

**Carleton University
Fall/Winter 2017-18
Department of English**

ENGL 2300C: British Literatures I

Prerequisites: second-year standing or permission of the department

Fall: T/TH 8:35-9:55 a.m.

Winter: T/TH 8:35-9:55 a.m.

Location: *Please confirm location on Carleton Central*

Instructor: Matthew Scribner

Email: Matthew.Scribner@Carleton.ca

Office: 1906 Dunton Tower

Phone: TBA

Office Hours: Tuesdays 12pm-2pm

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 23 rd , 2017)	20%
	2) 8-10 pages (Due: March 22 nd , 2018)	20%
Quizzes		10%
Mid-Year Examination		20%
Final Examination		20%
Attendance and Participation		10%

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.

Work handed in late will be penalized 10% per day, unless there has been a prior arrangement.

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>

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 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) 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, 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 Volumes 1 and 2, 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 Volume 1, **unless otherwise stated**.

September

- 7th: Welcome and Introduction
- 12th: Early medieval culture and Old Irish Lyrics, pages 31-36
- 14th: Anglo-Saxon culture and Bede's story of Caedmon, pages 26-30
- 19th: *The Dream of the Rood*, starting page 49
- 21st: *The Wanderer*, *The Seafarer*, *The Ruin* pages 41-45, 48
- 26th: *Beowulf*, starting page 69
- 28th: *Beowulf*

October

- 3rd: *Beowulf*
- 5th: *Feast of Bricu*, **Online through Broadview**
- 10th: *Feast of Bricu*, **Online through Broadview**
- 12th: Marie de France, *Bisclavret*, starting page 211, and *Chevrefoil*, starting page 237
- 17th: Marie de France, *Lanval*, starting page 219
- 19th: Dafydd ap Gwylm, **Broadview Anthology Volume 2**, starting page 155
- 24th: READING WEEK
- 26th: READING WEEK
- 31st: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, starting page 287

November

- 2nd: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*
- 7th: *Pwyll, Prince of Dyfed*, starting page 189
- 9th: *Pwyll, Prince of Dyfed*
- 14th: Geoffrey Chaucer, *The Wife of Bath's Prologue*, starting page 494
- 16th: Geoffrey Chaucer, *The Wife of Bath's Tale*, starting page 508
- 21st: *The Book of Margery Kempe*, starting page 635
- 23rd: *The Book of Margery Kempe*
- 28th: Isabel, Countess of Argyl's poems, pages 142-143, Tudur Penyllyn's poems, pages 161-163, Gwerful Mechain's poems, pages 163-164. All of this week's selections are from **Broadview Anthology Volume 2**
- 30th: York Cycle *Crucifixion*, starting on page 702

December

- 5th: York Cycle *Crucifixion*
- 7th: Review

WINTER TERM

All readings are from the Broadview Anthology of British Literature Volume 2, **unless otherwise stated**.

January

- 9th: The Early Modern period, and the slow transition
- 11th: William Dunbar, "Timor Mortis Conturbat Me"
- 16th: William Dunbar, "Lament for the Makars" (**Online through Moodle**)
- 18th: John Heywood, *The Play of the Weather* (**Online through Broadview—medieval page**)
- 23rd: *The Play of the Weather*
- 25th: Thomas Moore, *Utopia*, pages 13-62
- 30th: Thomas Moore, *Utopia*

February

- 1st: Philip Sidney, *Sonnets*, pages 332-341
- 6th: Mary Sidney, poems, pages 391-396
- 8th: Geoffrey Keating, Dáibhí Ó Bruadair, *Poems*, pages 150-154
- 13th: Christopher Marlow, *Hero and Leander*, pages 578-590
- 15th: Christopher Marlow, *Hero and Leander*
- 20th: READING WEEK
- 22nd: READING WEEK
- 27th: Francis Bacon, *Essays*, pages 558-569

March

- 1st: Francis Bacon, *Essays*
- 6th: William Shakespeare, *Twelfth Night* (**Online through Broadview**)
- 8th: *Twelfth Night*
- 13th: *Twelfth Night*
- 15th: *Twelfth Night*
- 20th: John Donne, *Songs and Sonnets*, pages 809-917
- 22nd: John Donne, *Holy Sonnets*, pages 829-832
- 27th: Aemelia Lanyer, *Salve Rex Judaeorum* (**Online through Broadview**)
- 29th: *Salve Rex Judaeorum*

April

- 3rd: Milton: *L'Allegro, Il Pensero*, pages 970-975
- 5th: Milton: *Lycidas* and *Sonnets*, pages 976-981
- 10th: Review