Dr Jonathan Morton

Areas of research interest

Twelfth- and thirteenth-century literature in French; *The Roman de la rose*; allegory; literature in the context of intellectual history; the medieval reception of Aristotle; medieval Neoplatonism; bestiaries; Alexander the Great in medieval culture; medieval intertextuality; twelfth-century Latin literature; the representation of creativity in the Middle Ages; medieval science and technology; discourses on sexuality in French and Latin sources; text/image relations in medieval books.

Employment

Zimpioyiment	
July 2019–	Assistant Professor, French and Italian Department Tulane University, New Orleans
2018–2020	Visiting Postdoctoral Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Fellow Project Title: 'Medieval <i>Ingenium</i> : Knowledge, Experience, and Technology'
2018–2020	Affiliated Fellow, Institute for Cultural Inquiry, Berlin
2016–2018	Leverhulme Early Career Research Fellow, French Department, King's College, University of London Project Title: 'Ingenium: Poetry and Engineering in the High Middle Ages'
2012–16	Junior Research Fellow in Modern Languages at New College, Oxford
2014	Visiting Assistant Professor in Medieval French, Columbia University, New York
2012–13	Teaching Fellow in Medieval French, Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages, University of Oxford
2011–12	Teacher at graduate and undergraduate level (Communication, Literature, Philosophy), Sciences-Po Paris.
2011–12	Lecteur en anglais, Université de Paris-X, Nanterre
2009–10	Graduate Assistant, New College, Oxford
2006–08	Teacher of English, St Paul's Way Community School, London, E3
Education	
2009–13	D. Phil. in literature and intellectual history at New College, Oxford (AHRC-funded) Thesis title: 'The Roman de la rose': Nature, Sex, and Language in Thirteenth-Century Poetry and
	Philosophy Supervisors: Helen Swift (French); Cecilia Trifogli (Philosophy) Examiners: Sylvia Huot (Cambridge); Matthew Kempshall (Oxford)
2008–09	M.St. (taught Master's degree) in Medieval Studies at New College, Oxford (AHRC-funded), awarded with distinction
2005–06	Post-Graduate Certificate of Education (PGCE) in secondary school English teaching,

Institute of Education, London

Publications

Monograph

In preparation

Medieval Ingenuity: Machines, Humans, and the Cosmos in the Middle Ages

2018

The Roman de la rose' in its Philosophical Context: Nature, Art, and Ethics (Oxford: OUP, 2018)

Collected volumes

Forthcoming

The Roman de la Rose' and Thirteenth-Century Thought, ed. Jonathan Morton and Marco Nievergelt with John Marenbon, Cambridge Studies in Medieval Literature (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, due 2019).

2018

Medieval Thought Experiments: Poetry, Hypothesis, and Experience in the European Middle Ages, Disputatio, 31, ed. by P. Knox, J. Morton and D. Reeve (Turnhout: Brepols, 2018).

Articles

Forthcoming

with Elizabeth Eva Leach, 'Aural Sex: Identity, Presence, and Voice in the Bestiaire d'Amour and the Response au Bestaire d'Amour' (in preparation).

with Andrew Hicks, 'Philosophies: Cosmos and Politics, Harmony and Disharmony' in The Bloomsbury Cultural History of Music, 2: The Middle Ages, ed. by Helen Deeming and Elizabeth Eva Leach (London: Bloomsbury, in preparation).

'Automates, robots et Orients utopiques dans la littérature française du douzième siècle' in Les utopies scientifiques au Moyen Âge et à la Renaissance, ed. by Roberto Poma, Nicolas Weill-Parot et al. Micrologus (Florence: SISMEL, forthcoming).

'Human, animals, and nature in the Romance of the Rose' in Approaches to Teaching the Romance of the Rose', ed. by Daisy Delogu and Anne-Hélène Miller (New York: The Modern Language Association of America, forthcoming).

'Engin: Creativity, Invention, and Knowledge in the Medieval Romance Tradition of Alexander the Great', Romanic Review (forthcoming).

