

**Carleton University
Fall/Winter 2018-19
Department of English**

ENGL 2300A: British Literatures I

Prerequisites: second-year standing or permission of the department

Fall and Winter: M/W 11:35 a.m. to 12:55 p.m.

Location: SA 501 (Fall) and SA 318 (Winter)

Instructor: Matthew Scribner

Email: Matthew.Scribner@Carleton.ca

Office: 1906 Dunton Tower

Office Hours: TBD

At the time when Shakespeare was born, Britain had not had a building built to be used as a theatre for a thousand years. What was literature in Britain like during that millennium, and what caused it to change so rapidly at the end of it?

This course will examine literature from the medieval period (a.k.a. the Middle Ages or the Dark Ages) and the early modern period (a.k.a. the Renaissance) in Britain and Ireland.

Through the examination of English, Irish, Scottish, and Welsh literature, we will examine the appearance and evolution of numerous genres of writing, the linguistic and political consolidation of Britain, the rise of the middle class, gender, and religion.

We will read medieval literature in the fall and early modern literature in the winter, paying attention to the differences—and surprising similarities—between the time periods. We will read (very) well-known authors and some lesser-known ones, too. We will read Old English, Irish, and Welsh texts in translation.

This is a writing-attentive course.

ENGL 2300 is a writing-attentive course. In ENGL 2300, "writing-attentive" means that students will spend a significant amount of class time improving and developing university-level forms of thinking and writing about early literature in order to:

- Maintain and improve the ability to write grammatically and syntactically complex prose
- Build upon and extend skills in written close analysis of texts from a variety of genres in early forms of English
- Refine skills in generating and supporting argumentative thesis statements across essays

- Improve the ability to express in writing sophisticated ideas and opinions using proper, correct, and effective academic English practice
- Use, cite, and interpret primary literary texts in complex ways while following MLA documentation standards
- Expand fluency in, and facility with, genre-specific terminology from early periods

Evaluation:

As stated in the Academic Regulations of the University, Section 2.1, students must complete all term papers and examinations to obtain credit for this course.

2 Term Papers	1) 6-7 pages (Due: November 21 st , 2018)	20%
	2) 7-9 pages (Due: March 22 nd , 2019)	20%

Quizzes	10%
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There will be three quizzes, and I will take the best two marks out of three. Because of this, if you miss a quiz, there will be no makeup under normal circumstances.

Mid-Year Examination	20%
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Final Examination	20%
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Attendance and Participation	10%
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Work handed in late will be penalized 10% per day, unless there has been a prior arrangement.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- ☐ reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- ☐ submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- ☐ using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;

- ☐ using another's data or research findings;
- ☐ failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- ☐ handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs."

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course's instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of "F" for the course.

The policy can be found at: <http://carleton.ca/fass/wp-content/uploads/Academic-Integrity-Sept-2017.pdf>

Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Religious obligation

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. carleton.ca/pmc

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is survivors are

supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

Other Carleton Services:

Please note that the following university-wide services are available to you: Writing Support Services, 4th Floor, MacOdrum Library, 613-520-2600x1125, <http://carleton.ca/csas/writingservices/> (offers assistance with developing and improving writing skills); Academic Advising Services, 302 Tory Building, 613-520-7850; Career Development Services, 401 Tory Building, 613-520-6611, <http://carleton.ca/sacds/>; The Centre for Student Academic Support, 4th floor of the MacOdrum Library, 613-520-2600 x1125; Research Help Desks at MacOdrum Library, 613-520-2600 x2735, <https://library.carleton.ca/services/research-help> (offer assistance with digital research and using the library); the Office of Student Affairs or Health and Counseling Services, 613-520-2600 x2573; www.carleton.ca/studentaffairs or www.carleton.ca/health (offer assistance coping with stress or crisis).

Please note as well that you are warmly invited to access Departmental Academic Advising. The English Department's Undergraduate Supervisor will offer advice about your program of study as an English Major or Minor and check your fulfillment of program and university requirements for graduation. To make an appointment for academic advising, contact the Undergraduate Supervisor, Professor Birkwood, at susan.birkwood@carleton.ca.

