

Engl 2120: British Literature Spring 2017, Dr. Laura Miller

Catalog name: British Literature Survey

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Office Hours: MW 8:45-9:15; 12:30-1:45. F (online and by appointment) 8:45-12:45.

Meeting times/location: MW 11:00-12:15 Calloway 205

Description: This course will survey British literary history from *Beowulf* to the present day. We will read essential texts from literary history as well as the major genres of English literature: poetry, drama, and prose fiction. We will proceed chronologically, and will look at how people encountered literary texts, what shape and form those texts took, and how literary works are connected to the culture that produces them. By the end of the course, students will have a comprehensive understanding of the broad range of English literature, as well as greater familiarity with the tools of literary interpretation.

Course Goals Students will develop the ability to recognize and identify significant achievements in British literature.

Students will: understand the relevant social, historical, and aesthetic contexts of these literary works.

- appreciate the implications of theoretical and critical approaches to such literature.
- develop enhanced cultural awareness and analytical skills.
- demonstrate their command of academic English and of the tenets of sound composition by means of thesis-driven analytical prose.

Program Goals Revised English Program Learning Outcomes (updated March 5, 2016)

English majors will be able to

1. Understand and assess the traditions, conventions, and contexts associated with the study of the English language and its literatures.
2. Apply critical thinking skills to the analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of information and ideas from diverse oral, written, and/or visual sources.
3. Conduct research, develop organizational strategies, and compose professional documents using the academic conventions of English Studies as a discipline.

The following texts are required for this class:

The Broadview Anthology of British Literature (BABL), One-volume Compact Edition, ISBN 9781554812547

Richard III, Folger Shakespeare Library Edition, ISBN 9780743482844

Stages of Power: Marlowe and Shakespeare. UNC Press.

Student Responsibilities

Your main responsibilities are to come to class prepared, participate in discussions, turn in your assignments on time, and do as well as you can on the assignments. Assignments will be graded according to the English department's grading guidelines (available on the department website). Students customarily need to do at least two or three hours of work for each hour of class meeting time. Try to budget your time accordingly, and please see me in my office hours if you are struggling with the readings or workload. Please check in with CourseDen regularly to find materials that will help you with the course and the assignments. *If you are a student with a documented disability, make sure you send me your SAR so that I can accommodate you.

Class assignments

Reacting to the Past Unit
(Midterm) 25%

Final Project (Paper and
Interactive Game) 25%

Final exam, 25%

Quizzes, 25% (Quizzes will be
online on CourseDen)

Handouts for all assignments will be distributed in class and on CourseDen.

Attendance policy

- You are required to attend and participate in each session of this class.
- You will have **three free absence days** for life events, illness, and emergencies. You can miss these three sessions for any reason at all. If you miss a class, you are still responsible for the work during that class. If you miss only one class, but it is on an exam or presentation day, you will receive a zero for that assignment.
- **If you miss more than three class sessions**, your overall grade for the class will be reduced by one letter grade for each two additional class sessions missed. For example, if you earn a B in the class and you have missed five classes, your B will be reduced to a C. If you are having problems with attendance, please see me.
- **If you are late or absent, get notes from another classmate.** Most of the important announcements happen during the first ten minutes of class. Excessive lateness will also result in a deduction from the overall course grade. Look at your schedule and make sure you have enough time to get from class to class, work to class, etc.
- **Write down the contact information for at least one student in the class here:**

Class atmosphere and guidelines

- You must do all of the required reading before coming to class so that you will understand our discussions. Quizzes will be based on the assigned reading.
- Be respectful of your classmates in class discussions.
- Take notes in class, even if you think you'll remember what is said.
- Silence all phones and laptops before class. **No texting or social media in class.** If there is an emergency and you must take a call or send a text, sit by the door and leave quickly and quietly to do so. If it's not worth getting up and leaving the classroom, then it can wait until class ends.

University policies that apply to all courses may be found at the following link:

http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf

You must familiarize yourself with these policies. They concern plagiarism/the honor code, the Americans with Disabilities Act, our credit hour policy, and some information regarding workload expectations for college-level classes.

Citation Style and Formatting: We will use MLA style and formatting on all essays for this class. If you ever have any questions about how to cite a source, please see me.

Recycled papers: no paper previously submitted for any course—even if you wrote it—will be accepted for course credit. If you would like to build on something you've worked on previously, bring your old paper by my office, and we'll arrange for you to develop another aspect of your topic.

Late work will be penalized 5 points for each day that it is late. Late includes everything following the last minute of class. So, a paper due on a Monday and turned in on a Wednesday loses ten points. A paper due on a Monday and turned in an hour after class ends will lose 5 points.

