

**Carleton University  
Fall/Winter 2016-17  
Department of English**

**ENGL 2300B: *British Literatures I*  
Prerequisite: 1.0 credit in ENGL at the 1000 level**

**Mondays and Wednesdays / 1:05pm-2:25pm  
Location: *Please confirm location on Carleton Central***

**Professor: Dr. S. B. Calkin  
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Office: 1809 DT  
Phone: (613) 520-2600 x2337**

**Office Hours: FALL: Mondays 2:30pm-4:30pm or by appointment  
WINTER: TBA or by appointment**

### **Course Description:**

Monsters, mystics, magic, multilingualism, mayhem, murder . . . These are just a few of the many concerns that animate texts by British authors from the Middle Ages and Renaissance. ENGL 2300 B introduces students to literature written in Britain between 500 and 1700 CE. It is designed to communicate a sense of the chronological development of English literature in Britain as well as an awareness of the dynamic cultural contexts this literature engages. In order better to appreciate the cultural importance of the texts we study, we will strive to situate them in relation to their literary and historical backgrounds and to appreciate the ways in which these texts shaped, were shaped by, and commented on, the issues of their day. The course will cover literature from the Old English (c. 500-1100 C.E.), Middle English (c. 1000-1500 C.E.), and Renaissance and Restoration periods (c. 1500-1700 C.E.). One of the focal questions underlying our reading will be: How does a historical understanding of British culture enhance and enrich our reading of English literature from different historical periods? We will also consider the portraits of heroism, gender, love, lust, violence, magic, monstrosity, religion, art, authorship, colonialism, and Englishness presented in these texts, and study the ways in which different writers handled such topics. Finally, we will explore ideas about literary conventions, genres, aesthetics, and form as we examine the very different ways in which medieval and Renaissance authors wrote about topics important to them and their audiences.

### **Course Objectives:**

Students in this course will:

- Read a variety of British literature from its earliest stages to its seventeenth-century forms
- Gain a general sense of the chronology of British literature, and of various writers' relations to history and literature
- Develop an awareness of the ways in which literature from different historical periods articulates and explores the central concerns of its day
- Consider the ideas about heroism, gender, religion, love, violence, Englishness, colonialism, magic, monstrosity, authorship, and aesthetics that appear in literature from

- different periods, and the ways in which ideas about these issues change over time
- Become familiar with some of British literature's primary conventions and genres, and with the ways these vary over time
- Become familiar with some key technical and literary terms
- Acquire and improve the skills used to analyze and write about texts from early literary periods and various genres

**Please Note:**

**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

Students will write at least one 3-hour formally scheduled examination. If there is just one exam it must take place at the end of the course. (In this section there will be two exams, a mid-year and a final)

**Required Texts:**

- *The Broadview Anthology of British Literature: The Medieval Period* (Volume 1). Ed. Joseph Black et al. 3rd ed. Peterborough: Broadview, 2015. Paperback.
- William Shakespeare. *The Tragedy of Richard II*. Ed. Barbara Mowat and Paul Werstine. Folger Shakespeare Library Series. Toronto: Simon and Schuster, 2010. Paperback.
- *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*. Ed. Stephen Greenblatt et al. 9th ed. Package 1: Vols A, B, and C. New York: Norton, 2012. Paperback.
- Edmund Spenser. *Edmund Spenser's Poetry*. Ed. Anne Lake Prescott and Andrew D. Hadfield. 4th ed. New York: Norton, 2014. Norton Critical Edition. Paperback.

**PLEASE NOTE: There will be a shrinkwrapped package of these two Norton titles so that you can get the Spenser edition for free when you buy the Norton anthology.**

**Recommended Text:**

- *MLA Handbook (Eighth Edition)*. New York: Modern Language Association, 2016.

This book outlines and illustrates the quotation, citation, and bibliographic formatting expected on your term papers.