'Sophisms and Sophistry in the Roman de la rose' in The Roman de la Rose' and Thirteenth-Century Thought, ed. J. Morton and M. Nievergelt with J. Marenbon, Cambridge Studies in Medieval Literature (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, due 2019).

with Marco Nievergelt, 'Introduction' in The 'Roman de la Rose' and Thirteenth-Century Thought, ed. J. Morton and M. Nievergelt with J. Marenbon, Cambridge Studies in Medieval Literature (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, due 2019).

- 2018 'Introduction: Textual Experiments, Thinking with Fiction' in *Medieval Thought Experiments: Poetry, Hypothesis, and Experience in the European Middle Ages*, Disputatio, 31, ed. by P. Knox, J. Morton and D. Reeve (Turnhout: Brepols, 2018), pp. 1–20.
- with Elizabeth Eva Leach, 'Intertextual Resonance in Richard de Fournival's *Bestiaire d'amour*: Combining Perspectives from Literary Studies and Musicology', *Romania*, 135. 2 (2017): 313–52.
- 2016 'The Latin *Physiologus*, the *Bestiaire de Philippe de Thaon*, and the Book of the World in the Twelfth Century', *New Medieval Literatures*, 16 (2016), 1–38.
- 2015 'Ingenious Genius: invention, creation, reproduction in the High Middle Ages', *L'esprit créateur*, 55. 2 (2015): 4–19.
- 2015 'Friars in Love? Manuscript Illumination as Literary Interpretation in Three Fourteenth-Century Manuscripts of the Roman de la rose' in Text/Image Relations in Late Medieval French Culture, ed. Rebecca Dixon and Rosalind Brown-Grant (Turnhout: Brepols, 2015), pp. 25–45.
- 2015 'État présent: Le roman de la rose', French Studies, 68. 1 (2015): 79–86.
- 2013 'Des loups en peau humaine: Faux Semblant et les appétits animaux dans Le Roman de la rose de Jean de Meun', *Questes*, 25 (April, 2013): 99–119.
- 'Queer metaphors and queerer reproduction in the *De planctu Naturae* and the *Roman de la rose*' in *Dante and Desire in the Middle Ages*, ed. Manuele Gragnolati, Tristan Kay, Elena Lombardi, and Francesca Southerden (Oxford: Legenda, 2012), pp. 208–26.
- 2011 'Where are the bodies? Gender-bending voices in the Roman de la rose', Cahiers de Recherches Médiévales et Humanistes, 22 (2011): 123–37.
- 2010 'Wolves in Human Skin: Questions of Animal Appetite in Jean de Meun's Roman de la rose', Modern Language Review, 105. 4 (2010): 976–997.

Book reviews

- 2019 Venetia Bridges, Medieval Narratives of Alexander the Great: Transnational Texts in England and France (Woodbridge: Brewer, 2018), French Studies (forthcoming).
- 2018 Herman Braet, *Nouvelle bibliographie du Roman de la Rose*' (Leuven, Paris, and Bristol CT: Peeters, 2017), *French Studies*, 72:4 (Oct, 2018): 593–94.
- Jean de Meun et le culture médiévale: Littérature, art, sciences et droit aux derniers siècles du Moyen Âge, ed. by Jean-Patrice Boudet, Philippe Haugeard, et al. (Rennes: Presses universitaires de Rennes, 2017), French Studies, 72:3 (July, 2018): 430–31.
- 2017 Peggy McCracken, In the Skin of a Beast: Sovereignty and Animality in Medieval France (Chicago: Chicago UP, 2017), H–France Review, 17 (Sept. 2017): https://h-france.net/vol17reviews/vol17no167morton.pdf (accessed 4 March 2019).
- Valérie Fasseur and Jean-René Valette, eds. Les Ecoles de pensée du xii siècle et la littérature romane (oc et oïl, Bibliothèque d'histoire culturelle du Moyen Âge, 17. Turnhout: Brepols, 2016, French Studies, 71:4 (2017), 551.

