Medieval Literature
Course Syllabus – Spring 2014

Course Description:
ENGL 4200 (CRN 87952)
Medieval Literature
3 credit semester hour course

Major works of literature from Old and Middle English, including Chaucer, medieval plays, and examples of other early British literary traditions.

Pre-Requisites
ENGL 1102 with a minimum US grade of C
and ENGL 2111, 2112, 2121, 2122, 2131 or 2132

Department Learning Outcomes:

All English majors will be able to:

- Analyze and evaluate texts that reflect diverse genres, time periods, and cultures.
- Analyze the ways in which language and literature are related to class, culture, ethnicity, gender, histories, race, and sexuality.
- Interpret texts from various perspectives by using close readings supported by textual evidence, and informed by critical theory.
- Produce a variety of materials, including oral presentations, for a range of rhetorical contexts.

Course Learning Outcomes:

- Course Outcome 1: Students will be able to analyze major Medieval British writers/works and their representations of the human experience
- Course Outcome 2: Students will be able to interpret Medieval British Literature writers/works within a historical and social context
- Course Outcome 3: Students will be able to demonstrate their knowledge of the major literary movements, figures and works in Medieval British Literature.
Instructor Information:

Dr. Barbara Goodman

Arts and Sciences Building, Room G110
phone: (678) 466-4711
fax: (678) 466-4899
e-mail: BarbaraGoodman@clayton.edu

- Use the above e-mail for all correspondence and paper submissions and NOT the e-mail in Desire 2 Learn.
- All e-mail messages must be through CSU accounts.
- Do not e-mail on weekends except for emergencies, and do not expect a response until the following week.

Internet: http://a-s.clayton.edu/bgoodman1/default.html

Office hours: Online hours 10:00-12:00 Tuesday
Drop-by Office hours: 2:00-4:00 Tuesday
Other times: I am on campus Monday-Friday so either e-mail to set up an appointment or drop by/call—if I am available I will be glad to meet with you.

Textbooks:

1. “The Wanderer,” “Deor,” and “Dream of the Rood” (located in Old English Literature module)
   Gawain romances: 1) Weddynge of Sir Gawane and Dame Ragnelle
   2) Carle of Carlisle, and 3) Awntyrs of Arthure
5. Chaucer: selected works available in hard copy and online (TBA)

Class-time: online

Special Services

Individuals with disabilities who need to request accommodations should contact the Disability Services Coordinator, Student Center 255, 678-466-5445, disabilityservices@mail.clayton.edu.
Evaluation:

Oral reading: Old or Middle English 10 points

Syllabus Quiz (due Sat. Jan. 17, 11:00 PM) 6 points

Pass/fail quizzes (3): 0 points
You must pass the quizzes to be graded on the relevant/appropriate discussion posts (always open for 24 hours from Wed. night 11:00 PM to Thurs. nights 11:00 PM)

Discussion Posts (always due Thurs. nights by 11:00 PM) 24 points
See Syllabus Addendum for full information and the rubric that clarify how discussion posts will be graded (7 posts are required, the lowest post grade will be dropped)

3-Part Group Project (always due Mon. nights by 11:00 PM) 15 points

Major essay (must be handed in to pass class) 25 points

Final exam (must be taken to pass the class) 20 points

TOTAL 100 points

a. The syllabus Quiz also will be used to determine “No show” attendance in the class.

b. Pass/Fail quizzes: if you do not pass the pass-fail quizzes on the units, I will not grade your discussion posts on those units—as you have not done the reading/reviews to make your posts relevant. A pass is considered getting 3 out of the 5 possible points. These points do NOT count toward the final grade.

c. You cannot pass the class if you do not hand in the Major Essay and/or take the Final Exam.

d. Complete criteria for the above assignments will be posted in the Assignment module at the appropriate time in the course.

Grading:

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<th>Grade</th>
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<td>A</td>
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<td>D</td>
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<td>below 60</td>
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Mid-term Progress Report:

The mid-term grade in this course, which will be issued on March 2, reflects approximately 25-30% of the entire course grade. Based on this grade, students may choose to withdraw from the course and receive a grade of "W." Students pursuing this option must fill out an official withdrawal form, available in the Office of the Registrar, or withdraw on-line using the Swan by mid-term, which occurs on March 6. Instructions for withdrawing are provided at this link.

The last day to withdraw without academic accountability is March 6, 2015.

Course Schedule:

Week 1: Jan. 11-17

1. Getting ready for class:
   a. Read syllabus carefully.
   b. View the Netiquette link-- http://albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html
      (The link is also available under the “Web Links” Section.)
   c. Complete the online orientation PowerPoint. Complete the quiz.
      http://www.clayton.edu/distancelearning/Online-Preparation. (The link
      is also available under the “Web Links” Section in GA View.)
   d. Complete a technology check on GA View
      http://www.usg.edu/usgweb/d2lchecker/ (The link is also available
      under the “Web Links” Section in GA View.)

