



Survey of English Literature from the Middle Ages to the Eighteenth Century

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Texts:

1. *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*. Vol. 1, 9th Ed.
2. *Macbeth*, by William Shakespeare. (Any version, copies available at Bookman)
3. NTNU Moodle

Course Description and Objectives:

This yearlong survey course aims to broaden students' knowledge and to form a working outline of English literary history from the Anglo-Saxon Period, the Renaissance, the Medieval Period, to the early 18th Century. The reading mainly focuses on the canonical authors who represent important literary and cultural concerns of their time, and the assignments span genres including romance, epic, ballad, poetry, drama, critical essay and film. Perspectives from historical contexts and literary/critical theory would be brought into the reading as a vehicle for further delving into the core significance of the literary works.

Requirements:

1. Grading policy:
 - Attendance & participation 10%
 - Group presentation 20%
 - Exams 70%
2. Punctuality in coming to the class and turning in your homework is strongly desired. Exceptions are allowed only under emergent circumstances or notification in advance.
3. Students will hand in their homework only in electronic text. No late homework would be accepted.
4. Any student who plagiarizes or edits writing of others without acknowledgement would fail the course.

1st Semester Schedule

Week	Date	Contents
1	09/15	<i>Mid-autumn Festival, no class.</i>
2	09/22	Orientation: course overview Introduction to the Old English Period
3	09/29	<i>Beowulf</i> (36-58, 88-108)
4	10/06	Introduction to the Middle English Period <i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> (pp. 183-238, ll. 1-490, 1476-1557, 2259-2530.)
5	10/13	<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> continued
6	10/20	Chaucer: "General Prologue", (238-243) + handouts
7	10/27	"The Wife of Bath's Tale" (handouts)

8	11/03	<u>Midterm</u>
9*	11/10	<i>Morte Darthur</i> (480-500)
10	11/17	Everyman (507-529)
11	11/24	Introduction to the Renaissance Period
12	12/01	<i>Utopia</i> (569-645)
13	12/08	<i>Dr. Faustus</i> (1106-1107, 1127-1165)
14	12/15	<i>Faustus</i> continued.
15	12/22	<i>Faustus</i> continued.
16	12/29	Middle English Lyrics & Popular Ballads: “The Cuckoo Song” (478); “I Sing of a Maiden” (410); “Bonny Barbara Allan”; “The Three Ravens” (handouts)
17	01/02	▪ Class discussion
18	01/12	<u>Final</u>

2nd Semester Schedule

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	02/23	Introduction to Shakespeare & sonnets
2	03/02	Shakespeare (1166-1170): <i>Sonnets</i> #18 (1172), #20(1173); #116 (1182), #130 (1184)
3	03/09	Shakespeare, <i>Macbeth</i>
4	03/16	<i>Macbeth</i> continued.
5	03/23	<i>Macbeth</i> continued.
6	03/30	Shakespeare, <i>Macbeth</i>
7	04/06	▪ Class discussion
8*	04/13	<u>Midterm</u>
9	04/20	Introduction to the Metaphysical School of Poets
10	04/27	Donne (1370-1372): “The Flea”(1373); “A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning”(1385) Herbert (1705-1707): “The Altar” (1707)
11	05/04	Herrick (1756): “To the Virgins, to Make Much of Time” (1762) Marvell (1789-1790): “To His Coy Mistress” (1796-1797) Jonson (1441-1443): “Song: To Celia”(1548-1549)
12	05/11	Introduction to <i>Paradise Lost</i> (1897-1901, 1943-1945)
13	05/18	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book IX (1945-1947, 2091-2116)
14	05/25	Introduction to the 18th Century ; Bunyan: <i>The Pilgrim’s Progress</i> (2269-2278)
15	06/01	Swift (2464-2466): “A Modest Proposal” (2633-2639)
16	06/08	Johnson (2841-2843): <i>A Dictionary of the English Language</i> (2929-2936)
17	06/15	▪ Wrap-up discussion
18	06/22	<u>Final</u>