



# ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

**St. Jerome's University in the University of Waterloo**

**Department of English**

**ENGL200A (002)**

**Survey of British Literature 1**

**Fall 2018**

**Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00-11:20, SJ1 3027**

## **Instructor Information**

Instructor: Dr. Bruce Wyse

Office: SH 2113

Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11:30-12:30

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## **Course Description**

An historical survey of major figures, types, and trends in British literature from the Middle Ages to the late 18th century.

This course is designed to give a broad overview of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the eighteenth century. We will be examining a wide range of texts for what they can tell us about the development of form and genre, authorship and readership, history and politics. The material will demand that you think constantly and critically about how and why we reconstruct literary history, why historical contexts are central to understanding literature and, most importantly, why reading literature of the past is crucial to understanding our own cultural contexts.

## **Course Objectives**

- to acquire a broad knowledge of British literary history from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> century
- to develop a familiarity with some of the more important works of British literature composed in these centuries
- to identify the historically distinctive features of literary works in specific periods, and to develop a sense of the interrelations between literary works and the cultural concerns of their times
- to foster an appreciation of the thematic and formal similarities and differences between the literary works of different authors and different periods
- to increase familiarity with a variety of generic forms
- to increase critical responsiveness to the formal aspects of literary works
- to hone critical skills in the reading, analysis, interpretation, and evaluation of texts
- to enhance written and oral communication skills

### Required Text

*The Norton Anthology of English Literature: The Major Authors*, Vol. 1, Ed. Stephen Greenblatt, Norton, 9<sup>th</sup> edition.

### Recommended Text

Chris Baldick, *Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms*, Oxford.

### Course Requirements and Assessment

Reading quizzes (the best 5 of 7)		10%
Short, informal writing exercises (5)		5%
Take-home midterm test	Distributed Oct. 4; due Oct. 16	20%
Preliminary essay material	Nov. 13	5%
Essay	Nov. 22 (*see note below)	30%
Take-home final exam	Distributed Nov. 29; due Dec. 7	20%
Class participation		10%
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Total		100%

#### Reading quizzes

Each of the seven quizzes will test your basic familiarity with the text on the syllabus on the day in question. Each quiz will have five questions (although these may have two parts) and will be designed so that you can complete it in ten minutes. Your final quiz grade will be based on your five best results.

#### Short, informal writing exercises

These informal exercises (done between classes—or possibly during class time) will require you to write one- to two-paragraph responses to questions or writing prompts. There will be at least six of these exercises over the course of the term; you will be expected to submit five of them in order to receive a full 5%. If you happen to miss a class, check LEARN to see if there are any between-class writing exercises due in the following class. Between-class exercises will be due at the beginning of class. There will be no extensions for the short writing exercises.

#### Preliminary essay material: working thesis & short essay outline

Due: November 13.

This preliminary exercise is designed to facilitate the timely completion of the essay. I will give you feedback on the thesis and outline, and I will grade the assignment. However, ultimately you will not receive a grade for this assignment that is lower than the mark you receive for your essay. If your essay grade is higher than the grade on this preliminary assignment, I will retroactively adjust the grade for this assignment to match your essay grade. Grades for this assignment will only be adjusted upwards, not downwards.

Information about my expectations for this exercise will be provided on an Essay Instructions

and Topics handout that will be distributed by October 16. The working thesis will be no longer than four sentences in length and the outline will be no longer than a page.

\*Please note: failure to submit this assignment will result in the forfeit of the allocated 5%.

### **Class participation**

Students are expected to attend class regularly [with the text in hand] and to be sufficiently prepared for each class; students should be ready and willing to demonstrate their familiarity with the assigned readings by responding to questions and thoughtfully and constructively engaging in discussions of the texts. If time allows, students may also have the opportunity during class to discuss aspects of the works in smaller groups. On these occasions, a set of questions will typically be distributed to each group to direct the discussion; each group will then submit collaboratively written responses to these questions at the end of the class in order to enable me to keep track of participation in these exercises. Groups may also be called upon to present points, arguments, and conclusions, etc. to the rest of the class or to engage in a dialogue or debate with other groups.

### **Essay**

Due: November 22.

Length: approximately 1,500 words.

\*Optional extension for the essay: While the “official” due date for the essay is November 22, I will accept essays up to November 29 without any late penalty. However, essays submitted after November 22 may not receive extensive written comments. Essays received after November 29 will be subject to a late penalty.

A handout with instructions and topics for the essay will be distributed by October 16.

### **Schedule**

Sept. 6	Organization; Introduction
Sept. 11	<i>Beowulf</i>
Sept. 13	<i>Beowulf</i>
Sept. 18	<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> *1 <sup>st</sup> Reading Quiz
Sept. 20	<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i>
Sept. 25	Renaissance sonnets: Wyatt, “Whoso list to hunt,” “They flee from me”; Sidney, sonnets from <i>Astrophil and Stella</i> ; additional sonnets will be posted on LEARN
Sept. 27	Renaissance sonnets continued; introduction to Renaissance drama