**Books available at Haven Books, 43 Seneca Street, tel: 613-730-9888 /e-mail: [info@havenbooks.ca](mailto:info@havenbooks.ca); [www.havenbooks.ca](http://www.havenbooks.ca)**

**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 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2016)	20%
	2) 8-10 pages (Due: March 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2017)	20%

*(MLA format is required for these papers. I also require you to submit a draft thesis assignment for each paper and to workshop your drafts in two essay-writing workshops, 1 each semester, so that you are aware of my expectations and so that you may plan and write your papers in good time before the due dates. Detailed lists of topics and of my expectations for each paper will be distributed in advance of the workshops.)*

Quizzes	10%
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*(Will include short answer questions, passage identification and analysis, and mix-and-match questions; each quiz is usually about 30 minutes long)*

Mid-Year Examination	20%
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*(3-hour examination; will include essay and short answer questions, as well as in-depth passage identification and analysis; will be scheduled during official examination period)*

Final Examination	20%
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*(3-hour cumulative examination; will include essay and short answer questions, as well as in-depth passage identification and analysis; will be scheduled during official examination period)*

Attendance and Participation	10%
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*(This percentage of your grade will be assessed as follows: 5% will be determined by your active presence at class and contribution to discussions either in class or on-line via CULearn; the remaining 5% will be determined by your completion of designated in-class and/or at-home mini-exercises and completion of the draft assignments and workshops for your papers. Please note that surfing the web, e-mailing, texting, facebooking, sleeping etc. while in class does not constitute an active presence; you may be here physically but are elsewhere mentally, and your mark will reflect that absence)*

**Papers and Quizzes will be returned to students in class meetings or office hours. Mid-Year Examinations will be returned to students in a class meeting for safe-keeping and review for the Final. Final Examinations remain the property of the university and may be consulted by scheduling an appointment with the professor to go over the examination after it has been marked. Questions about grades should be directed to the professor.**

## 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 form of intellectual theft. It is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct 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 failure of the assignment, failure of the entire course, suspension from a program, suspension from the university, or even expulsion from the university. For more information please go to:

<http://www.carleton.ca/studentaffairs/academic-integrity>

**Please note:** 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.

### **Attendance and Late Paper Policy:**

I expect you to be at class mentally as well as physically, and to contribute to our discussions and activities. For this reason, I have dedicated a portion of the grade to attendance and participation. Attendance will be taken regularly after our first meeting. Participation will be assessed through class discussion and/or on-line discussion via CULearn, completion of designated mini-assignments, and participation in writing workshops (i.e. coming with a draft to workshop). 5% of your grade will be determined by your active presence at class and contribution to discussions; another 5% will be determined by your completion of designated mini-exercises and draft writing assignments, and by your prepared participation in writing workshops. As stated above, sitting in class while surfing the web, e-mailing, texting, facebooking, sleeping etc. does not constitute an active presence; you may be here physically but are elsewhere mentally, and your mark will reflect that absence.

Your term papers are due at class on the dates specified. E-mailed versions will only be accepted as a temporary solution to printing problems and must be followed by submission of a hard copy within twenty-four hours. **Unless you have serious extenuating circumstances (illness, bereavement, religious obligation) and discuss these with me, I will deduct 3% of your paper grade for each day it is late.** Trust me—it is much better to hand in the paper than to drag out the

process of writing. Please note as well that both papers must be handed in in order to receive credit for this course.

**Please Note: If one of your assignments is lost, misplaced, or not received by the instructor, you are responsible for having a backup copy that can be submitted immediately upon request.**

### **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:** write to me 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 see the Student Guide <http://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf>

**Religious obligation:** write to me 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 see the Student Guide above.

**Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your *Letter of Accommodation* at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test requiring accommodation.

**Requests made within two weeks will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.** After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website ([www.carleton.ca/pmc](http://www.carleton.ca/pmc)) for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exams.

