

“Reading maketh a full man; conference a ready man; and writing an exact man.”

Francis Bacon

“A little learning is a dangerous thing; / Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring.”

Alexander Pope

“There are more things in heaven and earth . . . / Than are dreamt of in your philosophy.”

Shakespeare

Course Syllabus Fall 2013

Instructor: Dr. Doris Davis
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Office Hours: TBA
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Course Number: English 471
Course Title: Advanced Survey of British Literature, I

Catalog Description: The development of English literature from its beginnings to 1800.

Prerequisite: Freshman English

Text: *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*, 9th edition, Vols. A, B, & C

Course Objectives:

Students will

- gain an understanding of the historical development of British literature with a focus on the Middle Ages; Renaissance, and Restoration and Eighteenth Century.
- gain an understanding of the development of various genres in early British literature, including poetry, prose, and drama, and essay,
- gain an understanding of various literary terms as they apply to the related literature,
- develop an analytical approach toward literature through class discussions and by writing about literature,
- develop an appreciation for early British literature by reading some of the finest examples.

Student Learner Outcomes:

- Develop awareness of the scope and variety of works in early British literature by reading assigned literary texts and by completing courses assignments of papers and exams.
- Obtain and display knowledge of terminology by applying it in papers and on exams to the literature read and discussed.
- Articulate an informed response to early British literature by reading examples of the literature and applying a critical approach to literary work in the assigned papers.
- Understand works of literature as expressions of individual and human values in historical and social contexts by evaluating the importance of literary contextual issues in exams and papers.
- Build an appreciation for the aesthetic principles of literature by reading the assigned texts and completing assigned papers.

(1) Requirements:

- A. Two analytical papers of 800-100 words each—about five typed pages each plus a Works Cited page. You must have secondary sources for both papers. You must submit both electronic and hard copies. See handout on papers. Submit the electronic copy **WITHOUT** Works Cited page to Turnitin.com.
- B. Three tests. A test may be made up only if you have received permission for rescheduling prior to the test.
- C. Class attendance and participation. You are expected to attend class regularly. Excessive absences **WILL** result in a lower grade for the course. Any student with more than five absences cannot make an A.

You receive a grade for each day of class attended. Each day is worth 10 points; with 250 points possible. If you are absent, you lose the points acquired for that class meeting.

At the end of each class meeting, list five main concepts learned about the literature. Write in complete sentences. Your grade for each day will reflect the thoroughness and accuracy of your comments.

You are also expected to participate in class discussion.

- D. Reading aloud (in my office) several pieces of literature: a. “Cædmon’s Hymn” in Old English b. Opening 11 lines of *Beowulf* c. opening 18 lines of the “General Prologue” from *The Canterbury Tales* d. a sonnet (your selection) from the Renaissance. **Assignments a. b. and c. must be completed by Week 11.**

(3) **Final Grade**

The final grade is an average of the requirements as follows:

two papers	=	40% of grade
three tests	=	50% of grade
participation	=	10% of grade (250 points)

90-100 = A; 80-89= B; 70-79= C; 60-69= D

V. Reading Schedule

Read the introduction to each author and the works as listed.

- Week 1 Introduction to class, Overview of The Middle Ages
Bede and Cædmon's Hymn, p. 29; "The Wanderer," p. 117 and "The Wife's Lament," p. 120

Beowulf, pp. 36-108
- Week 2 *Beowulf*, cont.

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, p. 183
- Week 3 Medieval English, pp. 19-24
Chaucer, *The Canterbury Tales*, "Prologue," p. 243

Chaucer, "The Miller's Prologue and Tale," p. 264
Chaucer, "The Wife of Bath's Tale," p. 301
- Week 4 Chaucer, "The Introduction," and "Pardoner's Prologue and Tale," p. 311
Chaucer, "The Nun's Priest's Tale," p. 3226

The Wakefield Second Shepherds' Play, p. 447
Everyman, p. 507
- Week 5 Sir Thomas Malory, *Morte Darthur*, p. 480

Test I, Old English and Middle English literature

- Week 6 Overview: Renaissance in England, sixteenth & early seventeenth century
Sonnets: Sir Thomas Wyatt, "My galley," p. 651; Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, "The soote season," p. 662; Sir Philip Sidney, Sonnets from *Astrophil and Stella* 1, 7, 41, and 71, pp. 1084, 1086, 1092, & 1095;

Edmund Spenser, Sonnets from *Amoretti* 1, 34, 67, and 75, pp. 781-867

Edmund Spenser, *The Faerie Queene*, Book I, pp. 781-867

Week 7

The Faerie Queene, Book I cont., pp. 868-934

Paper I due

Christopher Marlowe, "The Passionate Shepherd to His Love," p. 1126
Sir Walter Raleigh, "The Nymph's Reply to the Shepherd," pp. 917-18;
Michael Drayton, from *Idea* 61, p. 1016; Thomas Campion, "When to her
lute Corinna sings," p. 1018; Ben Jonson "On My First Daughter," pp.
1541, "On My First Son," p. 1542

Week 8

Christopher Marlowe, *Doctor Faustus*, p. 1127

Doctor Faustus, cont.

