



Postgraduate/Distance Learning Assignment coversheet & feedback form

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For completion by the student:		
Katharine Ewins		
Module code: AHH17001	1811277	Educational support needs: Yes/No
Module title: Research Methodology		
Module tutor: Janet Burton		
Assignment due date: 24 May 2019		
If your module has multiple submissions please indicate which piece of work this is.		
1 st		
I confirm that this is my original work and that I have adhered to the University policy on plagiarism. Signed Email submission: if you are submitting this form via email, please tick this box ☒ ✓ (as a substitute for your signature) to confirm that you agree to the above declaration.		

Assignment Mark

1st Marker's Provisional mark

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External Examiner's mark (if relevant)

Final Mark

NB. All marks are provisional until confirmed by the Final Examination Board.

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For completion by Marker 2/Moderator:

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External Examiner's comments (if relevant)

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Date:

Originally written in French in manuscript form in the fourteenth and early fifteenth century by Jean Froissart (1337 - 1405) a native of Valenciennes. He declares in his introduction at the beginning of his first book 'I have sort out the truth concerning the deeds of war...'.¹ His aim was to record as truthfully as possible the events of the times in which he lived focusing mainly on the wars between England and France. He does document the circumstances of the common people but his main focus and interest is on the chivalric deeds of the time. After he had presented the first part of the Chronicles to Queen Philippa the wife of Edward III of England, who came from Froissart's home region of Valenciennes, he entered into her service as a clerk mainly to write poetry for the court but continued to record historical events for the queen. After her death he was sponsored by other royal and notable patrons and eventually went into the church. His love of the court life influenced the view point from which he wrote the chronicles. He used the work of another, Jean Le Bel, which was quite acceptable at the time, to begin his chronicles from the early 1300s. He rewrote, mainly the first volume a number of times, using prose as that had become the standard form for history writing and in homage to Le Bel.² He was himself an eyewitness to some of the events he chronicled, but to gain information about the battles he interviewed survivors and then enthusiastically recounted his conversations in elaborate, poetic and often graphic detail.

My access to the printed books was through libraries, secondhand book sellers and online digitisation for some of the rare copies, sites including COPAC, British Library and EEBO. The online only resource included a project designed to compare and facilitate research into the text of various manuscript copies in French and assess the translations of selected sections of Books I, II and III from the Berançon BM ms 864 and ms 865 into English. The first printed edition was made in Paris by Verard, on vellum with illuminated illustrations. One of the first translations into English was produced by the eloquent Lord

Berner for Henry VIII in 1525. Yet another into Latin, which would only be read by the highly educated in society who had been schooled in Latin.

The chronicles are valued and significant as a unique window into the fourteenth century and used as a rich source book for historical authors such as Barbara Tuchman³ and chivalric historians interested in the description of medieval court life as well as students of old French and medieval English. They need to be approached in the knowledge of their purpose which is to show a favourable light on the patrons they were written for and is selective in the areas documented. Historians have called into question the accuracy of his dates, numbers and facts, translators have added footnotes to this effect. They can be accessed in various forms from the full text to be studied as a scholarly work, by the art historian in the manuscript as well as the printed form, for example the Verard edition which contains exquisite illuminated illustrations adding a further dimension to the 14th century. I also discovered an edition produced for the delight and inspiration of schoolboys to help them visualise the adventures of medieval knights.

The following texts are presented in a chronological order of publication.

Froissart, Jean, *Chronicles* (Paris: Antoine Vérard, before 25 Dec. 1499) STC if0032000

Antoine Vérard was one if not the first printer to publish Froissart's *Chronicles* in Paris. He specialised in printing copies on vellum and used illuminated illustrations and typeset to imitate manuscripts. His series of the *Chronicles* was bound into four volumes. The method he used was considered outmoded and was being replaced by other forms of printed text and illustration making, for example wood block, which were easier and quicker to produce.

Froissart, Jean, *Chroniques*. Book 1 and 2, trans. by John Bouchier, Lord Berners (London: Thomas Marsh, 1563) STC 11398

Translated into English by Lord Berners at the commandment of King Henry VIII. Useful for scholarly study of sixteenth-century English. Lord Berners was possibly chosen for the work because of his position at court and his command of prose to highlight the king's forbears chivalric successes.

Froissart, Jean, *An epitome of Frossard: or, A summarie collection of the most memorable histories contained in his chronicle, chiefly concerning the state of England and France*, ed. John Sleydane and trans. P Golding (London, Tho. Purfoot, 1608) STC (2nd edn) 11399

Edition compiled by John Sleydane from Latin texts and translated into English by P. Golding. Initial letters, side headings and page numbers are wood blocks, this is an early translation and useful for research.

