Fr3 Reading List
Love, Violence and Power in France, 1100-1500

Introductory works

Read these two to get a sense of the period and the material on which you’ll be working:


These are also recommended introductory works:

M. Zink. *Introduction à la littérature française du Moyen Age* (Paris, LP, 1993)

General histories of French literature with some useful sections on the Middle Ages:
(individual essays on topics relating to topics from this paper.)


Primary Sources

You will have lectures on the following texts, in the order given below. Texts for supervision will be decided in consultation with your supervisor.

READ ALL OF THESE IF POSSIBLE (this is the order in which they will be covered in lectures). Read them in editions that give both Old French and Modern French side-by-side texts (The series ‘Lettres gothiques’ is particularly recommended). Start by reading in Modern French and then begin looking at the Old French.

The paper begins with two Reading sessions that should help in getting you used to dealing with Old French.

*La chanson de Roland*, ed. Ian Short (Paris: Livre de Poche, 1990)

The romances of Chrétien de Troyes: (Romans, ed. M. Zink [Paris: Livre de Poche, 1994]), read any TWO of the 5 in this volume. Each of these romances is also available in an individual edition.

Tristan et Iseut, ed, D. Lacroix & P. Walter (Paris: Livre de Poche, 1989): read the versions by Thomas and Béroul

Occitan Lyric, read introductory essay by Burgwinkle in Cambridge History of French Literature

Fabliaux: Use either or both of these editions (they offer different selections): Fabliaux érotiques. Ed. L. Rossi (Paris: Livre de Poche, 1992); J. Dufournet, Fabliaux du Moyen Âge (Paris: GF Flammarion, 1998)


Secondary reading

La Chanson de Roland:


Sarah Kay, ‘Ethics and Heroics in the Chanson de Roland’, Neophilologus, 62 (1978), 480-91

Sharon Kinoshita, “‘Pagans are wrong and Christians are right: From Parias to Crusade in the Chanson de Roland, in Medieval Boundaries: Rethinking Difference in Old French Literature University of Pennsylvania Press (30 Mar 2006), pp. 15-45

Hagiography:

B. Cazelles, *The Lady as Saint* (1991) [an anthology in English translation, with a long introduction]


S. Gaunt, *Gender and Genre in Medieval French Literature*, ch. 4 [discusses 'Marie l'Egyptienne' and 'Ste. Catherine' among others]

K. Gravdal, *Ravishing Maidens* (1991), ch. 1


**Chrétien de Troyes:**


**Tristan**


**On Beroul:**


**On Thomas:**


Toril Moi, ‘“She Died Because She Came Too Late”: Knowledge, Doubles and Death in Thomas’ Tristan’, *Exemplaria*, 4 (1992), 105-33, reprinted in her *What is a Woman? And Other Essays* (Oxford: OUP, 1999), pp. 422-50

Ben Ramm, ‘“Cest cunte est mult divers”: knowledge, difference, and authority in Thomas’s Tristan’, *The Modern Language Review*, 2006

**Occitan lyric:**


**Fabliaux**


Miranda Griffin, ‘Dirty Stories: Abjection in the Fabliaux’, *New Medieval Literatures*, 3 (2000), 229-60


**Short Courtly Narratives**

Linda Cooper, ‘Irony as Courtly Poetic Truth in La Châtelaine de Vergy’, *Romanic Review*, 75, 273-82


**Prose romance**


**On the Queste**


E. Jane Burns, ‘Devilish Ways: Sexing the Subject in the Queste del Saint Graal’, *Arthuriana*, 8.2 (Summer 1998), 11-32


**On the Mort**


**Prescribed Special Topic**

Section A of the exam is a comparative topic on The Postcolonial Middle Ages. The material will be lectured on in both terms, with two further meetings in Easter term.

**Primary texts:**

Anon. *La fille du Comte de Pontieu*, ed. C. Brunel (Champion, 1926). (photocopy available)

*Aucassin et Nicolette* in *Nouvelles courtoises* Lettres Gothiques, 1997)

*Huon de Bordeaux*, ed. Kibler and Suard (Champion, 2003)

*Robert le diable*, ed. Gaucher (Champion, 2006)


Alexandre dou Pont, *Roman de Mahomet* (photocopy available)


*Le Pèlerinage de Charlemagne* ed. Glyn S. Burgess (Société Rencesvals British Branch 1998)

Marco Polo, *La Description du monde* (Lettres gothiques, 1998)

Robert de Clari, *La Conquête de Constantinople* (CFMA Champion, 1924)


Thomas de Kent, *Le Roman d’Alexandre ou Roman de toute chevalerie* (Champion, 2003)

Secondary reading:


A. Hiatt ‘Mapping the Ends of Empire’ in *Postcolonial Approaches to the European Middle Ages*, ed. A. Kabir and D. Williams (CUP, 2005)

Sharon Kinoshita, *Medieval Boundaries* (UPenn, 2006)


WB / MHG

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