Week 9

John Donne, "The Flea," 1373, "The Good-Morrow," p. 1373, "Song," p.
1374, "The Canonization," p. 1377, "A Valediction: Of Weeping," p.
1385, from *Holy Sonnets*, "Death, be not proud," p. 1412

Sir Francis Bacon, "Of Marriage and Single Life," p. 1664, "Of
Studies," pp. 1674; George Herbert, "Redemption," p. 1708; "Easter
Wings," p. 1709, "The Collar," p. 1720, and "The Pulley," p. 11721;
Robert Herrick, "To the Virgins, to Make Much of Time," p. 1762; Sir
John Suckling, "Song," (handout) Richard Lovelace "To Lucasta, Going
to the Wars," p. 1779, "To Althea, from Prison," p. 1781; Andrew
Marvell, "To His Coy Mistress," p. 1796

Week 10

John Milton, *Paradise Lost*, Book I, pp. 1943-64

John Milton, "L'Allegro," p. 1909, "Il Penseroso," p. 1913
"Lycidas," p. 1917, "When I Consider How My Light Is Spent," p. 1942

Week 11

Test II, Renaissance Literature

Overview: The Restoration and the Eighteenth Century (1660-1785)
John Dryden, "MacFlecknoe," p. 2236; Samuel Pepys, from *The Diary*,
2260-2269; John Bunyan, from *The Pilgrim's Progress*, pp. 2270-78

Week 12

Aphra Behn, "The Disappointment," p. 2310; Mary Astell, from *Some
Reflections upon Marriage*, p. 2421; Daniel Defoe, from *Roxana*, p. 2425

Jonathan Swift, from *Gulliver's Travels, Part I. A Voyage to Lilliput*, p.
2492

- Week 13 Sir Richard Steele, “The Spectator’s Club,” pp. 2470-73; Joseph Addison, “The Aims of the Spectator,” p. 2644; Alexander Pope, *An Essay on Criticism*, p. 2669, “The Rape of the Lock,” p. 2685
- Samuel Johnson, “The Vanity of Human Wishes,” p. 2843, “Idler” No. 31 [on idleness], p. 2854, from *A Dictionary of the English Language*, p. 2929; ; James Boswell, from *The Life of Samuel Johnson*, pp. 2962-2991
- Week 14 Frances Burney, from *The Journal and Letters*, pp. 2993-3010
Paper II due
- John Gay, *The Beggar’s Opera*, p. 2787
- Week 15 Thomas Gray, “Ode on the Death of a Favorite Cat,” p. 3050, “Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard,” p. 3051; Oliver Goldsmith, “The Deserted Village,” p. 3062

Final exam schedule Test III

Other Information

Disability Accommodations: Students with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations through the A&M-Texarkana Disability Services Office by calling 903-223-3062.

Academic Integrity: Academic honesty is expected of students enrolled in this course. Cheating on examinations, unauthorized collaboration, falsification of research data, plagiarism, and undocumented use of materials from any source constitute academic dishonesty and may be grounds for a grade of ‘F’ in the course and/or disciplinary actions. For additional information, see the university catalog.

A&M-Texarkana Email Address: Upon application to Texas A&M University-Texarkana an individual will be assigned an A&M-Texarkana email account. This email account will be used to deliver official university correspondence. Each individual is responsible for information sent and received via the university email account and is expected to check the official A&M-Texarkana email account on a frequent and consistent basis. Faculty and students are required to utilize the university email account when communicating about coursework.

Drop Policy: To drop this course after the census date (see [semester calendar](#)), a student must complete the Drop/Withdrawal Request Form, located on the University website <http://tamut.edu/Registrar/droppingwithdrawing-from-classes.html>) or obtained in the Registrar’s Office. The student must submit the signed and completed form to the instructor of each course indicated on the form to be dropped for his/her signature. The

signature is not an “approval” to drop, but rather confirmation that the student has discussed the drop/withdrawal with the faculty member. The form must be submitted to the Registrar’s office for processing in person, email Registrar@tamut.edu, mail (7101 University Ave., Texarkana, TX 75503) or fax (903-223-3140). Drop/withdraw forms missing any of the required information will not be accepted by the Registrar’s Office for processing. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that the form is completed properly before submission. If a student stops participating in class (attending and submitting assignments) but does not complete and submit the drop/withdrawal form, a final grade based on work completed as outlined in the syllabus will be assigned.