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Nota di contenuto

Introduction: Conceptualizing the life course in early medieval England / Thijs Porck and Harriet Soper -- The ages of man and the ages of woman in early medieval England : from Bede to Byrhtferth of Ramsey and the Tractatus de quaternario / Thijs Porck -- Weapon-boys and once-maidens : a study of Old English vocabulary for stages of life / Daria Izdebska -- Alcuin and the student life cycle / Darren Barber -- Treating age in medical texts from early medieval England / Jacqueline Fay -- 'Lazarus, come forth' : pregnancy and childbirth in the life course of early medieval English women / Caroline R. Batten -- the theology of puberty in early medieval England / Elaine Flowers -- Naming and renaming : names and the life course in early medieval England / James Chetwood -- Moving on from 'the milk of simpler teaching' : weaning and religious education in early medieval England / Katherine Cross -- Treasure and the life course in Genesis A and Beowulf / Amy Faulkner -- The life course of artefacts / Gale R. Owen-Crocker -- From field to feast : the life (and afterlife) course of cereal crops in early medieval England / Debby Banham -- Afterword: History, archaeology and osteology in conversation / Jo Appleby.

Sommario/riassunto

"How did the life course, with all its biological, social and cultural aspects, influence the lives, writings and art of the inhabitants of early medieval England? This volume explores how phases of human life such as childhood, puberty, and old age were identified, characterized and related in contemporary sources, as well as how nonhuman life courses were constructed. The multi-disciplinary contributions range from analyses of age vocabulary to studies of medicine, name-giving practices, theology, Old English poetry, and material culture. Combined, these cultural-historical perspectives reveal how the concept and experience of the life course shaped attitudes in early medieval England"--