

Acadia University

Gerry Gerrits

Department of English

K.S. Whetter (Ph. D. Wales) teaches first-year literature and medieval literature in Acadia University's English Department. His principal areas of expertise and interest are medieval literature, especially the medieval Arthurian tradition, Thomas Malory's *Morte Darthur*, and Middle English romance, but he is also interested in genre theory, and epic and heroic literature (both medieval and classical). He has published in the *Bibliographical Bulletin of the International Arthurian Society*, *Reading Medieval Studies* (forthcoming), a collection of essays from Trent University's Department of Ancient History and Classics, and a collection of essays entitled *Writing War: Medieval Literary Responses* (forthcoming from Boydell & Brewer). He has also appeared on BBC's *Time Team* as the Malory expert for their *In Search of King Arthur* special.

The English department generally offers two medieval literature courses every year: an upper-year course on Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, and an upper-year course on the mediaeval Arthurian Legend in which students explore a range of Arthurian verse and prose from Wales, France and England, including *Culhwch and Olwen* (read in translation), selections from the *Historia regum Britanniae* (read in translation), Chrétien de Troyes' *Chevalier de la charrete* (read in translation), and Thomas Malory's *Morte Darthur*. For each of these courses, the Acadia Advantage allows students to take full advantage of a number of excellent Chaucerian and Arthurian electronic resources. In 2002-03, however, the Chaucer course has been replaced by a graduate course on medieval romance. This course begins with an examination of Chrétien de Troyes' *Chevalier de la charrete* and *Conte del Graal* (both read in translation), but focuses on Middle English romance, including *Yvain and Gawain*, *Havelok*, *King Horn*, *Emaré*, the stanzaic *Le Morte Arthur*, and *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*.

Department of History and Classics

The Department of History and Classics offers one six-hour course in medieval history at the second year level, in addition to which medieval history receives attention in a first year, six-hour survey course on the history of Western civilisation and in a fourth year, six-hour seminar course devoted to special topics in European history. During the past decade, eight students have completed an honours thesis in medieval history for the Department of History and Classics.

At present, the medievalist in the Department of History and Classics is Gerry Gerrits (Ph.D. Queen's) who also teaches the history of the Renaissance and the Reformation. His research interest is the history of the *Devotio Moderna* (c1380-c1525), and especially its spirituality. His major publication in this field is *Inter Timorem et Spem, A study of the Theological Thought of Gerard Zerbolt of Zutphen, 1367-1398* (Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1986). In press at present is a lengthy study of the spiritual theology of Johannes Brinckerinck (d1419) (*Studies in Spirituality*, Supplement Nr. 10. Leuven: Peeters, 2003). Both Zerbolt and Brinckerinck were, with Gerard Grote, founders of the *Devotio Moderna*.

Department of Philosophy

The Department of Philosophy lists one half-course in medieval philosophy, but it is taught only sporadically, and then by Ian Wilks (Ph.D. Toronto) whose area of research is medieval logic, particularly that of the 12th and 13th centuries. The work of Peter Abelard enjoys his special attention.

Department of Languages and Literatures

Every second year the German section offers a half-course that begins with the dawn of German literature in the Middle Ages and ends with that of the Enlightenment. This course is taught by Uwe Wilhelm (Ph.D. Queen's). The French and Spanish sections of the department each list a half-course that includes coverage of French and Spanish medieval literature respectively, but due to staff, and other, changes they are not currently being offered.