

<b>Veranstalterin</b>	<b>Dr. Julia Boll</b>
<b>Thema</b>	<b>Medieval Literature and Theatre</b>
<b>Art der Veranstaltung</b>	<b>Seminar II</b> [ENG-6, ENG-6a, ENG-12, AA7, AA10, LAA9, LAA12, IAA21, AA-MA01, AA-MA02, AA-MA04 AA-MA06]
<b>Veranstaltungsnummer</b>	<b>53-545</b>
<b>Zeit</b>	<b>Di 14-16</b>
<b>Raum</b>	<b>(synchronous digital; Zoom details will be made available to students registered on OpenOlat)</b>
<b>Beginn</b>	<b>06 April 2021</b>

'The Middle Ages' persist as a source of contemporary and popular cultural fascination. This course introduces students to a range of different high and late medieval literary texts and genres, from early tales about King Arthur over romances such as prolific author Marie de France's Anglo-Norman *Lais* (later 12<sup>th</sup> century), Heldris of Cornwall's gender bender adventure *Roman de Silence* (early 13<sup>th</sup> century), the Pearl Poet's *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* (c. 1375-1400), and Sir Thomas Malory's *Le Morte d'Arthur* (c. 1469-70), in which we will study the literary notions of courtly love and the quest. We will go on a pilgrimage with Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* (c.1387-1400) and encounter and outspoken Margery of Kempe (1436-38), and probably, somewhere along the way, we will have a date with Robin Hood. We will look at the famous Mystery and Morality Plays (15<sup>th</sup> century), discover medieval love poetry and ballads still sung today, and we will discuss Medievalism, the desire for origins, notions of diversity, nature vs. nurture, and multiple medieval pasts and presents.



This is a detail from "The Knight's Tale" from the *Ellesmere Chaucer* (mssEL 26 C 9), an elaborately decorated manuscript of Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* (c. 1387-1400). It was created between 1400 and 1410 and is held by the Huntington Library in San Marino/CA.

### Reading/Viewing List:

Some material and secondary reading will be made available. Students are asked to obtain the following:

- Greenblatt, Stephen (ed.). *The Norton Anthology of English Literature. Volume A: The Middle Ages*. Norton & Company; 10<sup>th</sup> edition, 2018 (ISBN: 978-0393603026).
- Heldris de Cornualle. *Silence. A Thirteenth-Century French Romance*. Trans. Sarah Roche-Mahdi, Michigan State UP, 1992 (ISBN: 978-0-87013-543-9 – this might take a while to arrive; also check the University library for a copy).

**Studienleistung:** regular and active participation (also in teamwork), detailed knowledge of assigned texts/material, preparation of discussion questions and discussion leading, small course assignments (e.g. preparation of short audio clips).

**Prüfungsleistung,** in addition to the above:

- annotated bibliography on 7 critical texts (due **Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2021, 23:59**)
- a scholarly essay (due **Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2021, 23:59**)

**Note:** Registered students who fail to show up for the first session will automatically be set "inactive" on STiNE, so that another student may take up their place.