

**Theories of History (and Memory)**

**Primary Texts (30)**

Virgil, *Aeneid*

Ovid, *Metamorphoses*

Augustine, *Confessions* (Books 8, 11, especially)

*City of God*

Boethius, *Consolatio Philosophiae*

Bede, *Historia ecclesiastica gentis Anglorum*

Bede, *De temporibus* (not necessary)

Hugh of St. Victor, *The Three Best Memory Aids for Learning History*

Henry of Huntingdon, *Historia Anglorum* (selections)

Geoffrey of Monmouth, *Historia Regum Britanniae*

*Vita Merlini*

Wace, *Roman de Brut*

William of Malmesbury, *Gesta Regum Anglorum* (selections)

William of Newburgh, *Historia rerum Anglicarum* (selections)

Dante, *Vita Nuova* (Book of Memory)

*Commedia: Inferno, Purgatorio, Paradiso*

*De Monarchia*

*De Vulgari Eloquentia*

Boccaccio, *Decameron* (selections); *Il Filostrato*; *Il Teseida*

Petrarch, *Canzoniere*

*Secretum*

*Familiars* (selections) – *Ascent of Mont Ventoux*

Chaucer, *Troilus and Criseyde*

*Boece*

*Book of the Duchess*

*Parliament of Fowls*

*House of Fame*

*Legend of Good Women*

*The Canterbury Tales*

Shorter Poems, etc.: *Treatise on the Astrolabe*, *Complaint of Chaucer to his Purse*, “Chaucers Wordes unto Adam his Owne Scriveyn”

Hegel, *Introduction to the Philosophy of History*

*Reason in History*

Nietzsche, *On the Use and Abuse of History*  
*On the Genealogy of Morality*

Foucault, “Nietzsche, Genealogy, History” in *language, counter-memory, practice*

Johan Huizinga, *The Autumn of the Middle Ages*

Georg Lukacs, *History and Class Consciousness*

Martin Heidegger, *Being and Time*

Walter Benjamin, *Illuminations* (selections – “Theses on Philosophy of History,” “Storyteller”)

Raymond Williams, *Marxism and Literature*

Roland Barthes, *The Discourse of History* in *The Rustle of Language*

## **Secondary Texts (10)**

Michel de Certeau, *The Practice of Everyday Life*

Mary Carruthers, *The Book of Memory: A Study of Memory in Medieval Culture* (one or two chapters)

Lee Patterson, *Chaucer and the Subject of History*

*Negotiating the Past: The Historical Understanding of Medieval Literature*

Robert W. Hanning, *The Vision of History in Early Britain*

Jacques Le Goff, *History and Memory*

Sylvia Federico, *New Troy: Fantasies of Empire in the Late Middle Ages*

Gabrielle Spiegel, *The Past as Text: The Theory and Practice of Medieval Historiography*

*Romancing the Past* (selections)

R.A. Markus, *Saeculum: History and Society in the Theology of St. Augustine*

Frances A. Yates, *The Art of Memory*

Monika Otter, *Inventiones: Fiction and Referentiality in Twelfth-Century English Historical Writing*

Paul Connerton, *How Societies Remember*

*How Modernity Forgets*

Hayden White, *Metahistory & Tropics of Discourse*

Michel Trouillot, *Silencing the Past: Power and the Production of History*