

# ENL 2012: Survey of English Literature: Medieval to 1750

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Office: TUR 4343  
Office Hours: M 5-6

Spring 2016: Section 5673  
Classroom: CHE 0316  
MWF 7  
1:55pm - 2:45pm

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## Course Description, Objectives, and Outcomes

This course introduces students to English literature from the Middle Ages to 1750, paying attention to the cultures that produced it and the influence on it of texts from classical antiquity. While the body of literature during this period is vast, engaging with these authors will allow us to attend to some of the major formal, philosophical, political, cultural, and aesthetic aspects of the literary canon and analyze how they contribute to English literary and cultural evolution.

The primary aims of the course are 1) to introduce students to a wide range of authors and their work, 2) outline the historical events, cultural productions, political climates, and literary forces from which they emerge, and 3) to sharpen how we read and critically respond to literary texts. We will practice close readings of texts and, when possible, investigate their historical contexts. Additionally, we will discuss the use and development of literary criticism and theory and learn how to execute various theoretical and critical approaches to literary analysis.

Students will develop critical reading skills of both literary texts and literary criticism. In clear, academic-level prose, students will be able to make substantiated arguments about the texts they have read, their place in literary history, their broader historical contexts, and the critical scholarship written about literary texts. They will be able to conduct formal research on literature, using secondary sources to support their arguments.

This is a General Education course providing student learning outcomes listed in the Undergraduate Catalog. For more information see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/advising/info/general-education-requirement.aspx>

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## Required Texts

Items not listed below will be provided for students on Canvas.

1. Defoe, Daniel. *Robinson Crusoe*. Penguin. 0141439823.
2. Marlowe, Christopher. *Doctor Faustus*. Dover Thrift Edition. 0486282082.
3. More, Thomas. *Utopia*. Penguin. 0140449108.
4. Shakespeare, William. *The Tempest*. Norton Critical Edition. 0393978192.
5. Shakespeare, William. *Othello*. Norton Critical Edition. 0393976157.

## Assignments and Grade Breakdown

Assignments and participation equal a 6,000-word minimum and a 1,000-point total. Grades are based on points, but students need to reach the minimum word count to receive writing credit for the course. I will provide students with more specific instructions for these assignments in class and on Canvas - below are just brief summaries of what to expect.

**Response Papers (500 words each, 200 points total)**

Throughout the semester, you are expected to write and submit 5 brief response papers (500 words each) to a reading of your choice. Response papers are to be submitted prior to the class period in which we will discuss the reading.

**Close Reading/Analysis (1,000 words, 200 points)**

This essay will be a sustained close reading of any text on our syllabus listed before the essay's due date.

**Essay Prospectus/Annotated Bibliography (500 words, 100 points)**

This assignment contains both a formal prospectus (250 words) for your Researched Critical Essay and an annotated bibliography of at least 5 scholarly peer-reviewed sources (250 words).

**Researched Critical Essay (2,000 words, 400 points)**

This essay will be a sustained, formally researched critical analysis in which you will make an original argument about one or more texts using 5 or more scholarly, peer-reviewed sources.

**Attendance and Participation (100 points)**

Daily and engaged participation is a priority in this course. All students should participate every day in some fashion by offering points of view, raising questions, asking for clarification, attending office hours, and/or writing when it is required. **Attendance is mandatory.**

**Grading Scale**

A	4.0	93-100	930-1000	C	2.0	73-76	730-769
A-	3.67	90-92	900-929	C-	1.67	70-72	700-729
B+	3.33	87-89	870-899	D+	1.33	67-69	670-699
B	3.0	83-86	830-869	D	1.0	63-66	630-669
B-	2.67	80-82	800-829	D-	0.67	60-62	600-629
C+	2.33	77-79	770-799	E	0.00	0-59	0-599

A: Student fulfills all required aspects of assignment and work shows superior levels of originality, creativity, and critical insight.

B: Student fulfills all required aspects of assignment to adequate degree. Work in this range needs revision.

C: Student fails to complete all required aspects of assignment. Work is incomplete in content. Work in this range needs significant revision.

**D:** Student neglects basic requirements of the assignment.

**E:** Student fails to complete assignment.

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## **General Classroom Policies**

### **Attendance and Absences:**

Students are allotted 3 absences without penalty. Each subsequent absence lowers the student's overall course grade by one half-letter grade. After 6 absences, the student fails the course. Absences involving court-mandated events, such as jury duty or court testimony, military service, and university-sponsored events, such as athletics and band, and religious holidays are excused, but you must notify me of your absence prior to the date you will miss. **An absence on a double-block day counts as 2 absences.**

### **Assignment Submission:**

Assignments are to be submitted online via Canvas. All assignments must be submitted in MLA format and marked with word count at the very end of the document. **Assignments that do not fulfill these requirements will not be graded.** For an up-to-date reference on MLA style, visit the Purdue Online Writing Lab. Late work will be accepted under my discretion, and will receive a full-letter grade deduction for every day the assignment is late.

### **Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is a serious violation of the Student Honor Code. The Honor Code prohibits and defines plagiarism as follows:

A student shall not represent as the student's own work all or any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes (but is not limited to):

1) Quoting oral or written materials, whether published or unpublished, without proper attribution.

2) Submitting a document or assignment which in whole or in part is identical or substantially similar to a document or assignment not authored by the student.

(University of Florida, Student Honor Code, 15 Aug. 2007  
<<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/honorcode.php>>)

University of Florida students are responsible for reading, understanding, and abiding by the entire Student Honor Code.

