Historical Field List: Middle English

Note: As per the graduate handbook, “historical field lists are advisory rather than contractual; they determine the parameters of the exam, but do not rule out the possibility that the conversation may range more broadly. Students may not refer to historical field lists during the exam.”

Primary Texts

Geoffrey Chaucer

*The Riverside Chaucer.*

Chaucer sources:


Ovid. *The Metamorphoses.*

Ovid. *Hercules.*


Alan of Lille. *Antichrasticianus.*

Dante. *Inferno.* (Cantos 3 and 5)

Dante. *Paradiso.* (Canto 22)

William Langland

*The Vision of Piers Plowman: B-Text and C-Text.*

Gawain-Poet

*The Poems of the Pearl Manuscript.*

*The Owl and the Nightingale: Text and Translation.*

Ancrenee Wisse.

John Gower

*Confessio Amantis.*

*The Major Latin Works of John Gower.*

*Mirour de l’Ommme.*

King Arthur’s Death: The Middle English


Four Romances of England: King Horn, Havelock the Dane, Bevis of Hampton, Athelston.


Medieval English Lyrics

*The Digby Lyrics.*

*The Harley Lyrics: The Middle English Lyrics of MS Harley 2253.*

Audelay, John the Blind

*Poems and Carols (Oxford, Bodleian Library MS Douce 302).*

Julian of Norwich

*The Writings of Julian of Norwich: A Vision Showed to a Devout Woman and A Revelation of Love.*

Kempe, Margery

*The Book of Margery Kempe.*

Rolle, Richard

*Prose and Verse from MS Longleat 29 and Related Manuscripts.*

*Uncollected Verse and Prose of Richard Rolle, with related Northern Texts.*


*The Cloud of Unknowing.* Edited by Patrick J. Gallacher.

Deonise Hid Divinite. Edited by Phyllis Hodgson.
Love, Nicholas
*The Mirror of the Blessed Life of Jesus Christ: A Reading Text.*

*The York Mystery Plays: A Selection in Modern Spelling.* Edited Richard Beadle and Pamela M. King

*Everyman.* In *Medieval Drama: An Anthology.* Edited by Greg Walker

*Wisdom.* In *Medieval Drama: An Anthology.* Edited by Greg Walker

*Mankind.* In *Medieval Drama: An Anthology.* Edited by Greg Walker

*Croxton’s Play of the Sacrament.* In *Medieval Drama: An Anthology.* Edited by Greg Walker

*Thomas Malory*
*Le Morte D’Arthur*

*Usk, Thomas*
*The Testament of Love*

*Selections from English Wycliffite Writings.* Edited by Anne Hudson.

*John Lydgate*
*The Minor Poems*
*The Siege of Thebes*

*Thomas Hoccleve*
*Regiment of Princes*
*‘My Compleinte’ and Other Poems*

*John Skelton*
*The Complete English Poems*

*Six Ecclesiastical Satires.* Edited by James M. Dean.

*Robert Henryson*

*The Complete Works.* Edited by David J. Parkinson.

*William Dunbar*
*The Complete Works.* Edited by John Conlee

*Gavin Douglas*
*The Palais of Honoure*

*King James I*
*The Kingis Quair.* In *The Kingis Quair and Other Prison Poems.* Edited by Linne R. Mooney and Mary-Jo Arn.

**Secondary Critical Works**

*David Aers*
*Chaucer, Langland, and the Creative Imagination.*

*John Alford*
*“The Role of Quotations in Piers Plowman”*

*Sarah Beckwith*
*Signifying God: Social Relation and Symbolic Act in the York Corpus Christi Plays*

*J. A. W. Bennett*
*Chaucer at Oxford and at Cambridge*

*Morton W. Bloomfield*
*Piers Plowman as a Fourteenth Century Apocalypse*  
*“Present State of Piers Plowman Studies”*

*Aage Brusendorff*
*The Chaucer Tradition*

*J. A. Burrow*
*“Autobiographical Poetry in the Middle Ages: The Case of Thomas Hoccleve”*  
*“The Portrayal of Amans in the Confessio Amantis”*
Ricardian Poetry: Chaucer, Gower, Langland, and the Gawain Poet

Mary Carruthers
The Book of Memory: A Study of Memory in Medieval Culture

R. W. Chambers
“The Authorship of ‘Piers Plowman’”

Andrew Cole, Andrew
Literature and Heresy in the Age of Chaucer

Margaret Connolly
John Shirley: Book Production and the Noble Household in Fifteenth-Century England

Helen Cooper
The Structure of the Canterbury Tales

Rita Copeland
Rhetoric, Hermeneutics, and Translation in the Middle Ages: Academic Traditions and Vernacular Texts

Carolyn Dinshaw
Chaucer’s Sexual Poetics

E. Talbot Donaldson
“Chaucer the Pilgrim”
Piers Plowman: The C-Text and its Poet Speaking of Chaucer

A. I. Doyle and M. B. Parkes
“The Production of Copies of the Canterbury Tales and Confessio Amantis in the Early Fifteenth Century”

