

# Contents

Acknowledgments	ix
Introduction	3
1. Sources and Implied Audiences	12
Author and Intention / 12	
Implied Audiences / 17	
Contexts, Allegories, and Meanings / 19	
Poets and Sources / 21	
Jean de Meun and His Sources / 23	
2. The Literal Texts: Language and Letter	30
Reading Allegories / 30	
The <i>Rose's</i> Plot / 32	
The Names of Things / 44	
3. The Scientific and Philosophical Modes of Treatment	52
Introductions to Medieval Writings (I) / 53	
The Defining Mode ( <i>Modus diffinitivus</i> ) / 56	
The Classificatory Mode ( <i>Modus divisivus</i> ) / 65	
Collective Proof, or the Probative and Refutative Modes ( <i>Modus collectivus</i> , or <i>probativus</i> and <i>improbativus</i> ) / 70	
The Exemplary Mode ( <i>Modus exemplorum positivus</i> ) / 73	
4. The Poetic and Rhetorical Modes of Treatment	92
Introductions to Medieval Writings (II) / 93	
The Poetic Mode ( <i>Modus poeticus</i> ) / 94	

## Contents

The Fictional Mode ( <i>Modus fictivus</i> ) / 97	
The Descriptive Mode ( <i>Modus descriptivus</i> ) / 100	
The Digressive Mode ( <i>Modus digressivus</i> ) / 122	
The Metaphorical Mode ( <i>Modus transumptivus</i> ) / 127	
5. Allegories, Moral Issues, and Audiences	131
The Preceptive Mode ( <i>Modus praeceptivus</i> or <i>docendi</i> ) / 131	
Reading the <i>Rose</i> / 132	
The <i>Fol amoureux</i> / 135	
Interpretive Voices / 138	
The <i>Rose</i> as “Case” / 145	
The Mirror and “Cases” / 149	
Conclusion: Jean de Meun as <i>Moraliste</i>	152
Notes	161
Bibliography	187
Index	209