

Institute of Education and Humanities/
Yr Athrofa Addysg a'r Dyniaethau

**MA Dissertation Approval Form/
Ffurflen Gymeradwyo Traethawd Hir MA**

Student Name/ <i>Enw Myfyriwr</i>	Michelle Hogan
Degree Scheme/ <i>Cynllun Gradd</i>	HPMS7001 MA Dissertation (Medieval Studies)
Start date/ <i>Dyddiad cychwyn</i>	September 2025

I have completed/ ~~about to complete~~* Part 1 of my degree.

*Please delete as appropriate.

Yr wyf wedi/ ar fun cwblhau Rhan 1 o fy ngradd

** Dileu fel sy'n briodol*

Title of Dissertation:

Teitl eich Traethawd Hir

The Appeal of King Arthur's Tales through History: Variations of the Legends according to Language, Time and Location

Aims and Objectives:

Nodau ac Amcanion

- The intention in this dissertation is to identify various aspects of the Arthurian tales which might be appealing to readers or an audience, according to their social, political and cultural circumstances.
- These tales have been adapted for centuries and translated into numerous different languages, and the aim is to analyse how they have developed accordingly.
- The tension between what is ideal in a society and its reality will be evaluated, as will the implications of courtly love in a predominately Christian society.

Abstract (approximately 500 words):

Crynodeb (tua 500 gair):

The tales of King Arthur have been popular for centuries, capturing the imagination with their themes of knightly adventures, magic, love, codes of chivalry and spiritual aspirations. They have been adapted in Britain, France, Germany, and Scandinavia among others, and have been translated into many languages, including Norse and Portuguese. Over the years, they have been amended according to the social climate of their time, and occasionally they seem to reflect the political situation in which they are set. King Arthur has quite a few different traits, depending on where he is and which tale he appears in. A glance at certain historical people, such as Magnus Maximus and Ambrosius Aurelianus, who Geoffrey of Monmouth wrote about, might provide a possible explanation of his complex character.

The *Mabinogian* Arthurian tales considered in this dissertation include 'Culhwch and Olwen', 'Rhonabwy's Dream' and the so-called 'three romances' of 'Peredur son of Efrog', 'The Lady of the Well' and 'Geraint son of Erbin'. These will be discussed along with the *Arthurian Romances* of Chr tien de Troyes, which include 'Erec and Enide' and 'The Story of the Grail'. The emphasis in these romances, written in poetry rather than prose, is on the social ideals of the nobility in twelfth-century France. About three hundred years later, Sir Thomas Malory wrote *Le Morte Darthur*, which provides a background of Arthur and his birth, as well as the tales of his knights, like Sir Galahad, son of Sir Lancelot in 'The Book of Sir Tristram de Lyonesse'. Malory's tales are mainly about the fellowship of the knights and the ideal of knighthood, although they, like those of many authors, ultimately conclude with the downfall of Arthur's court.

The methodology will consist mainly of textual comparisons between the Arthurian tales, and a consideration of their social, political and cultural contexts. There will be some close readings and analyses of the styles of writing involved in these tales.

▲ Short Introductory Bibliography:

Llyfryddiaeth rhagarweiniol byr

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Proposed Supervisor:

Goruchwyliwr awgrymedig

Please indicate whether ethical approval for project is needed – YES/NO

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Please indicate whether sufficient resources are available for the project – YES/NO

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The above topic, proposal, and supervisor have been agreed:

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Signed : Programme Director/
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Date:.....
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