2. Due: Take mandatory syllabus quiz. Once you start the quiz you have 30 minutes to complete it (due Jan. 17 at 11:00 PM). You may check the syllabus as you complete the quiz but you do not have a lot of time.
3. Watch PowerPoint on “Old English Literature and its Historical Context”
   (located in Old English Literature module/in the Old English poems submodule).

Week 2: Jan. 18-24

1. Read supplemental material posted on Beowulf and Old English Literature
2. Assign groups for group projects
3. Finish reading the Old English poems and Begin reading Beowulf
4. Due: Take first pass/fail quiz: Old English (open Jan 21, 11:00 PM to Jan.
   22, 11:00 PM). You must pass it for me to grade your discussion posts on
   Old English Literature.

Week 3: Jan. 25-31

1. Finish reading Beowulf
2. Due: First discussion post, Old English literature, poems (due Jan. 29,
   11:00 PM).
3. Sign up for your Oral reading assignment—sign-up instructions will be posted by the end of Week 2.

Week 4: Feb. 1-7

1. Due: Second discussion post, Old English literature, Beowulf (due Feb. 5, 11:00 PM)
2. Read any Old English material you have not reviewed.

Week 5: Feb. 8-14

1. Begin reading Sir Gawain and the Green Knight
2. Watch PowerPoint on Middle English Literature-Gawain, part 1
3. Due: Third discussion post, Old English, Beowulf (due Feb. 12, 11:00 PM)
4. Due: Oral Reading Assignment due this week—according to the day/time you signed up for.

Week 6: Feb. 15-21

1. Due: Group project, Part A (Old English chart), due Feb. 16, 11:00 PM in dropbox and discussion post
2. Read supplemental material posted on Gawain and Middle English Literature
3. Finish reading Sir Gawain and the Green Knight.
4. Due: Take second pass/fail quiz: Middle English literature—Gawain material. You must pass it for me to grade your discussion posts on Middle English, Gawain material (open on Feb. 18 11:00 PM and due by Feb. 19, 11:00 PM)

Week 7: Feb. 22-28

1. Read The Carle of Carlile
2. Due: Fourth discussion post, Middle English—Gawain, (due Feb. 26, 11:00 PM)

Week 8: Mar. 1-7

1. Read The Wedding of Sir Gawain and Dame Ragnelle
2. Due: Fifth discussion post, Middle English—Sir Gawain (due March 5, 11:00 PM)

SPRING BREAK: ENJOY
Week 9: Mar. 15-21

1. Due: Group project, Part B (Middle English—Gawain), due March 16, 11:00 PM in dropbox and discussion post
2. Read first group of Chaucer selections
3. Watch PowerPoint of Middle English Literature—Chaucer, Part 2
4. Due: Take third pass/fail quiz: Middle English literature—focus on Chaucer. You must pass it in order for me to grade your discussion posts on Middle English, Chaucer material (open March 18, 11:00 PM and due by March 19, 11:00 PM)
5. Essay questions options posted for class discussion/questions

Week 10: Mar. 22-28

1. Read second group of Chaucer selections
2. Due: Sixth discussion post, Middle English Literature--Chaucer (due March 26, 11:00 PM)
3. Assign/discuss selected readings required for final exam

Week 11: Mar. 29-Apr. 4

1. Read third group of Chaucer selections
2. Due: Seventh discussion post, Middle English—Chaucer (due April 2, 11:00 PM)

Week 12: Apr. 5-11

1. Due: Post thesis/proposed topic of major essay (due April 9, 11:00 PM)

Week 13: Apr. 12-18

1. Due: Group project, Part C, Middle English—Chaucer chart, due April 13, 11:00 PM in dropbox and discussion post
2. Continue readings for exam
3. Work on final essay

Week 14: Apr. 19-25

1. Finish readings for exam
2. Post questions about readings for class discussion and feedback

Week 15: Apr. 26-May 2

1. Exam Review
2. Due: Major essay due April 27, 11:00 PM in dropbox
Final Exam week:

**Please note: modifications and changes to this syllabus may be made to meet the needs of this specific course.**

**Computer Requirement:**

Each CSU student is required to have ready access throughout the semester to a notebook computer that meets faculty-approved hardware and software requirements for the student's academic program. Students will sign a statement attesting to such access. For further information on CSU's Official Notebook Computer Policy, please go to [http://itpchoice.clayton.edu/policy.htm](http://itpchoice.clayton.edu/policy.htm).

**Computer Skill Prerequisites:**

- Able to use the Windows™ operating system
- Able to use Microsoft Word™ word processing
- Able to send and receive e-mail using Outlook™ or Outlook Express™
- Able to attach and retrieve attached files via email

**GeorgiaVIEW Desire2Learn (Online Classroom):**

On-line activity will take place in Desire2Learn, the virtual classroom for the course.

