least two debate poems, such as Chaucer's *The Boke of Cupid* (aka *The Cuckoo and the Nightingale*), *The Debate of the Body and Soul*, or *The Owl and the Nightingale*

At least two political or ecclesiastical satires, such as *Piers Plowman's Creed*,