

Reading List and Instructions for Middle English PhD Exam in Literature

Students should choose thirty primary sources and fifteen secondary sources from the following lists. The purpose of these lists is to encourage wide reading throughout the entire medieval period, and to suggest works with which every educated medievalist should be familiar.

Students may then add five further works, either primary or secondary sources, specific to their own interests (which may include works on this list or from the students' personal list) for a total of fifty items. All primary sources must be read in the original language, unless otherwise specified.

This list is intended as a guide. Students who feel that their interests are not adequately represented may petition their committee for adjustments.

Primary Sources

Alliterative Morte Arthure

Ancrene Wisse

Boethius, *The Consolation of Philosophy* (trans.)

The Book of Margery Kempe, ed. Lynn Staley, TEAMS (Kalamazoo, MI: 1996)

Chaucer, *The Canterbury Tales*

Chaucer, *The Legend of Good Women*

Chaucer, *The Parlement of Fowles*

Chaucer, *The Book of the Duchess*

Chaucer, *The Troilus and Criseyde*

Chrétien de Troyes, *Arthurian Romances* (selections in trans.)

Christine de Pisan, *Book of the City of Ladies* (trans.)

Cleanness

The Cloud of Unknowing

Dunbar, William (selections)

The English Writings of Richard Rolle

English Wycliffite Writings, ed. Anne Hudson (selections)

Everyman

Froissart, *Chronicles* (trans.)

Gower, *Confessio Amantis* (selections)

Guillaume de Lorris & Jean de Meun, *Romance of the Rose* (trans.)

Henryson, *Testament of Cresseid*

Hoccleve, *Regiment of Princes* (selections)

Julian of Norwich, *Book of Showings*, ed. E. Colledge and J. Walsh (long version) or the TEAMS edition, ed. Georgina Rowan Crampton

Katherine Group, *Seinte Katerine*, ed. d'Ardenne and Dobson; *Seinte Margaret and Hali Meithhad*, ed. Millett & Wogan-Browne

La3man, *Brut* (selections)

Langland, *Piers Plowman* B Text

The Life of Christina of Markyate, A Twelfth Century Recluse (trans.)

Lydgate, *Fall of Princes*, Book I and Conclusion: 9.3134-3628

Mabinogion (trans.)

Malory, *Works*. Vinaver edition

Mandeville, *Travels*

Mankind

Marie de France, *Lais* (trans.)

Middle English Lyrics (Norton edition)

Middle English Romances: *King Horn, Havelok, Athelstan, Sir Orfeo, Launfal, The Wedding of Sir Gawain and Dame Ragnell* (most of them can be found in Stephen Shepherd, Norton 1995)

Owl and the Nightingale

Patience

Pearl

The Second Shepherds' Play from the Wakefield aka Towneley Cycle (available in the Norton *Anthology of English Literature* and the *Longman Anthology of British Literature*)

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight

South English Legendary (selections)

Stanzaic Le Morte Arthur

Walter Hilton, *The Ladder of Perfection*

Wynnere and Wastoure

York Mystery Plays: A Selection in Modern Spelling, eds. Richard Beadle and Pamela King

Secondary Sources

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- Archibald, Elizabeth, and A. S. G. Edwards. *A Companion to Malory*. 1996.
- Barron, W. R. J. *English Medieval Romance*. 1987.
- Bennett, J. A. W., and Douglas Gray. *Middle English Literature*. 1986.
- Benson, Larry D. *Art and Tradition in Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. 1965.
- . *Malory's Morte D'Arthur*. 1976.
- Brewer, Derek, and Jonathan Gibson, eds. *A Companion to the Gawain-Poet*. 1997.
- Burrow, John. *Ricardian Poetry*. 1971.
- Burrow, J. A., and Thorlac Turville-Petre. *A Book of Middle English*. 1996.
- Bynum, Caroline Walker. *Holy Feast, Holy Fast*. 1987.
- Clanchy, M.T. *From Memory to Written Record: England 1066 – 1307*. 2nd ed. 1993.
- Cooper, Helen. *Oxford Guides to Chaucer: The Canterbury Tales*. 2nd ed. 1994.
- Copeland, Rita. *Rhetoric, Hermeneutics and Translation in the Middle Ages: Academic Traditions and Vernacular Texts*. 1991.
- Dinshaw, Carolyn. *Chaucer's Sexual Poetics*. 1989.
- Donaldson, E. T. *Speaking of Chaucer*. 1970.
- Edwards, A. S. G. *Middle English Prose: A Critical Guide to Major Authors and Genres*. 1984.
- Gibson, Gail McMurray. *The Theatre of Devotion*. 1989.
- Green, Richard Firth. *Poets and Princepleasers*. 1980.
- Kolve, V. A. *The Play Called Corpus Christi*. 1966.
- Leicester, H. Marshal. *The Disenchanted Self: Representing the Subject in The Canterbury Tales*. 1990.
- Lindahl, Carl. *Earnest Games: Folkloric Patterns in The Canterbury Tales*. 1986.
- Loomis, R. S., ed. *Arthurian Literature in the Middle Ages*. 1959.
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- Minnis, A. J. *Medieval Theory of Authorship: Scholastic Literary Attitudes in the Later Middle Ages*. 1984.

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- Rogers, William Elford. *Interpretation in Piers Plowman*. 2002.
- Saul, Nigel. *Richard II*. 1997.
- Shahar, Shulamith. *The Fourth Estate*. 2003.
- Strohm, Paul. *Theory and the Premodern Text*. 2000.
- Turville Petre, Thorlac. *The Alliterative Revival*. 1977.
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- Wogan-Brown, Jocelyn. *Saints' Lives and Women's Literary Culture c. 1150-1300: Virginity and Its Authorizations*. 2001.
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Last updated January 2005.