### **Other Carleton Services:**

Please note that the following university-wide services are available to you: Writing Support Services, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, MacOdrum Library, 613-520-2600x1125, <http://carleton.ca/csas/writingservices/> (offers assistance with developing and improving writing skills); Student Academic and Career Development Services, 302 Tory Building, 613-520-7850, <http://carleton.ca/sacds/> (offers assistance with career preparation and provides access to university academic support programs); 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 Counselling Services, 613-520-2600 x2573; [www.carleton.ca/studentaffairs](http://www.carleton.ca/studentaffairs) or [www.carleton.ca/health](http://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](mailto: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).

### Schedule of Classes and Readings:

Check Class Location in Carleton Central, as it is scheduled to change between terms. Readings are to be completed for class by the date under which they are listed. Please note that I reserve the right to adjust this syllabus to meet the needs of the class; however, major changes will be announced in advance. All on-line readings will also be available via links on CULearn.

#### First Semester:

- W. Sept. 7 Introduction to Course
- M. Sept. 12 Introduction to Anglo-Saxon Culture  
Introduction to Manuscript Culture  
Old English Language and Literature  
*Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* excerpts re: coming of Angles and Saxons (**Broadview**, pp. 146-7)  
Begin Bede, "The Story of Cædmon," from *Ecclesiastical History of the English People* (**Norton 1**, pp. 29-32)
- W. Sept. 14 Finish "The Story of Cædmon"  
Begin *Beowulf*, ll. 1-1191 (**Broadview**, pp. 68-85)
- M. Sept. 19 *Beowulf*, ll. 1192-2199 (**Broadview**, pp. 85-98)
- W. Sept. 21 *Beowulf*, ll. 2200-3182 (**Broadview**, pp. 98-111)
- M. Sept. 26 *Beowulf*
- W. Sept. 28 Finish *Beowulf* if necessary  
*Judith* (**Norton 1**, pp. 109-17)
- M. Oct. 3 Finish *Judith* if necessary  
*The Wife's Lament* (**Broadview**, pp. 46-47)  
Begin *Dream of the Rood* if time (**Broadview**, pp. 49-52)
- W. Oct. 5 **QUIZ #1 (early feedback)**  
*Dream of the Rood*  
Ælfric of Eynsham, *The Passion of Saint Edmund, King and Martyr*  
(**Broadview** [http:// sites.broadviewpress.com/bablonline/](http://sites.broadviewpress.com/bablonline/); you will need your textbook's access code to access the reading from this page through the Online Selections tab)  
Begin *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* excerpts (**Broadview**, pp. 147-51) if time

