

BIRGITTE BREEMERKAMP

Independent Scholar, the Netherlands

E-mail: b.breemerkamp@umail.leidenuniv.nl • [LinkedIn Profile](#)

Homepage & blog: BirgitteBreemerkamp.nl



CURRICULUM VITAE

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Medieval and early modern (diplomatic) history, court studies, book history, and English literature and culture.

EDUCATION

2019 – 2020 **MASTER OF ARTS (CUM LAUDE)**

LITERARY STUDIES: ENGLISH LITERATURE AND CULTURE, LEIDEN UNIVERSITY

- ❖ Shakespeare's Sister: Gender Troubles in the Early Modern Period
- ❖ The Medieval in Middle-earth: J.R.R. Tolkien and the Anglo-Saxon World
- ❖ Methodological Concepts in Art and Literature
- ❖ Speculative Fiction: The Weird, the Dark, and the Wonderful
- ❖ Master's thesis: *The Phoenix as a Symbol of Succession Anxiety in Early Modern Literature*
Supervisor: Dr.mr. L.E.M. Fikkers
- ❖ Thesis grade: 9.0, GPA 8.5

2014-2019 **BACHELOR OF ARTS (PART-TIME)**

ENGLISH LITERATURE AND CULTURE, LEIDEN UNIVERSITY

- ❖ Interdisciplinary Minor: The Medieval and Early Modern Period
- ❖ Extracurricular courses (50 EC)
- ❖ Bachelor's thesis: *Runes, Riddles, and Rhymes: The Five 'Rune Poems' as Pedagogical Tools*
Supervisor: Dr. M.H. Porck
- ❖ Thesis grade: 8.0, GPA 7.3

2013-2014 **COLLOQUIUM DOCTUM (ENTRY EXAM)**

LEIDEN UNIVERSITY

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- 2021 – current **Secretary and webmaster** [Vereniging van Oudgermanisten](#) (VOG)
Association for medievalists, archaeologists, and linguists working on Old Germanic peoples, languages and texts from the medieval period
- 2020 – current **Member** Lectures Committee [Vereniging Vrienden van De Witt](#)
Association aiming to make known the historical significance of the brothers Johan and Cornelis de Witt to a large audience by organising lectures and excursions on themes around the De Witt brothers and/or the Dutch Republic in the seventeenth century.
- 2020 – 2022 **Ab-actis (Secretary)** [MSVL Floris V](#) (study association)
Study association related to the Minor and Master programme
The Medieval and Early Modern Period at Leiden University.

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- 2020 – 2021 **Webmaster/Board Member** [Vereniging van Oudgermanisten](#) (VOG)
- 2019 - 2020 **Co-organisator** Symposium ‘Tracing Tolkien: Exploring the Sources for Middle-earth’ at Leiden University, January 2020
Symposium for and by MA students to present their research paper for the course ‘The Medieval in Middle-earth: J.R.R. Tolkien and the Anglo-Saxon World’, part of the MA English Literature and Culture programme at Leiden University.
- 2017 – 2018 **Student Member** [Program Committee](#) BA English Language and Culture, Leiden University
The Programme Committee (PC) holds regular meetings with the Programme Board (PB) about all matters related to the teaching of the study programme concerned. The PC can issue advice, on request or on its own initiative, to the Programme Board and the Faculty Board. The PC also assesses the teaching of its study programme by means of periodic evaluations. The PC annually evaluates a number of courses from each year of the study programme, and also conducts a curriculum evaluation for each year of the study programme. The PC formulates a report of each evaluation, and on the basis of this advises the Programme Board take actions that should be taken.
- 2017 – 2018 **Treasurer** [The Angler Magazine](#)
Magazine for and by students of the BA English Language and Culture at Leiden University.
- 2016 – 2017 **Editor and Chair** [The Angler Magazine](#)
- 2014 – 2020 **Co-organisator** annual conference “Science Days Internal Medicine”
Yearly conference for PhD students and staff members of the Department of Internal Medicine of Erasmus MC Rotterdam, which aims to exchange knowledge and expertise and to stimulate internal collaboration between the various clinical and pre-clinical research groups within the department.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- 2021 - 2023 [Royal Historical Society](#) (RHS)
- 2021 – current [Teachers of Old English in Britain and Ireland](#) (TOEBI)
- 2021 - current [International Society for the Study of Early Medieval England](#) (ISSEME)
- 2020 - current [Vereniging van Oudgermanisten](#) (VOG)
- 2018 - current [Koninklijk Nederlands Historisch Genootschap](#) (KNHG)
- 2018 - 2023 [Werkgroep XVIIe Eeuw](#)
- 2017 - current [Vereniging Vrienden van De Witt](#)

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LANGUAGE SKILLS

- ❖ Dutch (mother tongue)
- ❖ English (very good, CEFR level C2)
- ❖ German (good, CEFR level C1)
- ❖ French (good, CEFR level C1)
- ❖ Spanish (reasonable, CEFR level B2)
- ❖ Japanese (beginner, CEFR level A1)

RELEVANT SKILLS

- ❖ IT skills: MS Office, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe InDesign, Adobe DreamWeaver, HTML coding, GraphPad Prism
- ❖ Other skills: medieval palaeography, early modern palaeography

PUBLICATIONS

Bremerkamp, Birgitte. "Runes, Riddles, and Rhymes: The Five *Rune Poems* as Pedagogical Tools." *Title t.b.a.* edited by Julian Calgagno, Cassandra Schilling, and Bruce Gilchrist. Open Monograph Press. (in preparation).

