

The **MEDIEVAL
STUDIES
INSTITUTE**

is pleased to present a
lecture by

Dr. Don Skemer

*Curator of Manuscripts at the
Princeton University Library*

**“Sir Robert Tresilian
at Tyburn Gallows, 1388:
Text, Rumor, and Magic in
Ricardian England”**

**Thursday, December 1
4-6 pm
Slocum Room, Lilly Library**

The case of Sir Robert Tresilian, the Lord Chief Justice of England who was executed for treason in 1388, offers a fascinating opportunity to explore the power of words – legal or magical, religious or political, written or oral. Dr. Skemer’s paper evaluates contemporary references to Tresilian’s possible involvement in necromancy or more conventional magical practices and discusses how text and rumor spread variant versions of political news.

*Kane MS. 49, fol. 62v (detail).
Reproduced courtesy of the Princeton University Library.*