

Suggested activities for week two

- Professor Dafydd Johnston's two talks on 'Early Welsh Heroic Poetry' and the 'Gododdin', and my two on the 'heroic' or battle poetry and the praise poetry.
- Chapters 1 and 4 in Dafydd's *The Literature of Wales*.
- Chapter 9 in Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin's *An introduction to early Irish literature*, from last week's list, is also relevant (especially the sections on the status of poets, and praise poetry). Chapter 3 'The Heroic Cycle', is relevant to this week's discussion of the 'heroic ideal', and to next week's discussion of prose.
- If you have time you could look at some of the following (for example), or any of the heroic/battle poems in whichever source you have available:
 - an extract from the *Gododdin* (Welsh text with translation and notes) from A.O.H. Jarman's *Aneirin: The Gododdin* ([here](#))
 - Cynddelw's elegy for Madog ap Maredudd, with Joseph Clancy's translation, from the anthology *The Old Red Tongue* ([here](#))
 - From Jackson's Celtic Miscellany
 - poem 202: extracts from the 'Gododdin'
 - poem 190: 'The battle of Tal Moelfre'
 - poem 191: 'The Killing of Hywel ab Owain'
 - poem 192: 'Maguire and MacDermot' (an interesting juxtaposition of praise and satire in a later, 15th century, Scottish-Irish poem)
 - You could start reading Ciaran Carson's *The Táin*, especially if you are planning on doing the assignment where you compare it with the Welsh Mabinogion stories.
 - If you are interested in the Welsh court poetry you could read D. Myrddin Lloyd's chapter in 'A Guide to Welsh Literature', vol. I (digitized version [here](#)).
 - There is a good discussion of the 'Gwên and Llywarch' poem in Chapter 20 of Thomas Charles-Edwards, *Wales and the Britons, 350-1064*. You can view the ebook via the library website.