- 2017 Florence Bouchet and Anne-Hélène Klinger-Dollé, eds., Penser les cinq sens au Moyen Âge: poétique, éthique, esthétique (Paris: Garnier, 2015), French Studies, 71:2 (2017), 255–56.
- 2015 Maaike van der Lugt, ed., La nature comme source de la morale au Moyen Âge (Florence: SISMEL, 2014), Speculum, 90:3 (2015), 865–66.
- 2015 Virginie Greene, Logical Fictions in Medieval Literature and Philosophy (Cambridge: CUP, 2014), French Studies, 69:3 (2015), 377–78.
- Gabriella Baika, *The Rose and Geryon: The Poetics of Fraud and Violence in Jean de Meun and Dante* (Washington DC: The Catholic University of America Press, 2014), *French Studies*, 69:2 (2015), 232.
- 2014 Zrinka Stahuljak, *Pornographic Archaeology: Medicine, Medievalism, and the Invention of the French Nation* (Philadelphia: UPenn Press, 2012), *Romanic Review*, 105: 3–4 (2014), 408–10.
- Joan Cadden, Nothing Natural is Shameful: Sodomy and Science in Late Medieval Europe (Philadelphia: U of Pennsylvania P, 2013), Times Literary Supplement (March 28, 2014), p. 30.
- 2013 Mary Franklin-Brown, Reading the World: Encyclopedic Writing in the Scholastic Age (Chicago: Chicago UP, 2012), French Studies, 67:3 (2013), 395–96.
- Jeanne-Marie Boivin, Jacqueline Cerquiglini-Toulet, and Laurence Harf-Lancner, eds. *Les Fables avant La Fontaine* (Geneva: Droz, 2011), *Medieum Ævum*, 81:2 (2012), 371.
- 2012 David Rollo, Kiss My Relics: Hermaphroditic Fictions of the Middle Ages (Chicago: Chicago UP, 2011), Modern Language Review, 107:4 (2012), 1222–24.
- Sylvia Huot, *Dreams of Lovers and Lies of Poets: Poetry, Knowledge, and Desire in the Roman de la Rose* (Oxford: Legenda, 2010), in *Modern Language Review*, 107:3 (2012), 931–32.

Translation

2011 Frédérique Aït-Touati, Fictions of the Cosmos: Science and Literature in the Seventeenth Century, (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2011). I re-translated the text which had been rendered unintelligible by its original translator. The book won the 2011 MLA Scaglione Prize for Comparative Literature. It was particularly praised for its 'lovely, crisp sentences, making it a pleasure to read for its scholarly advances and style'.

Invited seminar papers and conference papers

- 2018 'The (a) temporality of technological ekphrasis in twelfth-century *romans d'antiquitê* (Workshop on time in twelfth-century culture, Humboldt University, Berlin)
- 2018 'Art, nature, and an imperfect ethics of sexual reproduction in the Romance of the Rose' (Centre for Late Antique and Medieval Studies Seminar, King's College London)
- 2018 'Beyond the Trojan Horse: Craft, ingenuity, and secret knowledge in the High Middle Ages'
 (Medieval English Seminar, Cambridge University)

