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Introducing the Medieval Ass explores this fascinating animal’s social and cultural significance in four key areas: nature, religion, scholarship and literature. Each theme investigates crucial primary sources to explore the ass’s heavy socio-cultural burden, such as its labour and its assumed characteristics of irrationality, humility, stubbornness and sexual perversion. The conclusion briefly examines the animal’s continued post-medieval significance.

Kathryn L. Smithies is a medieval historian, and research and teaching associate in the School of Historical and Philosophical Studies at the University of Melbourne.
CHAUCEL AND ITALIAN CULTURE
Edited by Helen Fulton

A collection of eight original articles by leading scholars, which throw new light upon Chaucer’s engagement with Italian literature and culture in the late fourteenth century. Each article links Chaucer’s work to key Italian intellectual models, including trecento poetics, chorography, visual art and prophecy. Moving beyond a traditional ‘sources and analogues’ approach, the book demonstrates Chaucer’s ingenuity in transforming Italian cultural conventions.

Helen Fulton is Chair and Professor of Medieval Literature at the University of Bristol.

THE ARTHUR OF THE LOW COUNTRIES
THE ARTHURIAN LEGEND IN DUTCH AND FLEMISH LITERATURE
Edited by Bart Besamusca and Frank Brandsma

Arthurian romance was a productive and intriguing genre in the medieval Low Countries. Through translations it connects to the European and especially French Arthurian tradition, but there are also indigenous romances, positioned in line with, yet sometimes also opposing, that tradition. Ten of the texts were combined in a cyclic manuscript, the Lancelot Compilation.

Bart Besamusca is Professor of Middle Dutch Textual Culture from an International Perspective in the Utrecht Centre for Medieval Studies at Utrecht University.

Frank Brandsma is Senior Lecturer in Comparative Literature (Middle Ages) in the Utrecht Centre for Medieval Studies at Utrecht University.
**COGNITIVE SCIENCES AND MEDIEVAL STUDIES**

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*Edited by Juliana Dresvina and Victoria Blud*

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Though representing contrasting fields of research, the humanities and cognitive studies converge when they pose questions about the mind. The contributors to this volume explore and evaluate ways of applying to medieval studies methodologies drawn from cognitive science, and the efforts to situate these phenomena within longer histories.

Juliana Dresvina is a member of the History Faculty at the University of Oxford, teaching on late-medieval devotion and history of mentality to Middlebury College-CMRS Oxford Humanities Program.

Victoria Blud is a research associate in the Department of English and Related Literatures at the University of York, specialising in studies of gender, transgressive speech, emotion, cognition, and ideas about the body.

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Taking a national tradition approach, this volume draws from postcolonial theory, science fiction criticism, genre theory, Western and Indian philosophy and history, to propose that Indian science fiction displays a heightened sense of cultural hybridity. It examines the multilingual science fiction traditions of India to trace the generic evolution and to find specific patterns of hybridity in its formal and thematic elements.

Suparno Banerjee is an Associate Professor of English at Texas State University.
STEPHEN KING AND AMERICAN POLITICS

Michael J. Blouin

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Stephen King and American Politics argues that King’s fiction grapples with the growing threat to American democracy over the last fifty years. While King’s works tend to reject the democratic spirit of the 1960s in favour of military or economic management, they also preserve restless political energies that simply will not stay dead and buried.

Michael J. Blouin is Associate Professor of English and Humanities at Milligan College. His recent publications include Stephen King and American History, co-authored with Tony Magistrale.

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Franz J. Potter

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The first full-length study of gothic chapbooks, this book surveys not only the origins of the gothic chapbook, but its publishers and authors in order to conclusively establish the impact these tales of terror and horror had on the development of the gothic genre.

Franz J. Potter is program director for the MA in English/Gothic Studies specialisation at National University, San Diego.
This timely volume demonstrates how a long-standing dream of major Welsh writers in both Welsh and English has been to reconnect with mainstream European culture. It sets this aspiration against the recent Brexit debates and demonstrates how Welsh Europeanism has taken a variety of forms, at once utopian and inspiring.

M. Wynn Thomas is Professor of English and Emyr Humphreys Professor of Welsh Writing in English at Swansea University.
NEW QUEER HORROR FILM AND TELEVISION

Edited by Darren Elliott-Smith and John Edgar Browning

October 2020 • 216x138mm • 256pp
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Series: Horror Studies

This anthology studies the form, aesthetics and representations of LGBTQ+ identities in an emerging subgenre of film and television that we term ‘New Queer Horror.’ Turning the focus of fear on itself and on its own communities and subcultures, the volume highlights the limits of a metaphorical understanding of queerness in the horror film in an age where its presence has become more unambiguous.

Darren Elliott-Smith is Senior Lecturer in Film and Gender at the University of Stirling, Scotland, and is known online as www.queerhorrordoctor.com. John Edgar Browning is Professor of Liberal Arts at the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD).
In recent years, horror has been marked by an unprecedented level of popularity that has seen this traditionally disreputable genre curry favour with audiences and critics alike. *New Blood* is an edited collection of scholarship offering a series of in-depth case studies that give new (or renewed) critical attention to some of the more noteworthy characteristics and trends of contemporary horror media.

Eddie Falvey completed an AHRC-funded PhD on the early films of New York. He is currently a Lecturer in Contextual Studies at Plymouth College of Art, and his current research interests include film, horror and reception studies.

Joe Hickinbottom completed his PhD on the cult reputation of Takashi Miike at the University of Exeter. His research interests include Japanese film and cult film.

Jonathan Wroot is Senior Lecturer in Film Studies at the University of Greenwich. He regularly publishes work on Japanese cinema and home media distribution, as well as on horror cinema.
Norah Borges (1901 –98) worked as a painter and illustrator for most of the twentieth century, but she is now largely forgotten. In her works, she creates what she described as a smaller, more perfect world, and this book explores how she created that space and developed her own unique style of painting.

Eamon McCarthy is a Lecturer in Hispanic Studies at the University of Glasgow.
Living Off-grid in Wales examines rural development off-grid by contrasting Wales’s policy approach with a more DIY version of going off-grid. The examples examined in the book feed into broader debates about the possibility of planning for sustainable development. This book brings clarity to the notion of off-grid by examining two eco-villages that imagine off-grid very differently.

Elaine Forde is an experienced ethnographer who lectures at Swansea University, having completed long-term fieldwork in west Wales and more recently at São Tomé et Príncipe in West Africa.
William Morgan’s work shaped our world today in three important ways. His actuarial calculations underpin our present-day pensions; his scientific investigations are an early link in the chain of experiments leading to the discovery of X-ray; and his outspoken political writings, for which he risked imprisonment, call for universal suffrage and transparency in government finances.

Nicola Bruton Bennetts is an independent scholar with a background in teaching and journalism.
This is the first book-length study of the ‘turncoat’ John Poyer, who initiated the Second Civil War of 1648. It explores Poyer’s rise from a humble glover to parliament’s principal supporter in south Wales, examining his involvement in the murky politics of the post-war period, and the reasons behind his fatal decision to switch his support to the royalists in 1648.

Lloyd Bowen is Reader in Early Modern History at Cardiff University.

The Social Life of the Early Modern Protestant Clergy provides new insights on the lives of the early modern English and Swedish clergy beyond their official duties. It argues for the importance of clerical marriage to the success of the Protestant Reformation, and traces the social standing of the clergy through both their material wealth and financial networks.

Jacqueline Eales is Professor Emeritus at Canterbury Christ Church University.
Beverly Tjerngren is a PhD candidate at the Department of History at Uppsala University.
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