Filologia del testo inglese medievale

CdL in Lingue e Letterature Europee e Americane

A.A. 2020/21

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In **prose** and **verse**, **original compositions** and **translations**, in **Latin** and in **English**

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➢ Monastic dimension

What do we read in OE?

All the texts in Old English that have come to us are the product of
monastic activities

Monasteries were the centres of cultural attraction and irradiation
➢ Lindisfarne
➢ Wearmouth-Jarrow
➢ Winchester
➢ Cerne Abbas (Ælfric)

Anglo-Latin literature

Written literature started in England with Christian missionaries

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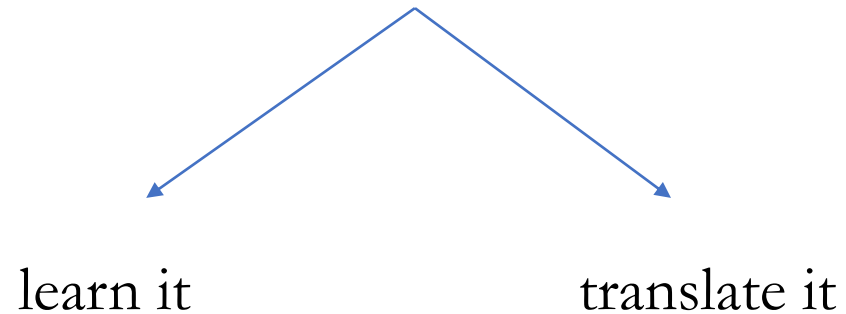Advent of Latin alphabet ➡ change from oral to written culture

Latin was the first language to be put onto parchment by the Anglo-Saxons

Anglo-Latin literature

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learn it   translate it

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8th cent.: England became a cultural centre for Europe

➢ Aldhelm of Malesbury

➢ Bede

➢ Alcuin of York

➢ Winfried/Boniface

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➢ *De virginitate*

➢ *Carmen de virginitate*

➢ letters

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(Dante Alighieri, *Divina Commedia*, Paradiso, X, 130-132)

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He was a very prolific writer of pedagogical and scientific works (i.e., *De temporum ratione*), better known for his *Historia Ecclesiastica Gentis Anglorum*

Anglo-Latin literature

Alcuin of York (732-804)

He was one of the most prolific influential intellectuals of the high Middle Ages

➢ 200+ letters

➢ poems

➢ exegetical works, homilies, saints' lives, educational works

➢ major revision of Jerome's *Vulgata*

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Called by Charlemagne to lead his *schola palatina*

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➢ Letters
➢ Saint's lives

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late 10th cent.: the **Benedictine reform** determined a revival of Anglo-Saxon textual production in Latin (**Ælfric of Eynsham**)

Teaching and learning

Ælfric of Eynsham (c. 950-c. 1010), from Cerne Abbas (Dorset)

➢ *Catholic Homilies*

➢ *Lifes of Saints*

➢ *Colloquy*

➢ *Excerptiones*

➢ *Glossary*