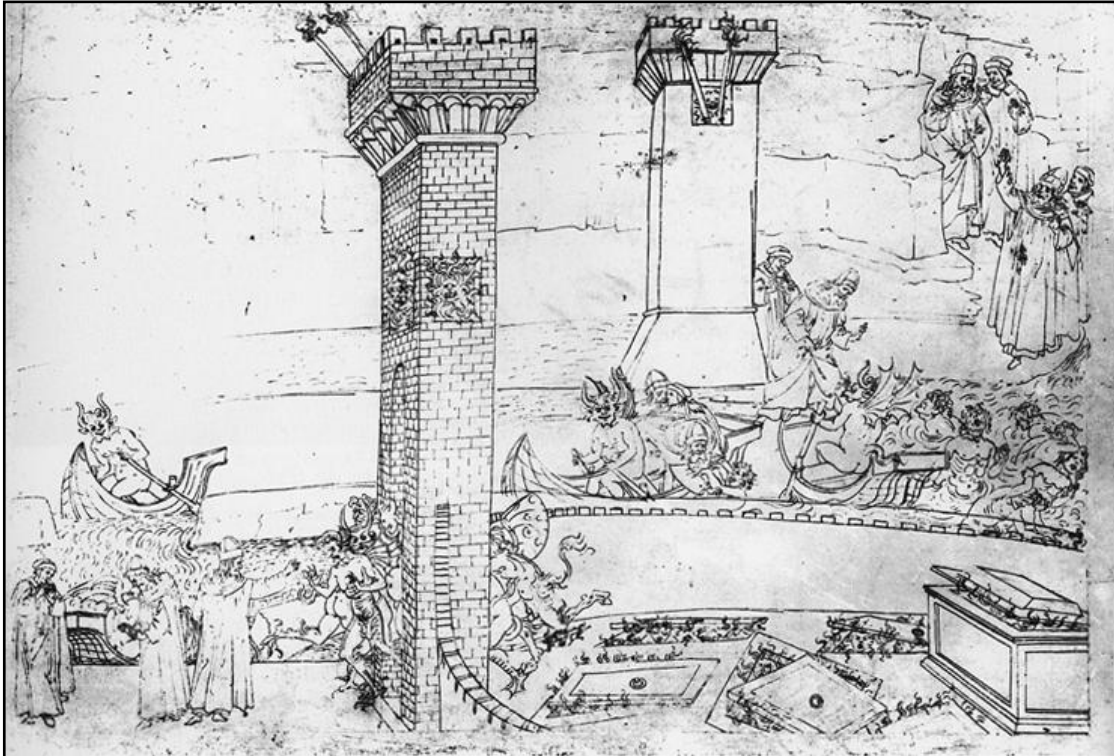


Mapping the Infernal City: GIS as a tool for the analysis of the Divine Comedy

Louis Hamilton, Drew University



This is an experiment in a collaborative effort to create and employ a new method for the analysis of literary, historical, and material sources from the Middle Ages. By employing computer mapping software, we can cross-analyze a variety of sources to understand how meaning was constructed in the Middle Ages. Dante Alighieri's *Comedy* is the medieval example, par excellence, of the use of a variety of artistic and social inspirations to create a literary masterpiece. In turn we can create more flexible tools for its analysis by placing the materials in a geographic database that is highly expandable. That database would ultimately allow us to contextualize the material and literary record of the Middle Ages so as to create new interdisciplinary understandings of medieval texts and society.

Thursday, March 10, 11:00 a.m.
Grant Hall 207

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