

English 260, section 1
Spring 2004
MWF 1:50-2:50
Palmer 208

Daniel Gates
Office: Palmer 310, x3141
gatesd@rhodes.edu
Office hrs: M-Th 3-4 & by appt.

Survey of English Literature I

This course has two main goals:

First, it aims to introduce you to the history of literature written in English, from Beowulf to the eighteenth century. As you read several important works from medieval and early modern literature, you will become more familiar with this literature's genres (like epic and romance) and some of the topics it addresses (like heroism and gender).

This course is also intended to give you more practice in doing close analyses of literature, paying attention not only to the content of a text but also to the texture of its language and its figures of speech. Ideally, in this course you will learn not only about the broad expanse of history, but you will also develop your ability to read closely and carefully.

Required text: The Norton Anthology of English Literature, vol. 1 (7th ed.)

Recommended text: John R. Trimble, Writing with Style (2nd ed.)

Course requirements:

| | |
|------------------------|-----|
| Three essays (4-5 pp.) | 60% |
| Quizzes | 10% |
| Midterm | 10% |
| Final | 10% |
| Participation | 10% |

On quizzes: I will examine you on your comprehension of the reading often over the course of the semester.

On participation: A class is a collaborative enterprise. You are expected to read assignments before class and to be ready to discuss them. You must also post responses to the web-based course discussion board at least five times over the course of the semester (twice by Feb. 9). You and a partner must also take responsibility for starting the class discussion once; I will give you a handout detailing this assignment within the first week of the semester.

Policies:

Absences: You are allowed two unexcused absences with no questions asked. After that, unless you can get an official excuse for your absence, your absences will affect your final grade. Missing more than six classes is grounds for failing the course. If you feel that you will not be able to satisfy this course requirement, you should schedule a meeting with me as soon as possible.

Late work: All papers must be turned in on time. Late papers will lose one-third of the grade for each day they are late. That is, a B becomes a B-, and so forth.

Tardiness: Repeatedly arriving late to class may harm your participation grade. Please come to class on time with your book. Also, if you come to class without your book, I reserve the right to dismiss you from class.

Disabilities: If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services as soon as possible.

Also, please note the “Expectations and Policies” statement on the back page of the syllabus.

Schedule of assignments:

| | | |
|---|---------|---|
| W | Jan. 14 | Introduction |
| F | 16 | Introduction to Old English literature (4-6, 19-20); <u>Beowulf</u> (29-60) |
| M | 19 | no class (MLK) |
| W | 21 | <u>Beowulf</u> (60-99) |
| F | 23 | <u>Beowulf</u> ; <u>The Wanderer</u> (99-102) |
| M | 26 | <u>Lanval</u> (126-40); The <u>Ancrene Riwe</u> (153-55) |
| W | 28 | Introduction to the fourteenth century (10-12); <u>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</u> , parts 1 and 2 (up to l. 762) |
| F | 30 | <u>SGGK</u> parts 2 (from l. 763) and 3 (up to l. 1892) |
| M | Feb. 2 | <u>SGGK</u> , parts 3 (from l. 1893) and 4 |
| W | 4 | The General Prologue to the <u>Canterbury Tales</u> , ll. 1-232 (210-20); <u>Piers Plowman</u> (317-22) |
| F | 6 | The General Prologue to the <u>Canterbury Tales</u> , ll. 233-860 (220-35) |
| M | 9 | The Miller’s Prologue and Tale (235-52) |
| W | 11 | The Wife of Bath’s Prologue (253-72) |
| F | 13 | The Wife of Bath’s Tale (272-81); essay 1 due |
| M | 16 | The <u>Book of Margery Kempe</u> (366-79) |
| W | 18 | Introduction to the sixteenth century (469-96) |

| | | |
|--------------|--------|---|
| F | 20 | <u>Everyman</u> (445-67) |
| M | 23 | <u>Doctor Faustus</u> , prologue-chorus 2 (990-1009) |
| W | 25 | <u>Doctor Faustus</u> , scene 7-epilogue (1009-23) |
| F | 27 | Midterm |
| M | Mar. 1 | <u>FQ</u> I.i (628-41) |
| W | 3 | <u>FQ</u> , Summary of Book II; <u>FQ</u> III.i and III.vi (783-800, 826-39), and read the summaries of III.ii-v |
| F | 5 | <u>FQ</u> , Summaries of III.vii-x (839); III.xi-xii (840-63) |
| Spring Break | | |
| M | 15 | Castiglione (577-79); Sidney, <u>Astrophil and Stella</u> , Sonnets 1, 2, 45 |
| W | 17 | <u>Twelfth Night</u> |
| F | 19 | <u>TN</u> |
| M | 22 | <u>TN</u> |
| W | 24 | <u>TN</u> |
| F | 26 | Introduction to the early seventeenth century (1209-30); Donne, <u>An Anatomy of the World</u> (1262-68); essay 2 due |
| M | 29 | Marvell, "An Horatian Ode" |
| W | 31 | Milton, <u>Paradise Lost</u> |
| F | Apr. 2 | <u>PL</u> |
| M | 5 | <u>PL</u> |
| W | 7 | <u>PL</u> |
| F | 9 | no class (Easter Recess) |
| M | 12 | <u>PL</u> |
| W | 14 | <u>PL</u> |
| F | 16 | Introduction to the Restoration and Eighteenth Century (2045-68); Dryden, "Annus Mirabilis" (2071-74) |
| M | 19 | Equiano, <u>The Life of Olaudah Equiano</u> (2812-17); Behn, <u>Oroonoko</u> (2165-67, 2170-88) |
| W | 21 | Behn, <u>Oroonoko</u> (2188-2215) |
| F | 23 | Swift, <u>Gulliver's Travels</u> , Part 1, chapters 1-3 |
| M | 26 | Swift, <u>Gulliver's Travels</u> , Part 1, chapters 4-8; essay 3 due |
| W | 28 | no class (Awards Convocation Undergraduate Research & Creative Activity Symposium) |
| F | 30 | Goldsmith, <u>The Deserted Village</u> (2857-67) |

Final Exam