- Oct. 2 Marlowe, *Dr. Faustus*  
\*2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Quiz
- Oct. 4 Marlowe, *Dr. Faustus*  
\*Midterm take-home test distributed and posted on LEARN (end of class)
- Oct. 8 Thanksgiving: no classes
- Oct. 9-10 Midterm Study Break
- Oct. 11 Shakespeare, *Othello*  
\*3<sup>rd</sup> Reading Quiz
- Oct. 16 Shakespeare, *Othello*  
\*Midterm take-home test due (beginning of class)
- Oct. 18 Shakespeare, *Othello*
- Oct. 23 Shakespeare, *Othello*
- Oct. 25 Donne, "The Flea," "The Good-Morrow," "The Sun Rising," "The Indifferent," "A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning," "To His Mistress Going to Bed," Holy Sonnet 10, Holy Sonnet 14
- Oct. 30 Milton, *Paradise Lost*, Book 1, excerpt from Book 4, Book 9, excerpts from Book 10, excerpt from Book 12  
\*4<sup>th</sup> Reading Quiz
- Nov. 1 Milton, *Paradise Lost*
- Nov. 6 Milton, *Paradise Lost*
- Nov. 8 Marvell, "To His Coy Mistress," "An Horatian Ode"; Rochester, "The Disabled Debauchee," "The Imperfect Enjoyment"; Behn, "The Disappointment"
- Nov. 13 Behn, *Oroonoko*  
\*5<sup>th</sup> Reading Quiz  
\*Preliminary essay material due
- Nov. 15 Behn, *Oroonoko*

Nov. 20	Pope, "The Rape of the Lock" *6 <sup>th</sup> Reading Quiz
Nov. 22	Pope, "The Rape of the Lock" *Essay due (see notes above and below on the optional extension)
Nov. 27	Swift, <i>Gulliver's Travels</i> , Part 4 *7 <sup>th</sup> Reading Quiz
Nov. 29	Swift, <i>Gulliver's Travels</i> , Part 4 *Essay extension *Take-home final exam distributed and posted (end of class)
Dec. 7	*Take-home final exam due

### **Submission of Assignments**

Please note: paper copies of all assignments are required.

I would prefer that assignments be submitted to me at the beginning of class or during my office hours. If, however, you choose to submit your essay to me outside of class time or office hours, please use my mail slot in the essay drop off box (SJ1). Immediately after you submit your assignment in this fashion, you must also email me to confirm the date (and time) of the submission; please provide your essay in an attachment to the email. Failure to confirm the date (and time) of the submission in this manner may result in a late penalty based on the date on which I pick up my mail. \*Once again, please note: I do not accept email submissions of assignments alone; paper copies are required.

### **Policy on Late Assignments**

Two marks per day will be deducted from late essays (e.g. 74% - 2 = 72%). Exceptions to this policy will be made in cases of documented illness and may also be made in exceptional circumstances.

I will not accept midterm take-home tests (due Tuesday, October 16) submitted after Friday, October 19—except in cases of documented illness. The penalty for late submissions of the midterm (on Oct 17, 18, and 19) will be two marks per day.

I will not accept any submissions of the preliminary essay material (due Tuesday, November 13) after Friday, November 16. Failure to submit this assignment will result in the forfeit of the allocated 5%.

I will not accept any take-home final exams after Friday, December 7.

Any short writing exercises done in class will be due at the end of the class. The short writing exercises done between classes will be due at the beginning of the following class. I will not accept late short writing responses.

The seven quizzes will be held on the days identified on the schedule. They will take place at

the beginning of the classes. Alternate (make-up) quizzes will only be made available in cases of documented illness. Remember, however, that your overall quiz mark (10% of your course grade) will be calculated on the basis of your five best scores. (This means, in essence, that it is possible to skip two quizzes.)

### **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. If you have any question about what constitutes plagiarism, please discuss this with me in advance of the submission of your work.

Please see the information below on Academic Integrity and Discipline.

### **Electronic Device Policy**

Mobile devices, specifically laptops and tablets, may only be used in this course for learning directly related to the course. No non-academic use of electronic devices is allowed. Phones must be turned off at the beginning of each class and may not be used for the duration of the class (this includes texting). At times I may ask you to close your laptops/ turn off your tablets to focus your attention on other course related tasks. Failure to comply may result in you being asked to leave your device in your bag or at the front of the room for all or part of the class/course, or being asked to leave the classroom.

### **Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend class regularly. A record of attendance will be kept. The class participation component of the course grade will be based on attendance + participation.

### **Copyright Statement**

The educational materials developed for this course, including, but not limited to, lecture notes and slides, handout materials, examinations and assignments, and any materials posted to LEARN, are the intellectual property of the course instructor. These materials have been developed for student use only and they are not intended for wider dissemination and/or communication outside of a given course. Posting or providing unauthorized audio, video, or textual material of lecture content to third-party websites violates an instructor's intellectual property rights, and the Canadian Copyright Act. Recording lectures in any way is prohibited in this course unless specific permission has been granted by the instructor.

### **Other Important Information**

**Academic Integrity:** To maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo and its Affiliated and Federated Institutions of Waterloo (AFIW) are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. See the [UWaterloo Academic Integrity](#) webpage for more information.

**Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism,

cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under the [St. Jerome’s University Policy on Student Discipline](#). For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [University of Waterloo Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read the [St. Jerome’s University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances](#).

**Appeals:** A decision made or penalty imposed under the St. Jerome’s University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or the St. Jerome’s University Policy on Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to the [St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Appeals](#).

**Note for Students with Disabilities:** The [AccessAbility Services](#) office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (1401), collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.