You can gain access to Desire2Learn, by signing on to the SWAN portal and selecting “GaVIEW” on the top right side. If you experience any difficulties in Desire2Learn, please email or call The HUB at TheHub@mail.clayton.edu or (678) 466-HELP. You will need to provide the date and time of the problem, your SWAN username, the name of the course that you are attempting to access, and your instructor's name.

**General Policy:**

Students must abide by policies in the [Clayton State University Student Handbook](http://www.clayton.edu/support/information_services/student_relations/student_handbook.html), and the Basic Undergraduate Student Responsibilities.

**University Attendance Policy:**

Students are expected to attend and participate in every class week. Instructors establish specific policies relating to absences in their courses and communicate these policies to the students through the course syllabi. Individual instructors, based upon the nature of the course, determine what effect excused and unexcused absences have in determining grades and upon students’ ability to remain enrolled in their courses. The university reserves the right to determine that excessive absences, whether justified or not, are sufficient cause for institutional withdrawals or failing grades.
Course Attendance Policy

Students who do not watch the introductory PowerPoints, participate in the posts, and take the pass-fail quizzes will be perceived as not attending class. If you are not participating in the course actively (at least 3 times a week), I will not read/evaluate your final essay nor can you take the final exam.

Late Work and Plagiarism Policy:

- If discussion posts are one-two days late, they will only receive 50% of the possible points at the most. After two days late they will not be evaluated/assessed—the student will receive a zero.
- I will not read any posts if the student does not take the pass-fail quiz and pass it. The quiz must be taken during the given time frame—or else it will count as a “not taken/fail.”
- Points will be deducted for late papers. If the Major Essay paper is more than 5 days (including weekends) late it will not be accepted.
- The final examination must be taken in order to pass the class.
- PLEASE NOTE: Students will fail this class if they plagiarize any of their assigned papers or work (including discussion posts).

Please see me for any extenuating circumstances that make it difficult to hand-in your work in a timely fashion or to fulfill your attendance requirements.

Plagiarism Detection Software.

Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. The major papers are automatically submitted to Turnitin.com through the D2L dropbox. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. You should submit your papers in such a way that no identifying information about you is included.

Academic Dishonesty:

Any type of activity that is considered dishonest by reasonable standards may constitute academic misconduct. The most common forms of academic misconduct are cheating (including handing in one’s own paper that was written for another class) and plagiarism. As it states above, students will fail this class if they plagiarize any of their assigned papers or work. If you plagiarize on your project or cheat on the exam you will fail the class. All essays and papers not written in class must be submitted to Turnitin.com in order for it to count toward your grade. All instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Student Life/Judicial Affairs. Judicial procedures are described at http://adminservices.clayton.edu/judicial/.
Disruption of the Learning Environment:

Please turn off all electronic devices (cell phone, beepers, etc.) while you are in the classroom! Please take all earphones/buds out while you are in class.

Behavior which disrupts the teaching–learning process during class activities will not be tolerated. While a variety of behaviors can be disruptive in a classroom setting, more serious examples include belligerent, abusive, profane, and/or threatening behavior. A student who fails to respond to reasonable faculty direction regarding classroom behavior and/or behavior while participating in classroom activities may be dismissed from class. A student who is dismissed is entitled to due process and will be afforded such rights as soon as possible following dismissal. If found in violation, a student may be administratively withdrawn and may receive a grade of WF.

A more detailed description of examples of disruptive behavior and appeal procedures is provided at:

http://a-s.clayton.edu/DisruptiveClassroomBehavior.htm

Writing Assistance:

The Writers’ Studio 224 is located in the A&S building, room 224. There you can talk with trained writing consultants about your writing projects. They are available to work with you at any stage of your paper, from generating ideas to organizing your paper to understanding how to format it correctly. The service is free; you may drop in and wait for a consultant or sign up for a regular appointment. But remember: you, not your consultant, are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the papers you submit.

Aside from meeting with consultants one-with-one, you can also participate in writing workshops. In these workshops, faculty and consultants will guide you in discussions and activities important to academic writing topics. You will be identify, analyze, integrate, and synthesize writing principles through a series of writing exercises. Remember that we are here to collaborate with you as you develop your own experiences as a student-writer.

Visit our website for more information: http://clayton.edu/writersstudio.

There you will find a link to register for appointments online: http://clayton.mywconline.com

You will need to do a one-time registration. Simply click on the “Click here to register” link once at MYWCONLINE.

Operation Study: At Clayton State University, we expect and support high motivation and academic achievement. Look for Operation Study activities and programs this semester that are designed to enhance your academic success such as study sessions, study breaks, workshops, and opportunities to earn Study Bucks (for use in the University Bookstore) and other items.