Bremerkamp, Birgitte. "'It Mourns For Beleg Even As You Do': 'Living' Swords in J.R.R. Tolkien's Legendarium." *Cities and Strongholds in Middle-earth: Essays on the Habitations of Tolkien's Legendarium* edited by Cami Agan. Altadena, CA: Mythopoeic Press, 2023. (expected in 2023)

Ebben, Maurits and Birgitte Bremerkamp. "Een onmogelijke missie: Pieter Thysius in Londen, 1651-1652" [An Impossible Mission: Pieter Thysius in London, 1651-1652]. *Tot publijcque dienst der studie. Boeken uit de Bibliotheca Thysiana* edited by prof.dr. Paul Hoftijzer and prof.dr. Wim van Anrooij. Hilversum: Uitgeverij Verloren, 2022. (expected in 2023).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Bremerkamp, Birgitte. "No Man Left to Mone His Dolefull Fate: Medievalisms in Edmund Spenser's 'The Ruines of Time'." Paper presented at the Practices in Comparative Medievalism conference organised by LUCAS at Leiden University, September 2022.

Agan, Cami (Moderator), Nicholas Birst (Panelist), Birgitte Bremerkamp (Panelist), Marie Bretagnolle (Panelist), Robin A. Reid (Panelist). "Cities and Strongholds of Middle-earth, Pt 1." panel at the MythCon 51: A Virtual "Halfling" MythCon conference of the Mythopoeic Society, Online, July 2021.

Bremerkamp, Birgitte. "Male, Female, and Androgynous Heroism in Old English and Old Norse Literature." Paper presented at International Medieval Congress (IMC): Climates by the University of Leeds, July 2021.

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Bremerkamp, Birgitte. “‘God Has Punished Us’: The Queen of Bohemia’s Exile in The Hague (1621–1661).” Paper presented at the Experience of Loneliness in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries conference by the University of Birmingham, June 2022.

Bremerkamp, Birgitte. “Runes, Riddles, and Rhymes: The Five *Rune Poems* as Pedagogical Tools.” Paper presented at ISSEME 2021: Contributions conference of the International Society for the Study of Early Medieval England (ISSEME), Leiden University, June 2021.

Bremerkamp, Birgitte. “Male, Female, and Androgenous Heroism in Old English and Old Norse Literature.” Paper presented at the 20th Vagantes Conference on Medieval Studies Conference by the University of Wisconsin-Madison, March 2021.

Bremerkamp, Birgitte. “‘It Mourns For Beleg Even As You Do’: ‘Living’ Swords in J.R.R. Tolkien’s *Legendarium*.” Paper presented at the Oxonmoot 2020 conference of the Tolkien Society, Oxford University, September 2020.

CONFERENCES AND TALKS ATTENDED

- ❖ Symposium on Old English, Middle English and Historical Linguistics in the Low Countries (SOEMEHL) # 44, Leiden University (NL), December 2022
- ❖ “Historicidagen 2022: Grenzeloze Geschiedenis [History Without Borders].” Conference of the KNHG (Royal Netherlands Historical Society), Rotterdam (NL), August 2022
- ❖ “SHARP 2022: Power of the Written Word.” Conference of the Society for History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP), Amsterdam, NL, July 2022
- ❖ “Het geheugen van geur.” Lecture at Huygens Hofwijck, Voorburg, NL, June 2022
- ❖ “Fragmented Pasts: Re/building Fragmented Archives.” Symposium by CEMS Limerick, Online, 25 May 2022
- ❖ “Tegendraads in het archief: luisteren naar het fluisteren” Symposium by the Royal Dutch Society for Sciences (KNAW), Online, April 2022
- ❖ Symposium on Old English, Middle English and Historical Linguistics in the Low Countries (SOEMEHL) # 43, Leiden University (NL), December 2021
- ❖ “Vernacular Books and Reading Experience in the Early Age of Print (c. 1450-1600).” Conference at Leiden University, Online, August 2021
- ❖ “Distant Communications: making contact across time and space from antiquity to the digital age.” Conference, Online, July 2021
- ❖ Symposium on Old English, Middle English and Historical Linguistics in the Low Countries (SOEMEHL) # 42, Leiden University (NL), December 2020
- ❖ “Signed, Sealed, & Undelivered.” Symposium at Beeld en Geluid, The Hague, NL, February 2020
- ❖ Symposium on Old English, Middle English and Historical Linguistics in the Low Countries (SOEMEHL) # 41, Leiden University (NL), December 2019
- ❖ “Unquendor Tolkien Seminar 2018: The World Tolkien Built.” Seminar by Leiden University, Leiden, NL, May 2018
- ❖ “350 Years Chatham 1667-2017.” Conference of Vrienden van De Witt at the Marine Etablissement Amsterdam, Amsterdam, NL, June 2017
- ❖ “International Tolkien Conference: Tolkien Among Scholars.” Conference by Leiden University, Leiden, NL, June 2016

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FELLOWSHIPS/AWARDS

- ❖ Prix des Ambassadeurs, awarded by the French Embassy in The Hague (1995)
- ❖ Besondere Leistung in der Deutsche Sprache, awarded by the German Embassy in The Hague (1995)