2017	'Why should philosophers care about allegory? The Romance of the Rose as philosophical poetry' (Medieval Philosophy Network, The Warburg Institute, University of London)
2017	'Beyond the Trojan Horse: Craft, ingenuity, and secret knowledge in the High Middle Ages' (Medieval Seminar, University of Warwick)
2017	'Automates, inventions et des Orients utopiques dans la littérature française du douzième siècle' ('Les utopies scientifiques au Moyen Âge et à la Renaissance' Conference, Paris)
2017	'Submarines and Flying Machines: Science-Fiction and Epistemology in the Medieval Tradition of Alexander the Great' Medieval English Seminar, Freie Universität Berlin (with the Humboldt University)
2017	'Obscene conversion in the Romance of the Rose' Workshop 'On Conversion', Institute for Cultural Inquiry, Berlin
2017	'Engin alexandrin au douzième siècle : fiction et enquête philosophique dans <i>Le roman d'Alexandre</i> et <i>Le roman de toute chevalerie</i> ' ('Philosophy and Fiction' Conference, Université de Rennes 2)
2017	'Word and Image, Memory and Imagination in the <i>Bestiaire d'amour</i> 's Prologue' (Panel 'Objects in Medieval Literature', MLA Convention, Philadelphia)
2016	'Sophisms and Sophistry in the Roman de la rose' ('The Romance of the Rose and Thirteenth-Century Parisian Philosophy' Conference, Institut d'études avancées, Paris)
2016	'Ingenium: Making Things Come Alive in the Middle Ages' (French Department Research Seminar, King's College London)
2015	'Sound, Song, and Memory in Richard de Fournival's <i>Bestiaire d'amour</i> ' (with Elizabeth Eva Leach) (Medieval French Seminar, University of Oxford)
2015	'Impossible Demonstration and Thwarted Condemnation: The Roman de la rose in its Philosophical Context' (Medieval French Seminar, University of Oxford)
2015	'Idol Reflection: The Punning Translation of Optical Terminology in the Roman de la rose' (International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds)
2015	'Material Manuduction in an Anglo-Norman Court: Nature and Transcendence in the <i>Bestiaire de Philippe de Thaon</i> ' (Medieval Studies Seminar, Exeter University)
2015	'Narcissus and Pygmalion: Myth and Theology in the Roman de la rose' ('Classical Receptions in the Middle Ages and Renaissance' Symposium, University of Leeds)
2015	'L'art, la nature, et l'éthique dans le Roman de la rose'

	(Centre d'études sur le Moyen Âge et la Renaissance, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium)
2015	'Cur philosophia allegoria? The work of reception in medieval allegory' ('Medieval Thought Experiments' Conference, New College, Oxford University)
2014	'False gods, idolatrous desire, and the nature of art in the Roman de la rose' (Medieval Seminar, University of Columbia, New York)
2014	'Collective Courtly Ecstasy in the Bestiary of Philippe de Thaon', Presentation for <i>Thinking and Feeling: Philosophy and Theology in Medieval Literature</i> roundtable (Columbia University, New York)
2014	'False gods, idolatrous desire, and the nature of art in the Roman de la rose' (Invited Lecture followed by masterclass, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia)
2014	'Ingenious Genius: invention, creation, reproduction in the High Middle Ages' (Medieval Workshop, University of Chicago)
2014	'The Fiction of Genius in the High Middle Ages' (Medieval Colloquium, Yale University, New Haven)
2014	'Curved mirrors and distorted reflections of Neoplatonism in the Roman de la rose' (International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo)
2014	'Learning how to read with the Roman de la rose' (Columbia University, New York)
2013	'Ingenious Genius: invention, creation, reproduction in the High Middle Ages' ('Penser le génie à travers ses usages' Symposium, University of Oxford)
2013	'The tricky history of <i>engin</i> and the representation of creativity in medieval French and Latin sources' (Medieval French Seminar, University of Cambridge)
2013	'A poetic translation of Aristotle: Raison's reworking of <i>Politics</i> , I in the <i>Romance of the Rose</i> ' (The Medieval Translator Conference 2013, KU Leuven (Belgium))
2013	'Artificial Animals, Pleasure, and Natural History in an Anglo-Norman Bestiary' (French Studies Conference 2013, University of Nottingham)
2013	'What can we learn from a hypocrite? Faux Semblant and the problem of artificial eloquence in the Romance of the Rose' (London Medieval Society Colloquium: Rhetoric, Queen Mary University of London)
2012	'Infinity and the nature of money: usury and avarice in the Roman de la rose and 13th-century thought' (Medieval Seminar, University of Reading)
2012	'Animals as letters, animals as divine language in a twelfth-century bestiary' (International Medieval Studies Conference, Paris).
2012	'Les naissances contre-nature et le but de l'acte sexuel dans le Roman de la rose' (Questes Graduate Seminar, Paris-Sorbonne – Paris-IV)

