
ENGL 2302 B: Literatures and Cultures 1500-1700

Professor Grant Williams

Email cuLearn email client

Office Hours By appointment on Zoom

Precludes additional credit for ENGL 2300 (no longer offered)

Prerequisite: second-year standing or permission of the department

Format: this is an asynchronous course (see below)

Important Note

The course has been designed around the Perusall annotation platform and that means you must buy your 4 e-textbooks through Perusall. Your participation grade will be based on these online assignments.

Type of Online Learning

ENGL 2302B is “asynchronous.” This means that it is an online course where the instructor and students share information, ideas, and learning experiences in a virtual course space. Asynchronous courses do not have live, scheduled meetings online. However, students are expected to remain up to date with the deadlines and due dates provided by the instructor. These courses require high-speed Internet access and a computer.

Course Description

To introduce students to this period of English literature (1500-1700), the course will examine closely two canonical plays and two canonical epic poems along with a selection of lyric poetry. The course will also explore other early modern documents that deal with death, the focus for the written assignments and the main project. In its exploration of early modern texts, it will gravitate toward visual, literary, and rhetorical imagery. Special attention will be paid to the ways in which writers use verbal pictures to communicate the passion, power, and perils of death and, at times, its antithesis beauty—two major cultural ideas that absorbed the attention of the Church, the Court, and the thriving theatre.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course students will be able to:

1. read and interpret early modern texts written by a variety of authors
2. identify, define, and analyze early modern literary form and language
3. understand the dynamic relationship between early modern literature and culture across a period of significant historical changes
4. understand how English literary history connects with continental traditions

Textbooks

You must buy the following four editions **on the Perusall platform** because your participation grade will be based on annotating these e-texts:

1. In the online app Perusall, please purchase Christopher Marlowe's *Doctor Faustus: With The English Faust Book*, edited by David Wootton, Hackett Publishing Company.
2. In the online app Perusall, please purchase Edmund Spenser's *The Faerie Queene*, Book I, edited by Carol V. Kaske, Hackett Publishing Company.
3. In the online app Perusall, please purchase William Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, edited by Robert S. Miola, W.W. Norton Critical Edition.
4. In the online app Perusall, please purchase John Milton's *Paradise Lost*, edited by David Scott Kastan, Hackett Publishing Company.

Other course texts, at no extra cost, will be taken from a variety of online sources.

Starting the Course

To start the course, you must complete the online quiz that tests your knowledge of this course outline; otherwise, you won't be able to unlock the introductory lectures and the first assignment.

Evaluation	Due date	% of Grade
Annotation Activities on Perusall (2 X 10 + bonus)	Thru Term	20 (+ 2)
Commentary on Death I (500-550 words)	Jan. 22	10
Commentary on Death II (700-750 words)	Feb. 22	15
Media Project on Death (cuPortfolio)	April 12	25
Take Home Exam	TBA	30
	TOTAL	100

Participation and Engagement

For this online course, you will receive your participation and engagement mark through completing short annotation activities on the learning platform Persuall. Each activity involves writing several annotations (comments and questions) on a single section of text or poem and reading the annotations made by other students. 20% of your overall grade falls within this evaluation category. If you put weekly work into the annotation activities, you have an opportunity to do quite well in the course. I will assign an extra assignment, so if you do all eleven, you have the chance to earn a bonus +2. Each activity is scored out of 3 and worth 2.0 on the year. Each comment or question in an activity is automatically scored by the system and rated as "below expectations" (1), "meets expectations" (2), or "exceeds expectations" (3). You receive points, too, for replying to others and upvoting others. Overall, the score on an activity is a wholistic assessment of your engagement, generated consistently and fairly by multiple algorithms.

Commentary on Death I

You will compose a short essay submitted on Jan. 22. The assignment will give you the opportunity to analyze the visual representation of death in Hans Holbein's *The Dance of Death*. It will also help you to begin to think through this theme, upon which your media project is based. Further details regarding the essay will be provided in a separate assignment sheet on cuLearn.

Commentary on Death II

You will compose another short essay submitted on Feb. 22. The assignment will give you the opportunity to analyze the representation of death in the *Faerie Queene* and to collect more material about this theme, upon which your media project is based. Further details regarding the essay will be given in a separate assignment sheet on cuLearn.

Media Project

This assignment will be done with cuPortfolio. Throughout your reading for the course, you will collect early modern artifacts that represent death from the period 1500-1700. Course readings and screencasts will supply you with possible sources, but you will also search for artifacts online. Full details regarding this project will be discussed during screencasts.

Take Home Exam

The take-home exam will consist of 5 questions: a close reading of a poem(s); a comparative essay on *Doctor Faustus* and *Hamlet*; and two essays, one on the *Faerie Queene*, Book I and one on *Paradise Lost*.

Late and Missed Assignment Policy

For the participation grade, I have given you an extra annotation activity. If you somehow miss the activity, you will still be able to earn 20 out of 20. However, if you do not properly manage this extra activity, that is your responsibility, not mine.

The ability to submit the essays and the media project will be available until the due date and then it will be cut off. Late assignments will not be accepted unless you have a valid reason that can be supported with documentation. For medical conditions, please email me a signed Doctor's certificate, which needs to spell out how long the serious illness lasted or is expected to last. Once I have the documentation, you will receive a new submission-deadline that cannot be missed.

With respect to timelines for completing missed assignments, please read Carleton's policy: "Students who claim illness, injury or other extraordinary circumstances beyond their control as a reason for missed term work are responsible for informing me as soon as possible and for making alternate arrangements to complete the missed work. In all cases this must occur no later than three (3) working days after the term work was due. The alternate arrangement must be made before the last day of classes in the term as published in the academic schedule."

Final Standing in Course

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.

Email Communication

Please use the discussion forum "Ask the Teaching Team" at the top of the cuLearn page if you have any questions relating to the course outline, the website, assignments, and course content. It has been my experience that if one student is puzzled, more students

are bound to be puzzled. Of course, if you have a private question relating to your own circumstances, you may use the [cuLearn email client](#) to contact me. Students, too, are permitted to respond to one another in the forum.

Course Modules

Module 1: *Doctor Faustus* [Jan. 11-Jan. 15]

Module 2: *Doctor Faustus* [Jan. 16-Jan. 22]

Module 3: *The Faerie Queene*, Book I [Jan. 23-Jan. 29]

Module 4: *The Faerie Queene*, Book I [Jan. 30-Feb. 5]

Module 5: *The Faerie Queene*, Book I [Feb. 6-Feb. 12]

Module 6: Courtly Poetry [Feb. 20-Feb. 26]

Module 7: Courtly Poetry [Feb. 27-March 5]

Module 8: *Hamlet* [March 6-March 12]

Module 9: *Hamlet* [March 13-March 19]

Module 10: *Paradise Lost* [March 20-March 26]

Module 11: *Paradise Lost* [March 27-April 2]

Module 12: Poetry of Death [April 3-April 12]

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, or suspension from a program. For more information please go to:

<https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>

Requests for 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 click [here](#).

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 click [here](#).

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 or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

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 where 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: <https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>

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. 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. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>