

33rd Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature

April 9th-11th, 2026, Minot State University

Session Program:

Friday, April 10th, 2026

8:00 – Breakfast and Registration – Hartnett Hall, Room 106

9:00 – Welcome from Daniel Ringrose, AVP Academic Affairs, Minot State University

9:15-10:30 – Session 1: Shakespeare’s Murmurs of History (HH 106)

Susan Wood, Midland University

Sir John Falstaff and the Robin Hood geste in *Henry IV, Part 2*

Robert DeSmith, Dordt University (emeritus)

Allusion and Meaning: Discovering the Psalms in Shakespeare’s *Richard III*

Shaun Stiemsma, Dordt University

Characters in Shakespeare’s Early Plays: An Inductive Exploration of Soliloquies and Asides

10:40-11:55 Session 2: Comedy and The Bard (HH 106)

Eric Furuseth, Minot State University

Is Lucio of *Measure for Measure* a Forerunner of the Modern Theater Goer?

Kaden Wass, Minot State University

Between Law and Chaos: Sexual Desire in Shakespeare’s *Measure for Measure* and *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*

Stephen Hamrick, Bemidji State University

‘Wherefore Motherfucking art thou’: *Romeo and Juliet* and British Sketch Comedy, 1964-2022

12:00-1:15 Enjoy an Independent Lunch Break

1:15-2:30 Session 3: Gender and Sexuality from Middle to Early Modern

Kyle Robert Moore, University of North Dakota

‘Let thine tunge habbe spale!’: Women’s Bodies and Sexuality in *The Owl and the Nightingale*

Michelle Sauer, University of North Dakota

Gender Fluidity and Religious Enclosure in the Middle Ages

Jainab Tabassum Banu, North Dakota State University

‘Unsex Me Here’: Rhetorical Rewriting of the Body in *Macbeth*

2:30-3:30 Session 4: Fæðm the Seas

Ashton Cassim, Minot State University

Asser's Naval Battles in the *Life of King Alfred*

Ernst Pijning, Minot State University

Mutiny on the *Nijenburg*

6:00-9:00 Keynote Dinner, Hartnett Hall Collaboration Space, 2nd Floor

Saturday, April 11th, 2026

9:00 Breakfast, Hartnett Hall 106

9:30-10:45 Session 5a: Early Works (HH 106)

Robert Kibler, Minot State University

Prickings, Ligatures, and General Obfuscations, Oh My: A Tour of the Production and Reckoning of Majuscule and Miniscule Insular Manuscripts

Larry Swain, Bemidji State University

What was Æthelweard Thinking? The Heptateuch and Its Purposes

Peter Ramey, Northern State University *Virtual Presentation

Literacy and the Giant Hilt in *Beowulf*

Session 5b: Knights and Princes (HH Collaboration Space, 2nd Floor)

Christopher Lozensky, Minot State University

The Knight with the Lion and the Hero with the Tiger: He-Men, Battle Cats, and Gender Nostalgia in *Iwain and Gawain* and *Masters of the Universe*

Leah Calavera, Minot State University

Sir Gawain and Guilt: The Third Code of Honor Operating in *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*

Christina Di Gangi, Dawson Community College

John Lydgate's "Dredful Herte": *De casibus* Narrative and the Past and Future of Serial Storytelling

11:00-12:15 Session 6a: Modernish Literature (HH 106)

Art Marmorstein, Northern State University

The Tragedy of the Common Republican: Addison's *Cato* and Its Sources

Kerzy Sorensen, Minot State University

Milton's Satan and the Unfortunate Fall

Gabriella Piconi *Virtual Presentation

Poetic Astringency: Dryden's Absalom and Achitophel versus Marvell's "Upon Appleton House" and "Tom's May Death"

Session 6b: Chaucer and Contemporaries (HH Collaboration Space, 2nd Floor)

Sharity Nelson, Valley City State University

"But doutelees hir sentence is al oon": Translation Theory in Chaucer's Literature Group

Mya Woodbeck, Minot State University

Alisoun of the *Miller's Tale* as a Proto Feminist: Her Influence on Modern-Day Feminism

Samuel Amendolar, University of North Dakota

The Medium as Message: On Goscelin of St Bertin's Invocation of St Lawrence in the *Liber Confortatorius*

12:30 Business Lunch and Farewell, HH Collaboration Space, 2nd Floor