Froissart, Jean, *Froissart's Historiarum opus omne, jam primum et breviter collectum et latino sermone redditum*, ed. and trans. by Joannis Sleidanus (Amsterdam: J. and C. Blaeu, 1640)

Translated into Latin. An early printed book containing a number of wood block decorated letters. The frontispiece shows the coat of arms and the figure of Louis XI facing the figure of Carlus Burgum, the volume is complete with index. The printers mark is found on title page. Possible collectors edition for court or clerical library.

Froissart, Jean, *Chronicles of England, France, Spain, and the adjoining countries*, trans. by Thomas Johnes 3rd edn (London: Longman, Hurst, Rees, and Orme 1808) <<http://www.medievalist.globalfolio.net/eng/f/index.php>> [accessed 25 February 2019]

The complete translation into English from French editions and manuscripts by Thomas Johnes published in 12 volumes in 1808 and printed in London by Longman. Each volume is prefixed with the life of the author, a criticism of his history and an essay on his poetry. A selection of 2nd and 3rd editions are available in pdf downloadable format. The digitised version of the Johnes edition can be view page by page on the website. Its value can be seen in its completeness.

Froissart, Jean, *Chronicles of England, France, Spain, and the adjoining Countries*, Vol 1, trans. by Thomas Johnes, esq. (London: George Routledge and Sons, 1868) <https://archive.org/details/b24872799_0001/page/n45> [accessed 25 Feb 2019]

A two volume set with Jean Baptiste de La Curne de Staine-Palaye's essays on the life and works along with his criticism of Froissart's history are included and translated by Thomas Johnes (1748-1816). Coloured illustrations in the manuscript style, sourced from original manuscripts, are bound into the volume and black and white woodcuts are included within the text. Contents listed for volume 1 at beginning, the index is found at the end of volume 2.

Froissart, Jean, *The Chronicles of England, France, Spain, etc. etc.* epitomised edition (London: George Routledge and Sons Ltd, 1891)

Introduction by Reverend Henry Peter Dunster with footnotes. Illustrated and summarised at beginning of each chapter and page headings to guide the reader through the text. Translation used not stated. The edition is bound with a leather spine and has possibly been produced as part of a series for a book collector.

Froissart, Jean, *Froissart's Chronicles* ed. Madalen G. Edgar (London: George G. Harrap & Co, 1928)

The Boys' Froissart aimed at the younger reader is selected from Lord Berners' translation and includes an introduction, illustrations by Morris Meredith Williams, maps and a chronological table.

Froissart, Jean, *Froissart Chronicles*, ed. and trans. by Geoffrey Brereton (London: Penguin Books, 1978)

Geoffrey Brereton (1906-1979) has selected, edited and translated based mainly on Buchon's edition. A single volume which is part of Penguin Books Classics series and reads like a novel. Includes an introduction, glossary, map and indexes.

Froissart, Jean, *Froissart's Chronicles*, ed. and trans. by John Jolliffe (London: Penguin Books, 1967)

Classical History edition translated and edited by John Jolliffe includes maps of relevant expeditions and genealogical tables. This edition is laid out in the same format as the original manuscripts in books and chapters. The introduction includes a short cameo of Froissart's life and a comment about the focus of the chronicles and how he portrays the time in which he lives. The vast work has been edited down to a single volume which makes it accessible to the interested lay reader. The index is preceded by a bibliography for further study.

Ainsworth, Peter, and Godfried Croenen, ed., *The Online Froissart*, version 1.5 (Sheffield: HRIOOnline, 2013), <<http://www.hrionline.ac.uk/onlinefroissart>> [accessed 25 February 2019]

The project is a collaboration between Sheffield and Liverpool universities and researchers and project partners working to advance digital research methods. The site is an in-depth study with the facility to view in parallel a number of the transcriptions and compare and contrast the texts transcribed from the original french. The Besançon BM mss 864/5 are used from which selected sections have been translated into english.

This is an ongoing project, and has the facility to view the original manuscripts. A very useful site for researchers as well as those with a general interest in both Froissart and the period he is chronicling.

¹ Jean Froissart, *Froissart's Chronicles*, ed. and trans. by John Jolliffe (London: Penguin Books, 1967), p 4

² Peter Ainsworth, 'Jean Froissart : Chronicler, Poet and Writer', in *The Online Froissart*, ed. by Peter Ainsworth and Godfried Croenen, v. 1.5 (Sheffield: HRIOOnline, 2013), <http://www.hrionline.ac.uk/onlinefroissart/apparatus.jsp?type=intros&intro=f.intros.PFA-Froissart>, first published in v. 1.0 (2010), updated for v. 1.5 (2013). [accessed 25 2 2019]

³ Barbara W. Tuchman, *A Distinct Mirror, The calamitous 14th century* (London: Macmillan, 1979)