Please note: Student or professor materials created for this course (including lectures, hand-outs, assignments, quizzes, drafts, essays, and examinations) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

Etiquette

Please give the person who is speaking in class—whether it is the instructor or one of your peers—your full attention.

You may use a laptop to take notes, but please, do not surf the web, check social media, or do other distracting things in class. Please do not use cellphones in class, even to take notes.

Discussion is encouraged, but (obviously) please disagree without being disagreeable.

Required Texts

The Broadview Anthology of British Literature Concise Edition, Volume A (not any other volume), available from Haven Books, 43 Seneca St., Ottawa, ON, K1S 4X2. Regrettably, Haven Books is not wheelchair accessible: please contact me if this presents a problem.

Your textbooks come with a code to access online materials. For some classes, we will be reading these online materials, and not the physical textbook.

FALL TERM

All readings are from the Broadview Anthology of British Literature Concise Edition, Volume A, **unless otherwise stated**.

September

- 5th: Welcome and Introduction
- 10th: Early medieval culture and Old Irish Lyrics, pages 57-62
- 12th: Anglo-Saxon culture and Bede's story of Caedmon, pages 51-56
- 17th: *Beowulf*, starting page 81
- 19st: *Beowulf*
- 24th: *Beowulf*
- 26th: *The Wanderer, The Seafarer, The Ruin* pages 65-71

October

- 1st: *The Dream of the Rood*, starting page 72
- 3rd: *Feast of Bricu*, **Online through Broadview**
- 8th: THANKSGIVING
- 10th: Marie de France, *Bisclavret*, starting page 179
- 15th: Marie de France, *Lanval*, starting page 188
- 17th: Dafydd ap Gwylm, starting page 655
- 22nd: READING WEEK
- 24th: READING WEEK
- 29th: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, starting page 225
- 31st: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*

November

- 5th: *Pwyll, Prince of Dyfed*, starting page 156
- 7th: *Pwyll, Prince of Dyfed*, starting page 156
- 12th: Geoffrey Chaucer, *The Wife of Bath's Prologue*, starting page 494
- 14th: Geoffrey Chaucer, *The Wife of Bath's Tale*, starting page 508
- 19th: *The Book of Margery Kempe*, starting page 404
- 21st: *The Book of Margery Kempe*
- 26th: Isabel, Countess of Argyl's poems, pages 639-641, Tudur Penylllyn's poem, pages 661,

- Gwerful Mechain's poems, pages 662-63.
28th: York Cycle *Crucifixion*, starting on page 445

December

- 3rd: York Cycle *Crucifixion*
5th: Review
7th: TBD (Monday schedule)

WINTER TERM

All readings are from the Broadview Anthology of British Literature Concise Edition, Volume A, **unless otherwise stated**.

January

- 7th: The Early Modern period, and the slow transition
9th: William Dunbar, "Timor Mortis Conturbat Me"
14th: William Dunbar, "Lament for the Makars" (**Online through cuLearn**)
16th: *Everyman*, starting page 473
21st: *Everyman*
23rd: Philip Sidney, Sonnets, pages 332-341
28th: Lady Mary Wroth, poems, pages 942-948
30th: Geoffrey Keating, Dáibhí Ó Bruadair, Poems, pages 648-651

February

- 4th: Christopher Marlow, *Hero and Leander*, pages 831-845
6th: Christopher Marlow, *Hero and Leander*
11th: Francis Bacon, Essays, pages 823-829
13th: Francis Bacon, Essays
18th: READING WEEK
20th: READING WEEK
25th: William Shakespeare, Play TBD
27th: Shakespeare play

March

- 4th: Shakespeare play
6th: Shakespeare play
11th: John Donne, *Songs and Sonnets*, pages 913-923
13th: John Donne, *Holy Sonnets*, pages 935-938
18th: Aemelia Lanyer, *Salve Rex Judaeorum* (**Online through Broadview**)
20th: *Salve Rex Judaeorum*

- 25th: John Milton, *L'Allegro, Il Pensero*, pages 993-998
27th: John Milton, *Lycidas* and Sonnets, pages 1001-1006

April

- 1st: Aphra Behn, *Oroonoko: or The Royal Slave*, starting page 1233
3rd: Aphra Behn. *Oroonoko: or The Royal Slave*
8th: Review