



Castres, BM, Ms. 3 (Grandes Chroniques de France, c. 1330), fol. 277r (detail).



Ca' Foscari
University
of Venice

Department of Linguistics
and Comparative Cultural Studies

Prodesse et delectare: medieval didactic dialogues

Prof. Alessia Bauer

École Pratique Des Hautes Études | PSL, Paris

Seminar

Thursday, 11th April 2024

5.30-7 p.m.

Room MF2 - Polo Didattico San Basilio, Venice

Medieval didactic dialogues formed a popular genre throughout the European Middle Ages. These texts grew out of a common source, known as *Joca monachorum*, that originated in Latin writing and was considered a suitable literary form in order to provide factual information, moral instruction and a sort of entertainment. During the Middle Ages the dialogues were translated into many vernacular languages. Due to the common tradition, all these translations show some similarities, yet the Old/Middle English and the Old Icelandic ones are particularly close, so it seems likely that they used the same Latin text.

The class will first give a brief overview about the tradition of medieval didactic dialogues, it will then present the similarities between the Old English and the Old Icelandic tradition and finally show some strategies of translation by the Icelandic author.

Professors and students are welcome.

Course: Germanic Philology 2 Mod.1

Proposer: Dr. Paola Peratello

Those unable to attend the seminar in presence can request the **Zoom link** by sending an e-mail to paola.peratello@unive.it