BLACK DEATH – PRIMARY SOURCES
AUTHORITATIVE WEB SITES

http://history.boisestate.edu/westciv/plague/07.shtml
The Black Death: A Description of the Plague
This account is from Messina, Sicily and describes the arrival and initial progress of the disease.

http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Italian_Studies/dweb/plague/perspectives/de_mussi.shtml
Gabriele de' Mussi, a notary from Piacenza, gave a vivid account of the plague in Kaffa and Sicily.

http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Italian_Studies/dweb/plague/perspectives/petrarca.shtml
Petrarch endured the black death in Parma, Italy and responded to its effects in highly personal and emotional lamentations.

http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Italian_Studies/dweb/plague/perspectives/petrarca2.shtml
Francesco Petrarca wrote in response to the black death in Tuscany, Italy.

http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/boccacio2.html
The onset of the black death in Florence, Italy was described by Giovanni Boccaccio (1313-1375).

http://www.historyguide.org/ancient/plague.html
Jean de Venette wrote on the progress of the black death in France.

http://www3.iath.virginia.edu/osheim/marchione.html
Marchione di Coppo Stefani was born in Florence, Italy in 1336. He wrote his Florentine Chronicle in the late 1370s and early 1380s.

http://www3.iath.virginia.edu/osheim/pistoia.html
Statutes of Pistoia in Italy reflected both the scientific knowledge and the practical issues which the black death brought to a head.

http://www.ac.wwu.edu/~stephan/Graunt/4.html
Casualties in London, England from the plague

http://history.boisestate.edu/westciv/plague/08.shtml
A description of the plague from Agnolo di Tura, of Siena, Italy.

http://www.ac.wwu.edu/~stephan/Graunt/pictures/pictures.html
Pictures from the time of the plague

http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/seth/ordinance-labourers.html
The Ordinance of Labourers, an attempt by the king of England to freeze wages paid to laborers at their pre-plague levels, is indicative of the labor shortage caused by the black death.

http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/boccacio2.html
The onset of the black death in Italy was described by Giovanni Boccaccio (1313-1375) in The Decameron.

http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/jewish/1348-jewsblackdeath.html
The black death and the Jews

http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/froissart2.html
The period following the black death saw a number of political and social upheavals, caused by the disease itself, as well as wars and other insecurities. There were a number of peasant rebellions. The one in France in 1358 was known as the Jacquerie - since a common name for a peasant was a "Jacques". Here it is described in 1358 by the chronicler Jean Froissart.

http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/542procopius-plague.html
Procopius describes the black death in Byzantium.

http://www.themediadrome.com/content/articles/blackdeath.htm
Henry Knighton’s account of the plague in England.