

# English 5700

## Boccaccio and Chaucer

### Medieval Frame Narratives:

### *The Decameron* and *The Canterbury Tales*



This course will explore two great masterpieces of medieval literature: *The Decameron* of Giovanni Boccaccio, and Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*. We'll read selections from both texts in contemporary English translations but the *Canterbury Tales* will have Chaucer's original Middle English on the facing page. Aside from a substantial amount of reading, work for the course will include a mix of Canvas discussions and short assignments (probably bi-weekly), two papers of 5-6 pages, and some Canvas short answer quizzes. I'm also hoping to hold one or two Zoom sessions per week depending on how many students can participate in them.

Books [You must purchase these **exact** editions]:

Giovanni Boccaccio, *The Decameron*, Mark Musa translator, Signet Editions: 978-0451531735

Geoffrey Chaucer, *The Selected Canterbury Tales*, Sheila Fisher translator, W.W.Norton: 978-0393341782

Both texts are available through the Campus Store and can be found online as well.