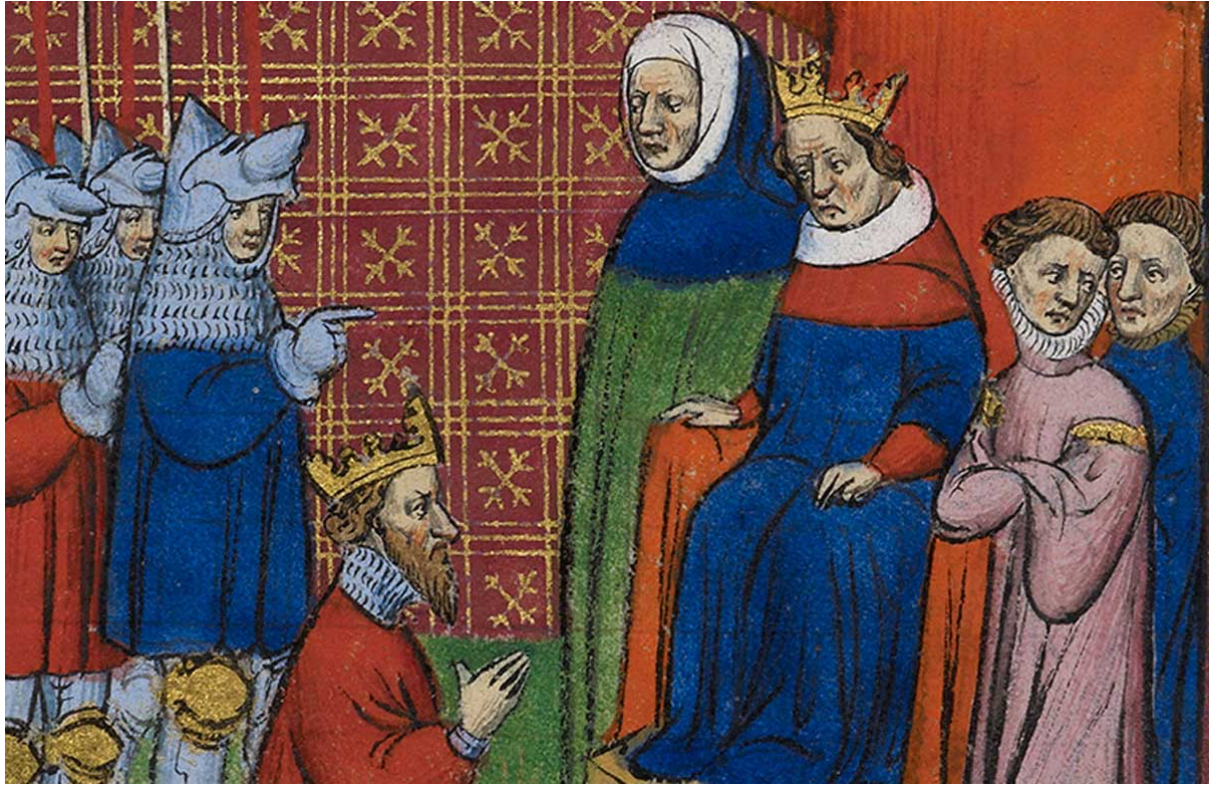


## LIST I

HIU34076/76 Edward I, Edward II and the Conquest of Britain, c.1272 - c.1327 (David Ditchburn)



During the thirteenth century the kings of England and Scotland gradually extended their power westwards: much of Wales and Ireland fell under English control, while the Scots conquered the Isle of Man and the western isles. But when the Scottish king Alexander III rode to his accidental death in 1286, leaving only his sickly Norwegian grand-daughter as his heir, Edward I was presented with an opportunity to extend his influence northwards too. Through a close reading of contemporary documents in translation, this module seeks to assess Edward I's motives. Was he an opportunist? Did he have an imperial vision? Was he moved by English political imperatives in seeking to perfect his control of Scotland, Wales and Ireland? Were his actions statesmanlike or duplicitous? His imperfect conquest of Scotland in particular made a difficult legacy for his son, Edward II. But to what extent did Edward II's character and domestic policies exacerbate matters? And was nationalism a cause or a consequence of the wars that broke Britain in the late thirteenth and early fourteenth century?