- M. Oct. 10 **No Class—Thanksgiving Holiday**  
W. Oct. 12 Finish Old English material  
Early Medieval Drama: *Quem Quaeritis* (**Broadview**, pp. 698-99)
- M. Oct. 17 Irish Medieval Literature: *Cúchulainn's Boyhood Deeds*, "The Scholar and His Cat" (**Norton 1**, pp. 122-8)  
Welsh Medieval Literature: Taliesin, "Urien Yrechwydd", "The Battle of Argoed Llwyfain", and "The Death-Song of Owain" (**on-line** at: [www.celtic-twilight.com/camelot/poetry/taliesin/urien.htm](http://www.celtic-twilight.com/camelot/poetry/taliesin/urien.htm)  
[www.celtic-twilight.com/camelot/poetry/taliesin/argued\\_llwyfain.htm](http://www.celtic-twilight.com/camelot/poetry/taliesin/argued_llwyfain.htm)  
[www.ancienttexts.org/library/celtic/ctexts/t44.html](http://www.ancienttexts.org/library/celtic/ctexts/t44.html))
- W. Oct. 19 Finish Irish and Welsh poems  
The Norman Conquest; Anglo-Norman England and its Literature  
Begin Introduction to Arthurian Tradition if time
- M. Oct. 24 **NO CLASS—READING WEEK**  
W. Oct. 26
- M. Oct. 31 Introduction to Arthurian Tradition  
Geoffrey of Monmouth, *History of the Kings of Britain* (excerpts) (**Broadview** pp. 164-67, 175-85)  
Begin Chrétien de Troyes, opening of *Lancelot, ou Le chevalier de la charrette* (**on-line** at: <http://omacl.org/Lancelot/lancelot1.html>, Read Vv. 1-982)
- W. Nov. 2 Chrétien de Troyes  
Begin Marie de France, *Lanval* if time (**Broadview**, pp. 219-33)
- M. Nov. 7 Finish Anglo-Norman Literature  
Introduction to Middle English Language and Literature  
*Stanzaic Life of St Margaret* (**on-line** at: [www.lib.rochester.edu/camelot/teams/22sr.htm](http://www.lib.rochester.edu/camelot/teams/22sr.htm))
- W. Nov. 9 Introduction to The Fourteenth Century and Chaucer  
Geoffrey Chaucer, *General Prologue* (**Norton 1**, pp. 243-63)
- M. Nov. 14 **DRAFT THESIS ASSIGNMENT DUE**  
*General Prologue*
- W. Nov. 16 **QUIZ #2**  
Chaucer, *The Miller's Prologue and Tale* (**Norton 1**, pp. 264-80)
- M. Nov. 21 **WRITING WORKSHOP**  
(Please come with 3 copies of a draft of your essay)
- W. Nov. 23 Finish *Miller's Tale* if necessary  
Chaucer, *Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale* (**Norton 1**, pp. 282-310)

- M. Nov. 28    **1<sup>ST</sup> TERM PAPER DUE**  
Finish *Wife of Bath's Tale*  
Chaucer, *Pardoner's Prologue and Tale* (**Norton 1**, pp. 310-25)
- W. Nov. 30    Finish Chaucer  
Begin *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, Fitts 1-2 (**Broadview**, pp. 288-317)
- M. Dec. 5     *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, Fitts 3-4 (**Broadview**, pp. 317-54)
- W. Dec. 7     Finish *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*
- \*\*F. Dec. 9 (University Follows Monday Schedule)**  
Middle English Lyrics (**Norton 1**, pp. 408-11, **Broadview** pp. 250-51, p. 257  
"I have a gentil cock" and p. 259 "Of all creatures women be best")  
Brief Review for Mid-Year Examination



## Second Semester (Check Room Assignment):

- M. Jan. 9 Medieval into Renaissance I: Religion  
Margery Kempe, excerpts from *The Book of Margery Kempe* (**Norton 1**, pp. 424-38)  
Begin *The York Play of the Crucifixion* (**Norton 1**, pp. 439-47)
- W. Jan. 11 Medieval into Renaissance I: Medieval Anticipations of the Protestant Reformation  
Finish *The York Play of the Crucifixion*  
“Lollardy” (**Broadview**, pp. 690-94)  
Hoccleve, *Regiment of Princes*, lines 4978-5019 (**on-line** at:  
<http://d.lib.rochester.edu/teams/text/blyth-hoccleve-regiment-of-princes>)  
Wycliffite Bible, Jonas 2 and Luke 15.11-32 (**on-line** at  
[en.wikisource.org/wiki/Bible\\_\(Wycliffe\)](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Bible_(Wycliffe)))
- M. Jan. 16 The Protestant Reformation  
Reformation Writings (**Norton 2**, pp. 671-92)
- W. Jan. 18 Medieval into Renaissance II: Sonnets and Sonneteering  
Selections from Petrarch, Wyatt, Surrey (**Norton 2**, pp. 648-52, 662-5)
- M. Jan. 23 Sonnets and Sonneteering:  
Sidney (**Norton 2**, p. 1084 → Sonnets 1, 2, 5, 69, 71, 72, 74, 81)  
Spenser (**Norton 2**, pp. 985 → Sonnets 1, 54, 65, 67, 74, 75, 79)  
Shakespeare (**Norton 2**, p. 1170 → Sonnets 20, 23, 126-30, 146-7)  
Wroth (**Norton 2**, p. 1566 → Sonnets 1, 16, 40, 68, 77)
- W. Jan. 25 Finish Sonnets and Sonneteering  
If time, begin Elizabeth I, Selected Poems and Speeches (**Norton 2**, pp. 753-6, 758-9, 762-6)
- M. Jan. 30 Elizabeth I readings  
Colonization and Conquest:  
Sir Walter Raleigh, on *Guiana* (**Norton 2**, pp. 1030-3)  
*The Wider World* (**on-line**  
[www.wwnorton.com/college/english/nael9/ebook.aspx](http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/nael9/ebook.aspx); go to “The Sixteenth Century” link, then read pp. 211-28; you will need the password from your text to access the site)
- W. Feb. 1 Finish Colonization and Conquest readings  
Introduction to *The Faerie Queene*  
“A Letter of the Author’s” (*Edmund Spenser’s Poetry* [ESP]), pp. 402-5)
- M. Feb. 6 Edmund Spenser, *Faerie Queene*, Book III, Cantos 1-3 (ESP, pp. 231-78)
- W. Feb. 8 Spenser, *Faerie Queene*, Book III, Cantos 4-6 (ESP, pp. 278-320)
- M. Feb. 13 **QUIZ #3**  
Spenser, *Faerie Queene*, Book III, Cantos 7-9 (ESP, pp. 320-61)

