

ENG 3013.01
BRITISH LITERATURE TO 1760

Contact Information for Dr. Cole

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Course Description

This course will cover significant works of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period up to about 1800. We will situate these highlighted texts in their historical and cultural contexts as well as identify, observe, and describe themes and motifs important to British literature as they develop over time.

This course will be necessarily fast-paced: we are attempting to cover some 900 years of British literature in fourteen weeks. As a result, this course also requires a heavy amount of reading and writing. It is your responsibility to keep up with the readings and the written assignments. This is a whistle-stop tour of the first millennia of British literature and you don't want to be left behind!

16-week course. Meets twice a week for 1.5-hour lectures/seminars.

Course Aims and Objectives

This course aims:

- To explore the development of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the eighteenth century.
- To gain familiarity with a wide range of genres, such as lyrics, drama, poetry, and various types of prose.
- To develop critical awareness of the context in which these different texts are situated, and how this context influenced the creation and reception of literature.
- To promote the development of advanced skills in textual, critical, and theoretical analysis.

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of major authors and works that are significant to the development of British literature.
- Show critical awareness of the historical and cultural contexts of British literature.
- Critique and engage with a variety of genres from the Middle Ages to 1800.
- Demonstrate advanced critical and analytical skills.

Required Texts

The Norton Anthology of English Literature, Vols. A, B, & C. 9th ed. Norton, 2012.
ISBN: 978-0393913002

You will also need access to the following:

- Internet access outside of class (for accessing *TEAMS* texts and other links I provide for the class);
- University e-mail access;
- Journal or notebook for class notes and handwritten assignments.

Assignments and Grading

Your grade will be calculated according to a points system with a total possible points of 1000 points. Your grade will be determined by your written work and two exams.

Writing Assignments (60%)

- Anglo-Saxon or Medieval Literature (200 points; 1,500-2,000 words): Due in Week 6.
- Medieval and Early Modern Drama (200 points; 1,500-2,000 words): Due in Week 10.
- Seventeenth and/or Eighteenth Century (200 points; 1,500-2,000 words): Due in Week 15.

Mid-Term and Final Exams (20%)

- Mid-Term Exam (100 points): Week 8
- Final Exam (100 points): Week 16

Minor Assignments (20%)

- Article Abstracts (25 points each = 100 points): Four short literature review/abstracts of a scholarly article about one of the texts being studied in that unit.
- Attendance & Participation (50 points)
- Conferences (50 points): Each student will meet with me individually twice during the term.

UNIVERSITY AND COURSE POLICIES

Attendance Policy

The attendance policy will reflect the university policy. A student may remain in the course once they have reached the maximum number of absences, but will fail due to nonattendance with the next absence.

Note that participation and attendance are graded separately. You do not participate merely by showing up to class. Participation means engaging with the class and contributing to discussion: this can be done by making a comment, asking a question, or otherwise just speaking up in class. Shyness is not an excuse for lack of participation.

Late Work

As a rule, I do *not* accept late assignments. Absence is not an excuse for late work. **If you know you will be absent on the day an assignment is due, it is your responsibility to turn that assignment in on or before the due date.** I may accept a late assignment, but only in extremely extraordinary circumstances and with prior approval.

Disability Support Policy Statement

Support for disabilities will reflect university policy.

If you anticipate the need for reasonable accommodations to meet the requirements of this course, you must register with the office of [Disability Support Services] in order to obtain the required official notification of your accommodation needs. Please plan to meet with me by appointment or during office hours to discuss approved accommodations and how my course requirements and activities may impact your ability to fully participate.

Academic Dishonesty

Penalties for academic dishonesty will reflect university policy.

Academic dishonesty includes cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, and otherwise unauthorized assistance. In submitting graded assignments, you are affirming that you have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance and that you are submitting **original work**, that is, brand-new writing that you have produced for this class **only** (thus avoiding self-plagiarism).

PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE

What follows is a skeletal outline of reading and writing assignments for the semester. This calendar is subject to change. All pages refer to the Norton Anthology of English Literature unless otherwise noted.

* refers to texts that I will provide in addition to the texts available in the Norton Anthology.

Unit 1: The Medieval Period

Week 1:	Anglo-Saxon Literature	<i>Readings for the next class:</i>
Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2016	Introduction to the course; Anglo-Saxon Literature	pp. 36-108, <i>Beowulf</i>
Week 2:	Anglo-Saxon Literature	
Monday, Jan. 25, 2016	Discuss <i>Beowulf</i> .	pp. 29-32, Bede, "Caedmon's Hymn" pp. 32-36, "The Dream of the Rood" and OE handout* pp. 117-20, "The Wanderer" pp. 120-22, "The Wife's Lament" "The Battle of Maldon"*
Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2016	Old English texts.	pp. 142-43, 154-67, Marie de France, <i>Lanval</i> Thomas Chestre, <i>Sir Launfal</i> (TEAMS)* pp. 169-82, <i>Sir Orfeo</i>
Week 3:	Medieval Romance	
Monday, Feb. 1, 2016	Early medieval romances.	pp. 183-238, <i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i>
Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2016	SGGK	pp. 238-64, Chaucer, "The General Prologue", <i>The Canterbury Tales</i>
Week 4:	Chaucer	
Monday, Feb. 8, 2016	Chaucer, <i>The Canterbury Tales</i>	pp. 282-310, Chaucer, "The Wife of Bath's Prologue" and "The Wife of Bath's Tale", <i>CT</i>
Wednesday, Feb. 10, 2016	Chaucer, <i>The Canterbury Tales</i>	pp. 370-96, William Langland, <i>Piers Plowman</i> pp. 412-24, Julian of Norwich's <i>A Book of Showings</i> pp. 424-38, <i>The Book of Margery Kempe</i>
Week 5	Medieval Religious Texts	
Monday, Feb. 15, 2016	Middle English religious texts.	pp. 447-77, <i>The Wakefield Second Shepherds' Play</i> pp. 408-11, 477-80 Medieval Lyrics <i>Article Abstract #1 due on Blackboard before class on Weds.</i>

Wednesday, Feb. 17, 2016	Medieval drama and lyrics.	<i>Essay 1: Anglo-Saxon and Medieval essay due on Blackboard before class on Wednesday.</i> pp. 480-500, Malory, excerpts from <i>Morte Darthur</i> Malory, <i>Morte Darthur</i> Middle English handout
Week 6:	Malory	
Monday, Feb. 22. 2016	Malory, <i>Morte Darthur</i>	TBA

Units 2-5 TBA

SYLLABUS AGREEMENT FORM

Your success in this course depends on your preparation for class and your understanding of university academic policies. This syllabus provides you with valuable information regarding course objectives, required materials, grading policies, as well as a course calendar for the semester. **It is important you are well acquainted with the information provided in this syllabus.**

For this reason, I ask you to read through the syllabus very carefully and sign this Syllabus Agreement form.

I acknowledge that I have received and reviewed the course syllabus for

Course _____, Section _____, Semester 1 / 2 , 20____.

My class meets on (days) _____ at (time) _____ in room _____.

By signing this document, I acknowledge that:

1. I have read the syllabus and I understand the classroom policies, the department's and instructor's expectations, and rules (for example, technology and text requirements, grading system, attendance policy, academic honesty policy, assignment responsibilities, late work, etc.) as stated in the syllabus for this course.
2. If I have any questions or concerns, I will contact the instructor for further explanation.
3. I understand that I am responsible to complete all homework assignments, quizzes/in-class assignments, and written projects by the due dates as outlined in the syllabus.
4. I agree to be prepared for and attend class each day and to participate in class discussion.

Student Name _____

Date _____

Student Signature _____