Introduction to project

Crowdmap the Crusades began as a proof-of-concept crowd-sourced transcription project based on the unpublished portion of an anonymous Old French manuscript (Hatton 77) which dates from the beginning of the thirteenth century. The narrative follows the progress of the First Crusade from the Council of Clermont in November 1095 to the battle of Ascalon in August 1099.

Our crowdsourced transcription model features an algorithm which tweets single lines via Twitter from the second half of Bodleian Hatton 77. Transcriptions may also be submitted via the website. We have an expert moderator panel to check submitted transcriptions. The website has a plug-in to allow the project to upload images and present transcriptions line by line via a crowdsourced tool.

Aside from its cultural importance, until the entire text is available as an edition, it remains largely under-researched by historians and literary scholars.

aims/goals

The project has been extended to include the manuscript witness BL Add. 34114 and the two fragments of the text. Once encoded in TEI, the next goal is to produce a digital critical edition and mapping components using Recogito.

Upcoming events

As part of the inaugural global initiative #ISACACommunITyDay, Crowdmap the Crusades is the featured project in ISACA Luxembourg’s event at the Maison du Savoir, University of Luxembourg (Belval Campus) on Saturday, 5 October 2019, 2.30-4.30pm! Join our Medieval French crowdscribing tutorial and competition! All welcome.

Project Leaders

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