- W. Feb. 15 Spenser, *Faerie Queene*, Book III, Cantos 10-12 (*ESP*, pp. 361-401)
- M. Feb. 20 **NO CLASS—READING WEEK**  
W. Feb. 22
- M. Feb. 27 **DRAFT THESIS ASSIGNMENT DUE**  
Finish *Faerie Queene*  
Begin Renaissance Drama: William Shakespeare, *Richard II*, Act 1 (**Richard II**)
- W. Mar. 1 Shakespeare, *Richard II*, Acts 1-2 (**Richard II**)
- M. Mar. 6 Shakespeare, *Richard II*, Acts 2-3 (**Richard II**)
- W. Mar. 8 **WRITING WORKSHOP**  
(Please come with 3 copies of a draft of your paper)
- M. Mar. 13 Shakespeare, *Richard II*, Acts 3-5
- W. Mar. 15 **2<sup>ND</sup> TERM PAPER DUE**  
Finish *Richard II*  
Introduction to the Early Seventeenth Century  
John Donne, Satire 3 (**Norton 2**, pp. 1394-7) and selections (**Norton 2**, 2-3 poems from 1373-91; 1-2 poems from pp. 1410-15; poems will be chosen in class Mar. 13)
- M. Mar. 20 Finish Donne  
Aemilia Lanyer, “Eve’s Apology in Defence of Women” (**Norton 2**, pp. 1433-36)  
Introduction to the Civil Wars and Restoration  
Richard Lovelace, selections (**Norton 2**, pp. 1779, 1781-2)  
Katherine Philips, “Upon the Double Murder of King Charles” (**Norton 2**, p. 1785)  
Equivocal Verse Hand-Out
- W. Mar. 22 **QUIZ #4**  
Finish Civil Wars and Restoration readings  
Begin John Milton, *Paradise Lost*, Bks 1-2 (**Norton 2**, pp. 1943-86)
- M. Mar. 27 Milton, *Paradise Lost*, Bks 3-4 (**Norton 2**, pp. 1987-2024)
- W. Mar. 29 Milton, *Paradise Lost*, Bks 5-6, 8 (**Norton 2**, pp. 2024-63, 2077-91)
- M. Apr. 3 Milton, *Paradise Lost*, Bks 9-10 (**Norton 2**, pp. 2091-2140)
- W. Apr. 5 Finish Milton, *Paradise Lost*, Bks 10-12 (Bks 11-12 will be covered by the prof in summary in lecture)  
Final Examination Format