2012 'Illuminating Commentary: Do the Marginal Figures of BNF fr. 25526 Offer an Interpretation of the Roman de la rose?' (Text-Images Relations in Late Medieval French Culture (14th-16th c.)' Research Group Symposium, University of Leeds) 2011 'All the World's a Book: Reading Nature Allegorically in an Anglo-Norman Bestiary' ('The Arts of Interpretation: Interpreting Nature in the 16th and 17th Centuries' Symposium, Oxford) 2011 'Money, Desire and the Problem of Infinity in Aristotle and the Roman de la Rose' (French Post-Graduate Seminar, University of Cambridge) 2010 'Genius and Sex: Sodomy and Poetic Invention in Medieval Literature' (French Post-Graduate Seminar, University of Oxford) 2010 'Aristotelian Satire and the Roman de la Rose' (Medieval French Seminar, University of Oxford) 'A Misappropriated Genius: Sodomy and Translation in Jean de Meun's Roman de la Rose' 2010 ('The Author-Translator' Conference, University of Swansea) 2010 Biology and Abstinence: Theories of Sexuality and Ideological Engagement in Jean de Meun's Continuation of the Roman de la Rose' (Medieval French Seminar, University of Cambridge) 2010 Wolves in Human Skin: Questions of Animal Appetite in Jean de Meun's Roman de la rose' ('Dante and Desire in the Middle Ages' Symposium, Oxford) 2009 'Working with Theory in Medieval French studies' (Round Table Discussion – Medieval French Seminar, University of Oxford) 'A Gender-Bending Old Woman; La Vieille and Masculine Intellectual Discourse' 2009 ('Voices in Medieval French Narrative' Research Group Symposium, Oxford.)

Teaching Experience

King's College London

2016–18 Undergraduate teaching, French Department

I taught an introductory survey course on French literature to first-year undergraduates in French, following the department syllabus as well as optional undergraduate modules on 'Death and Desire in Medieval and Early Modern Literature' and 'Comedy in French Literature pre-1700' encompassing the medieval and early modern periods. I devised a new course entitled 'Obscenity and Civility in French Literature pre-1700, which I taught in spring 2018. Feedback on the co-taught 'Death and Desire' last year rated the course the highest amongst all courses offered in the French department that semester.

Sample feedback, quoted verbatim from anonymous student evaluation: 'He has been the best lecturer I've ever had. He love [sic] what he teaches and anyone can notice that by the way he talks and by the way he go [sic] through the different steps during lectures. He made me love this module, which is right now, my favourite one. Such a great person, really close to the students. The entire class is amazed by his work. I would never stop talking positively about him and his works with my friends from kings [sic]. Even his seminars are an amazing way to catch more information, but always in a nice way. It's always a pleasure being part of the seminars.'

Columbia University, New York

Graduate course: 'Le roman de la rose and medieval discourses of nature'

I devised, taught, and assessed this 14-week graduate seminar to students preparing PhDs in English, French, Italian, and Musicology. In addition to the main seminars that looked at the *Rose* and at important texts for thirteenth-century philosophy and intellectual history, I gave classes teaching students how to read medieval French.

2014 <u>Undergraduate course: 'Introduction to French literature from the Middle Ages to 1800'</u>
I devised, taught, and assessed this survey course in French, choosing a range of canonical texts that clustered thematically around the themes of desire and artifice in French literature.

University of Oxford

2014 Graduate supervision

I supervised a master's dissertation on Richard de Fournival's Bestiaire d'amour.

2011–13 Undergraduate Lectures

2013 Series of 4: Animals, Hybrids, and Humans in Medieval literature (2nd & 4th year) 2011 Series of 4: Le roman de la rose (2nd & 4th year)

2009–15 <u>Undergraduate and Graduate Tutorials</u> (Teaching to groups numbering between 1 and 3 students in the French department, unless otherwise stated)

Roman de la rose (Masters, 2010-13)

Unseen translation (Masters, 2010)

English, Course II, Comparative Paper: Medieval Romance (2nd year, undergraduate, 2013) English, Course II, Paper B19: non-English medieval texts (3rd year undergraduate, 2010)

