

Evaluation of Grover Furr's Medieval Literature and History Page

In evaluating Grover Furr's Medieval Literature and History page, it seems apparent this website could be improved upon as a resource for gathering knowledge about Medieval Literature. The page opens with many web links compiled into seven major sections of medieval history which shows the organization of the site. This also makes the site easy to navigate. One of the first links on his page is his dissertation for his PhD that he received at Princeton University. With his excellent credentials, it seems his web page would have more of his insightful knowledge to offer than what is shown. He does not provide hardly any internal content on his page.

Located at www.chss.montclair.edu/english/furr/medieval.html, the website appears to have an abundance of information ranging from medieval authors to medieval artists. However, I encountered problems with trying to open up many of these web links. The site has either been moved or it cannot be found. The page has been updated as of August 30, 2004, but it looks as if Grover is not very concerned with the sites that do not work. This problem could be very frustrating to a researcher who clicks on an interesting web link and nothing appears on the screen.

Even though many of the links on this webpage do not work, the ones that do work properly are interesting and can be used as a guide and resource for medieval literature. The first of the seven sections is labeled as Basic Medieval Resources. A link to the Labyrinth, which is an excellent medieval resource, is located under this site. Grover also offers a link to a medieval discussion group for those looking to chat with

others about the Medieval Period. Another interesting link is one to a medieval history course at Fordham University which contains many useful texts.

The next section is completely devoted to Chaucer compiled of many links to university's web pages. An interesting link titled, The Canterbury Tales Project, has recreated the books of the Canterbury Tales into a computer-readable form. This Chaucer section seems to be the most informative section of Grover's webpage.

The Middle English Literature link contains many other links to project websites from certain universities. A Robin Hood Project is included in this site which has an author menu linking to texts and, an artist menu linking to various Robin Hood art work. There are also sites dedicated to William Langland's *The Vision of Piers Plowman*, as well as a search engine for Middle English Literature.

Overall, Grover's webpage is a satisfactory resource for gathering knowledge about the medieval period. The page's only disappointment is the many links that look very interesting but do not work. He could improve his site if he took these links off or found other sites to add that do work properly. The links that do work are helpful and the sites he offers work well as resources for a researcher.