Trigger Warnings. It is impossible for me to control or predict what will trigger a student. If you are triggered by something, feel free to step out of class if it happens there, contact me, or visit office hours.

Our mental health and our community: If you are having thoughts of harming yourself or another, please seek help. You are worth so much more than you know. Recovering from adversity is hard work, but worth it, because you are worth it. There are free campus resources to help you. The number for our counseling center (with free counseling) is 678-839-6428. 839-6000 is the number for campus police. The national suicide prevention lifeline is 1 (800) 273-8255. Call them. And please: if you see something, say something. For example, reach out to your roommate if he/she has seemed unhappy and withdrawn lately. If you want someone to get help who seems unwilling to do so, visit <http://www.westga.edu/uwgcares/> and use the link provided to contact the university anonymously. We are living in a violent time and there are many things we cannot control. We can all do our part to create a college climate of friendliness and compassion.

Title IX Reporting: As of July 1, all faculty and staff at public universities in Georgia became mandatory reporters for sexual assault. We are required to report all sexual assault, and we are not allowed to maintain the information in confidence with the student. What this means for you is that if you come to me and tell me about an incident of sexual misconduct, I am required to report it. Please call one of the above-listed numbers or email counseling@westga.edu to talk with someone in the event that you have a concern related to sexual assault or misconduct.

Course Schedule:

*Q = Quiz

*Readings are from the Broadview Anthology unless indicated

*The readings next to a date are due on that date.

Other Important Dates:

Friday, Aug 12: Drop period ENDS

Monday, Aug 15: Add period ENDS

Sept 30, Withdrawal deadline to receive a grade of W.

Topic	Date	In-Class Activity	Reading, Page #s
Introduction	Jan 9	Lecture	Syllabus
Medieval Period	Jan 11	<i>Beowulf</i>	58-103
	Jan 18		
	Jan 23	Chaucer, <i>Canterbury Tales</i> (General Prologue, Miller's Tale, Wife of Bath's Tale)	206-224; 258-292
	Jan 25 Q		
Early Modern Period <i>Reacting to the Past:</i> <i>Stages of Power:</i> <i>Marlowe and Shakespeare</i>	Jan 30	RTTP 1 Shakespeare, <i>Richard III</i> ; Marlowe, <i>Doctor Faustus</i>	<i>Richard III</i> (Folger); <i>Doctor Faustus</i> (542-576); <i>Reacting to the Past</i> workbook and exercises.
	Feb 1	RTTP 2	
	Feb 6	Labor Day (No Class)	
	Feb 8	RTTP 3	
	Feb 13	RTTP 4	
	Feb 15	RTTP 5	
	Feb 20	RTTP 6	

	Feb 22	RTTP 7	
	Feb 27	RTTP 8	
	Mar 1 Q	RTTP 9; RTTP portfolios due	
Restoration and Eighteenth Century	Mar 6	Milton, <i>Paradise Lost</i>	724-739; 780-794; 810-813
	Mar 8	Swift, "A Description of a City Shower," "The Lady's Dressing Room," Montagu, "The Reasons that Induced Dr S"	954-955; 955-957; 1030-1031
	Mar 13	Haywood, <i>Fantomina</i>	1033-1049
	Mar 15 Q	Pope, <i>Essay on Man</i> (excerpts), Wheatley (via email)	1020-1026
Romantic Period	Mar 27	Wordsworth/Coleridge (<i>Lyrical Ballads</i> Preface, "Tintern Abbey," "Frost at Midnight," "Kubla Khan")	1211-1218; 1209-1211 (read the poem after the essay); 1261-1262; 1282-1283
	Apr 3	Keats, "Ode on a Grecian Urn," Byron, "Darkness"	1331-1332; 1399-1400
Victorian Period	Apr 5	Tennyson, "Ulysses," Arnold, "Dover Beach"	1518-1519; 1613
	Apr 10 Q	Rossetti, "Goblin Market," "In an Artist's Studio," Browning, "My Last Duchess"	1615-1622; 1627; 1573-1574
Halloween!	Apr 12	Joyce, "The Dead"	1865-1886
20th-21st centuries	Apr 17	Yeats, "Easter, 1916," Owen "Disabled," "Dulce et Decorum Est"	1834-1835; 1829; 1830
	Apr 19	Auden, "Musée des Beaux Arts," "September 1, 1939"	1924-1925; 1926-1928
	Apr 24	Larkin, "Aubade," "High Windows," Boland, "Night Feed," "Against Love Poetry"	1954; 1956-1957, 1987; 1988
	Apr 26	Smith, "The Waiter's Wife"	2012-2020
	May 1 Q	Warsan Shire, selections, Heaney, "Punishment"	(email), 1965-1966
	May 8	11:00-1:30 final exam	