Paper VI, Medieval period paper (2nd & 4th year undergraduate, 2012–15)

Prelims Paper IV (Narrative texts) La Chastelaine de Vergy (1st year, 2009–11)

Paper XII: Special subject, La chanson de geste (4th year, 2013)

2009–13 Undergraduate Classes

Manuscript workshops for Paper VI students in collaboration with staff at the Bodleian Library (2nd & 4th year, 2012)

Unseen translation classes (1st & 4th year, 2009–11)

Prelims Paper IV (Narrative text) *La Chastelaine de Vergy* (1st year, 2009–11) Essay-writing class (1st year, 2011–2013)

2013 Marking Final Honours School

Paper III – Translation from Pre-Modern French

2009–11 Access teaching

Classes to visiting school-groups, New College.

Translation and medieval literature classes for Year 12 school students (16–17 years old) for the UNIQ access summer-school for prospective Oxford applicants

Sciences-Po, Paris

2011–12 School of Communication, Masters Program,

High-level workshops in written communication for groups of 10 French and international students. I devised and taught this series of five 4-hour sessions for two semesters.

2012 Collège universitaire de Sciences-Po

'Animals, Monsters, and What it Means to be Human in Western Literature and Philosophy' I devised and taught this interdisciplinary 12-week seminar for 25 undergraduate students.

Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense (Paris-X)

2011-12 English language teaching to classes of between 30 and 50 undergraduates.

St Paul's Way Community School, London

As an English teacher, I taught literature, language, and media studies to classes of up to 30 students, aged 11–16 in this inner-city non-selective secondary school. I innovated methods of teaching Shakespeare using film (and subsequently ran training sessions for London-based English teachers).

Administrative responsibilities

2019	Organiser of a mini-seminar series, 'The Uses of the Imagination', Max Planck Institute for
	the History of Science, Berlin

- 2016–18 Personal Tutor to two classes of undergraduate students in the French department, King's College London. This pastoral role involved monitoring student performance and well-being and advising tutees on academic choices and on negotiating university bureaucracy to access support services.
- 2016 Co-organiser of a two-day interdisciplinary conference: 'The Romance of the Rose' and Thirteenth-Century Parisian Philosophy', Institut d'études avancées, Paris.
- 2015 Co-organiser of a two-day interdisciplinary conference: 'Medieval Thought Experiments', New College, Oxford.
- 2014 Co-organiser of an interdisciplinary round-table event entitled 'Thinking and Feeling: Philosophy and Theology in Medieval Literature', Columbia University, New York.
- Organiser of a Panel on the *Roman de la rose* at the International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo.
- 2013–14 Co-founder and co-convenor of an interdisciplinary reading group looking at the *Bestiaire d'amour* (following the success of the *Rose* reading group see below).
- 2012–14 Founder and convenor of a *Roman de la rose* reading group, bringing academics and students together from across different disciplines.
- 2012–13 Undergraduate Admissions: assisting with French interviews for 25 candidates at Lady Margaret Hall, University of Oxford.
- 2009 Research assistant for the 'Voices in Medieval French Narrative' Research Group. Tasks included the transcription of a medieval manuscript text and the compilation of a bibliography.

Selected academic prizes and awards

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	2018	Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Early Career Fellowship
	2015	Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship
	2012	Prize for best graduate abstract, IMS Conference Paris
	2011	Senior Paget Toynbee Prize for best essay on Medieval Literature, Oxford University
	2010	Reynolds Scholarship (awarded to promising PhD proposals), New College
	2010–12	Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) award for the costs of doctoral study
	2009	Zaharoff Award (payment of fees), Modern Languages Faculty, Oxford University

2009 Reynolds Studentship (stipend involving teaching and administrative responsibilities), New

College

2008 AHRC award for Master's course

Other interests

Forest School Camps – I volunteer looking after children aged 6–17, many with special needs or behavioural issues, for this residential outdoors education charity (on average one fortnight per summer for the past 15 years). More recently I have organised camps of around 90 adults and children.