

1 November 2006

### Final Paper Topics

1. Your own topic.

You must confirm your topic with me *before* you write your paper.

2. One Romance, One Image

In a single romance, describe the use of a single image. For example, what role does **hunting** play in *Erec and Enide*? Or, what is the function of **clothing** in *Erec and Enide*? Or, what is the role of a **garden** in *Lanval*? Other images include birds of prey, towers, water, horses, dragons, monsters, chapels, and so forth.

3. One Romance, One Theme

In a single romance, describe a theme and how it plays out. For example, how does **obedience** play out in *Erec and Enide*? Or, **judgment** in *Quest for the Grail*? Other themes include vanity, charity, gender, selfishness, honor, fear, helplessness, violence, love, despair, lust, language, secrecy, family, and so forth.

4. One Romance, Many Images

In a single romance, describe how clusters of images confirm your interpretation. For example, how do **forests**, **meadows**, and **towns** lead you to imagine the inner development of the main character?

5. Two Romances, One Image

Focusing on a single image, for example **feasts**, compare its use in two romances.

6. Two Romances, One Theme

Focusing on a single theme, for example **shame**, compare its appearance in two romances.

7. Two Romances, Many Images

Like #5, but with many related images.

8. Single character, many romances.

We see Gawain, Yvain, Lancelot, Arthur, Guinevere, and others in a number of romances. Choose one character who appears in several romances and describe similarities and differences in his/her characteristics. Muse on reasons for such differences.

9. Two romances.

Compare and contrast two versions of the same story.