

Chapter 4 Glossary

TERM	DEFINITION
Ars amatoria	An instructional elegy series in three books by Ancient Roman poet Ovid. It is about teaching basic Gentlemanly male and female relationship skills and techniques.
Ascetic	Characterized by or suggesting the practice of severe self-discipline and abstention from all forms of indulgence, typically for religious reasons.
Atomists	Democritus, Epicurus, and Lucretius, according to which simple, minute, indivisible, and indestructible particles are the basic components of the entire universe.
Austere	Severe or strict in manner, attitude, or appearance.
Canonization	The act of admitting a deceased person into the canon of saints.
Carmina Burana	The name given to a manuscript of 254 poems and dramatic texts mostly from the 11th or 12th century.
Cleric	A priest or religious leader.
Druid	A priest, magician, or soothsayer in the ancient Celtic religion.
Fabliaux	A bawdily humorous tale, of a type found chiefly in early French poetry.
Fin Amour/Courtly love	Artistic and philosophical detailing of experience of being “madly in love”.
Goliards	A wandering scholar in medieval Europe; famed for intemperance and riotous behavior and the composition of satirical and ribald Latin songs.
Minstrels	A medieval singer or musician.
Misogyny	Hatred of women.

Pagan	A person holding religious beliefs other than those of the main world religions.
Samsara	The cycle of death and rebirth to which life in the material world is bound.
Stoic	A person who can endure pain or hardship without showing their feelings or complaining.
Divine love (<i>agape</i> or <i>caritas</i>)	Love of god or Christ for humankind
Humanistic View	Humans are the center of the world, they are godlike and on the top of the hierarchy on Earth. People are good and problems can be solved using reason not religion
Perjury	Making a promise under oath with no intention of keeping it, or after promising on oath not keeping it. Perjury is a grave lack of respect for the Lord of all speech. A sin in Christianity
Usury	The practice of lending money and requiring the borrower to pay a high amount of interest. Considered a sin in Orthodox Catholicism (During the middle ages)
Sumptuary law	Laws that forbid or restricted the use of certain articles, as of luxurious apparel.
Churl	A medieval peasant, someone who is of low class
Earl	A high-ranking member of the British nobility, someone who is of high class
Laureate	Someone who has won an important prize or honor for achievement in an art or science
Indulgences	A grant by the pope of remission of the temporal punishment in purgatory still due for sins after absolution. The unrestricted sale of indulgences by pardoners was a widespread abuse during the later Middle Ages. This was a part of the Roman Catholic Church
95 Theses	The theses of Luther against the sale of indulgences in the Roman Catholic Church, posted by him on the door of a church in Wittenberg, October 31, 1517
Occultism	Belief in or study of the action or influence of supernatural or supernormal powers; practiced throughout the Renaissance
Hermeneutics	The branch of knowledge that deals with interpretation, esp. of the Bible or literary texts. It involves seeking out similarities and relationships through close observation

Antiquity	A specified historical period during the ancient past, especially before the Middle Ages
Feudal	Absurdly outdated or old-fashioned
Loom	An apparatus for making fabric by weaving yarn or thread.
Scientific Revolution	The scientific revolution was the emergence of modern science during the early modern period, when developments in mathematics, physics, astronomy, biology (including human anatomy) and chemistry transformed views of society and nature. According to traditional accounts, the scientific revolution began in Europe towards the end of the Renaissance era and continued through the late 18th century, influencing the intellectual social movement known as the Enlightenment.
Luther's Reformation	The Protestant Reformation was the division within Western Christianity initiated by Martin Luther, John Calvin, and other early Protestants. The date most usually given for the start of the Protestant Reformation is 1517, when Luther published The Ninety-Five Theses, and for its conclusion in 1648 with the Peace of Westphalia that ended the European wars of religion. Luther started by criticizing the relatively recent practice of selling indulgences, but the debate widened until it touched on many of the doctrines and devotional practices of the Catholic Church.
Feudalism	The dominant social system in medieval Europe, in which the nobility held lands from the Crown in exchange for military service, and vassals were in turn tenants of the nobles, while the peasants were obliged to live on their lord's land and give him homage, labor, and a share of the produce, notionally in exchange for military protection.
Dualism	The division of something conceptually into two opposed or contrasted aspects, or the state of being so divided. In Philosophy. A theory or system of thought that regards a domain of reality in terms of two independent principles, especially mind and matter.
Intuitive Cognition (Ockham)	Direct, infallible acquaintance with some object in the world