T. P. Dunning and T. P. Dolan
Piers Plowman: An Interpretation of the A-Text

John H. Fisher

John Gower: Moral Philosopher and Friend of Chaucer

John V. Fleming
Classical Imitation and Interpretation in Chaucer’s Troilus

Robert Worth Frank
Piers Plowman and the Scheme of Salvation: An interpretation of Dowel Dobet and Dobest

Richard Firth Green
A Crisis of Truth: Literature and Law in Ricardian England
Poets and Princepleasers: Literature and the English Court in the Late Middle Ages

Andrew Galloway
“The Literature of 1388 and the Politics of Pity in Gower’s Confessio Amantis.” In The Letter of the Law: Legal Practice and Literary Production in Medieval England
“Piers Plowman and the Schools”
“Piers Plowman and the Subject of the Law”

Ralph Hanna III
Pursuing History: Middle English Manuscripts and Their Texts

Donald R. Howard
“Chaucer the Man”

Anne Hudson
Lollards and their Books
The Premature Reformation: Wycliffite Texts and Lollard History

J. J. Jusserand
English Wayfaring Life in the Middle Ages, XIVth Century

Steven Justice
“Genres of Piers Plowman”
Writing and Rebellion: England in 1381

Kathryn Kerby-Fulton
“Langland and the Bibliographic Ego” (1997)

George Lyman Kittredge
Chaucer and his Poetry (1917)

Ethan Knapp
The Bureaucratic Muse: Thomas Hoccleve and the Literature of Late Medieval England (1997)

Thomas A. Knott
“Observations on the Authorship of ‘Piers the Plowman’: A Reply to R. W. Chambers” (1917)

V. A. Kolve
The Play Called Corpus Christi (1966)

David Lawton
“Dullness in the Fifteenth Century” (1987)

Seth Lerer
Chaucer and his Readers: Imagining the Author in Late Medieval England (1993)

C. S. Lewis
The Allegory of Love: A Study in Medieval Tradition (1936)

J. M. Manly
“The Lost Leaf of ‘Piers the Plowman’” (1908)
Some New Light on Chaucer (1926)

Jill Mann
Chaucer and Medieval Estates Satire: The Literature of Social Classes and the General Prologue to the Canterbury Tales (1972)

Feminizing Chaucer (2002)

Anne Middleton
“Autobiography” and the Statute of 1388” (1997)
“Chaucer’s ‘New Men’ and the Good of Literature in the Canterbury Tales” (1980)
“Editing Terminable and Interminable” (2001)
“Narration and the Invention of Experience: Episodic Form in Piers Plowman” (1982)
“Piers Plowman, the Monsters, and the Critics: Some Embarrassments of Literary History” (2010)

Alastair Minnis
Medieval Theory of Authorship: Scholastic Literary Attitudes in the Later Middle Ages (2009)

Linne R. Mooney
“Chaucer’s Scribe” (2006)

Maura Nolan
John Lydgate and the Making of Public Culture (2005)

G. R. Owst
Literature and Pulpit in Medieval England (1933)

M. B. Parkes

Lee Patterson
Chaucer and the Subject of History (1991)
Negotiating the Past: The Historical Understanding of Medieval Literature (1987)

Derek Pearsall
“Hoccleve’s Regement of Princes: The Poetics of Royal Self-Presentation” (1994)

John Lydgate (1970)
“The Troilus Frontispiece and Chaucer’s Audience” (1977)

Ad Putter

D. W. Robertson
“Chaucerian Tragedy” (1952)
A Preface to Chaucer: Studies in Medieval Perspective (1962)

Wendy Scase
Piers Plowman and the New Anti clericalism (1989)

V. J. Scattergood
Politics and Poetry in the Fifteenth Century (1972)

James Simpson
Piers Plowman: An Introduction to the B-Text (1992)

Walter W. Skeat
The Chaucer Canon: With a Discussion of the Works Associated with the Name Geoffrey Chaucer (1900)

Paul Strohm
“Chaucer’s Fifteenth-Century Audience and the Narrowing of the Chaucer Tradition” (1982)
“Chaucer’s Troilus as Temporal Archive” (2000)

“Postmodernism and History” (2000)
“What Can We Know about Chaucer that He Didn’t Know about Himself?” (2000)

J. S. P. Tatlock
“The Canterbury Tales in 1400” (1935)

David Wallace
Chaucerian Polity: Absolutist Lineages and Associational Forms in England and Italy. (1997)

Nicholas Watson
“Censorship and Cultural Change in Late-Medieval England: Vernacular Theology, the Oxford Translation Debate, and Arundel’s Constitutions of 1409” (1995)

Siegfried Wenzel
“Chaucer and the Language of Contemporary Preaching” (1976)

Winthrop Wetherbee