### **Final Grade Appeal:**

For this 2000- level course, students may appeal a final grade by filling out a form available from Carla Blount, Department of English Program Assistant. Please note that grade appeals may result in a higher, unchanged, or lower final grade.

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### General Education Guidelines

This course can satisfy the General Education requirement for Composition or Humanities. For more information, see: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/advising/info/general—education—-requirement.aspx>

This course can provide 6000 words toward fulfillment of the UF requirement for writing. For more information, see: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/advising/info/writing—and—-math-requirement.aspx>

The Disability Resource Center in the Dean of Students Office provides information and support regarding accommodations for students with disabilities. For more information, see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>

UF provides an educational and working environment that is free from sex discrimination and sexual harassment for its students, staff, and faculty. For more about UF policies regarding harassment, see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/sexual/>

All students must abide by the Student Honor Code. For more information about academic honesty, including definitions of plagiarism and unauthorized collaboration, see: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/advising/info/student-honor—code.aspx>

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### Schedule of Classes and Assignments

Complete readings/assignments before class on the day they are listed.

#### **Week One: *Introduction***

Jan. 6 - Course introduction/syllabus overview

Jan. 8 - *Beowulf* (1-1214) <https://docs.google.com/docuTient/d/1EkdJ4Qd01kCh5p7U01CJ05-7oFf8R1HfasQX7T0ofl/edit>

#### **Week Two: *Early English Myths***

Jan. 11 - *Beowulf* (1215-2199)

Jan. 13 - *Beowulf* (2200-3182)

Jan. 15 - Thomas Mallory, *Le Morte d'Arthur*  
<http://faculty.sgc.edu/rkellev/LE%20MORTE%20D.pdf>

**Week Three: *Arthurian Legends, continued***

Jan. 18 - Geoffrey of Monmouth, from *The History of the Kings of Britain*  
<http://www.indiana.edu/~dmdhist/arthurgm.htm>

Jan. 20 - *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*  
<http://www.poetryintranslation.com/PITBR/English/GawainAndTheGreenKnight.htm>

Jan. 22 - *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*

**Week Four: *Chaucer and Women Rulers***

Jan. 25 - *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*

Jan. 27 - *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*

Jan. 29 - from *The Canterbury Tales*, The Wife of Bath  
<http://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/2383/pg2383.html>

**Week Five: *Sir Thomas More***

Feb. 1 - Sir Thomas More, *Utopia* (3-47)

Feb. 3 - Sir Thomas More, *Utopia* (49-80)

Feb. 5 - Sir Thomas More, *Utopia* (81-113)

**Week Six: *Spenser's The Faerie Queen***

Feb. 8 - Edmund Spenser, *The Faerie Queen*, Book 1  
<https://www.archive.org/stream/spensersthefaeril5272gut/15272.txt>

Feb. 10 - Edmund Spenser, *The Faerie Queen*, Book 1, continued

Feb. 12 - Edmund Spenser, *The Faerie Queen*, Book 1, continued

**Week Seven: *Poetry***

Feb. 15 - Edmund Spenser, *The Faerie Queen*, Book 1, continued

Feb. 17 - Edmund Spenser, *The Faerie Queen*, Book 1, continued

Feb. 19 - Edmund Spenser, *The Faerie Queen*, Book 1, continued; **Close Reading/Analysis Due**

**Week Eight: *Renaissance Drama and Romance***

Feb. 22 - Christopher Marlowe, *Doctor Faustus*

Feb. 24 - Christopher Marlowe, *Doctor Faustus*, continued

Feb. 26 - William Shakespeare, *Sonnets* (to be selected)

**Week Nine: *Spring Break***

Feb. 29 - Spring Break

Mar. 2 - Spring Break

Mar. 4 - Spring Break

**Week Ten: *Renaissance Drama: Eastern Representations***

Mar. 7 - William Shakespeare, *Othello*

Mar. 9 - William Shakespeare, *Othello*, continued

Mar. 11 - William Shakespeare, *Othello*, continued

**Week Eleven: *Renaissance Drama: Early British Imperialism***

Mar. 14 - William Shakespeare, *The Tempest*

Mar. 16 - William Shakespeare, *The Tempest*, continued

Mar. 18 - William Shakespeare, *The Tempest*, continued; **Essay Prospectus/Annotated Bibliography Due**

**Week Twelve: *Jonathan Swift***

Mar. 21 - Jonathan Swift, from *Gulliver's Travels*

Mar. 23 - Jonathan Swift, from *Gulliver's Travels*

Mar. 25 - Jonathan Swift, from *Gulliver's Travels*, "A Modest Proposal"

**Week Thirteen: *Birth of the Novel: Travel and the Rise of Mercantilism***

Mar. 28 - Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*

Mar. 30 - Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*, continued

Apr. 1 - Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*, continued; **Researched Critical Essay Due**

**Week Fourteen: *Birth of the Novel: Travel and the Rise of Mercantilism***

Apr. 4 - Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*, continued

Apr. 6 - Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*, continued

Apr. 8 - Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*, continued

**Week Fifteen: *Birth of the Novel: Travel and the Rise of Mercantilism***

Apr. 11 - Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*, continued

Apr. 13 - Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*, continued

Apr. 15 - Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*, continued

**Week Sixteen: *Looking Forward: Restoration to Enlightenment Philosophical Thought***

Apr. 18 - Thomas Hobbes, selections from *Leviathan* (1651-1652), Francis Bacon, John Locke, David Hume, and Adam Smith

Apr. 20 - **Last Day of Class**