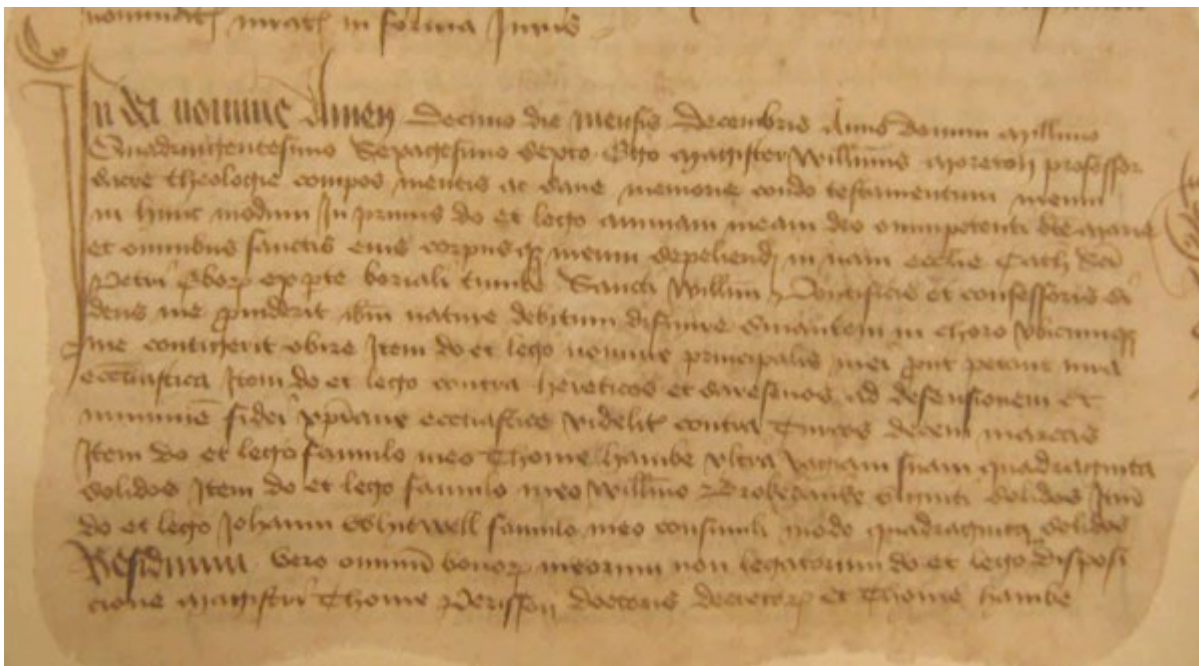


You've now read a bit about last wills and testaments, you've read a few examples of medieval wills from London, and you've read what some historians have done with wills. For this assignment, I want you to design an exhibit where wills feature in some fashion. You can imagine you have more wills, objects, maps, etc. but the four wills are the basis for this assignment. In this assignment you are to create the wall texts for your exhibit. You will use the V&A guidelines for how to write a wall text write to help you. Read through the guidelines once before starting on you wall texts.

On p. 9 of the V&A guidelines is a schema for what sorts of components there are to wall text in a museum exhibit. I want you to write an example of an Intro panel (150-180 words), a section panel (130-150 words), a group label (70 words) and an object label, where the object is one of the wills (50-60 words).

Due in class—hardcopy—20 Sept.



This assignment will lay out our plans for your StoryMap exhibit on Register 7.

You have now read about wills and learned about the contents of Register 7. You are ready to think about what sort of project you want to do. What topics will you cover? What questions will you ask? And what sort of work plan will you develop? How many wills will you need to transcribe? How will you apportion this work? What other tasks are necessary to accomplish your project and how will divide this work? What sort of schedule will you set for the various tasks?

In this assignment you will work together to answer these questions and lay out a plan and a schedule for your final project. The final version of this assignment may include lists, tables, paragraphs of text, but I am not expecting a paper in the traditional sense. Your project plan is due in class 13 October.



Last wills and testaments are legal documents created to transfer moveable and immoveable property from one person to another at the death of the owner. There is an extensive body of law that regulates the transfer of property—for example you cannot leave property you do not own. Yet as a surviving source, wills offer historians the opportunity to explore other topics besides the laws of inheritance. Write me a 3-5-page paper in which you analyze the different sorts of topics, approaches, and uses that historians have developed when using wills as a historical source. What sorts approaches do they share in common? Are there differences and why? Think about what role the law plays in their use of wills and what role it plays in their articles. What sorts of accommodations do they make to the law? What do historians think that wills tell us about medieval London that we would not otherwise know. Draw on any of the readings we've used in class so far.

All papers are to have 1" margins, in 12 pt. font. You are to use footnotes when citing your sources. Use Chicago Manual of Style for your footnotes—this means real footnotes, not in-text citations. There is a Chicago style-guide on Canvas.

Papers are due at the beginning of class 1 November



History 491: Living and Dying in Late Medieval London  
Professor Katherine French  
Assignment 4

Fall 2021

You are now at the end of the class! I want you to write a 3-to-5-page paper reflecting on the experience. What was your role in the project, how do you feel about your work and contributions? What was especially rewarding for you? What did you especially enjoy? In hind-sight, what would you do differently in this project? If you had more time what else would you do with this project? What was difficult?

All papers are to have 1" margins, in 12 pt. font. You are to use footnotes when citing your sources. Use Chicago Manual of Style for your footnotes—this means real footnotes, not in-text citations. There is a Chicago style-guide on Canvas.

Papers are due at the beginning of class 15 December (our final exam)