

“Literature in the Social Sphere”
English 251 British Literature I
Section 19992 Autumn 2003

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Tuesday & Thursday 12.30 - 1.45
118 South Engineering
Office Hours: 2-3.00 PM TTh
and by appointment

www.ndsu.edu/ndsu/maune and <http://blackboard.ndsu.nodak.edu>

Objectives

This course is designed to introduce you to a great historical range of literature in English, beginning roughly in the eleventh century with *Beowulf* and concluding in the late seventeenth century with John Milton's *Paradise Lost*. We will trouble ourselves in particular with the social contexts of writing in English through the six hundred years covered by this course.

Requirements and Methods

Because of the great range of writing covered by this course and the comparatively large number of students, the dominant mode of this course will be lecture/discussion. My lectures will be open in that I expect you to interrupt me with questions and comments and I will pause regularly to address questions to you. I will occasionally introduce texts not assigned for homework. The specific work you are expected to complete includes a mid-term and a final exam, a miscellany project, and ten quizzes. Details of these assignments can be found below.

Grading

Scale (Grade book available at Blackboard site)

Midterm exam 100 points	A	100-90 %
10 Quizzes 100 points	B	89-80 %
Final exam 100 points	C	79-70 %
Participation 50 points	D	69-60 %
Miscellany Project 100 points		
Total 450 points		

Texts

The Norton Anthology of English Literature, 7th Edition, Volume 1
A dictionary (bring to every class)

Students with Special Needs

Any students with disabilities or other special needs that need special accommodations in this course are asked to share these concerns with me as soon as possible.

Academic Honesty

I assume that all work you turn in for this course is yours, and any material that you have acquired from an outside source is documented properly. Failure to do so is considered

plagiarism and will result in possible failure of the course. See NDSU University Senate Policy, Section 335: Code of Academic Responsibility and Conduct <http://www.ndsu.nodak.edu/policy/335.htm>.

Late Papers

Late papers will lose ten points per day until they are turned in. You are responsible for turning in all work assigned in this class. Failure to do so will result in failing this class.

Attendance and Participation

Prompt and consistent attendance is an important part of this course. Not only are you responsible for material covered in class, you are responsible for actively participating in each class meeting. Coming late is disruptive to discussion and especially to group work. If something does happen you must contact me, via phone, answering machine or email within 24 hours. You are still responsible for what happened in a missed class.

Participation includes not only contributing to class discussion, it also covers prompt attendance, listening and responding constructively to your classmates, attending class prepared to discuss the readings, and bringing your books to every class meeting.

Paper Format

Unless otherwise noted, all assignments are to be type-written, double-spaced, with one-inch margins, in twelve-point Times font. Your name, the date, the class, my name and the assignment are to be at the top of the first page. Don't forget to title your work. Any papers longer than one page must have page numbers and be stapled.

Quizzes

These will be unannounced, handed out at the beginning of the class period and collected after fifteen minutes. If you miss a quiz, you may not make it up. The questions will be short answer and based on the homework and lecture material.

Mid-term and Final Exams

The mid-term exam will cover the material up to and including week eight. It will have three parts, a take-home essay due on the day of the exam, short answer, identification of quotes and excerpts. The final exam will cover material from week nine until the end of the course. It will also include a take home portion, a short answer, and identification.

Poetical Miscellany Project

We will spend some time talking about and examining poetical miscellanies in class. Briefly, a miscellany is a collection of poetry (and sometimes bits of prose) from a variety of different sources and poets. Miscellanies were very popular in Renaissance and Restoration England. For this project, you will collect thirty poems from the time period we will be covering (ca. 800 to 1688). The poems may come from our textbook or somewhere else. You must preface your miscellany with a letter to the reader, which will explain your rationale (a theme or focus) for the poems you chose. You must also have a title page and title, and a table of contents. You are

required to hand in a hard copy and a copy on disk for posting on-line. (You may add answer poems or your own poetry, but these will be counted in addition to the primary thirty.)

Calendar

While I have not noted it, I expect you to read the relevant introductions and section heads for each assignment.

Week 1 26 - 28 August

Introductions “The Wanderer”

Beowulf 1-835

Week 2 2-4 September

Beowulf 2631-3180

Week 3 9-11 September

Geoffrey Chaucer, *The Canterbury Tales*, General Prologue and the Miller’s Prologue and Tale

Week 4 16-18 September

Geoffrey Chaucer, *The Canterbury Tales*, The Wife of Bath’s Prologue and Tale

Week 5 23-25 September

Wakefield Second Shepherd’s Play

Week 6 30 September – 2 October

Sir Thomas Wyatt, Whoso List to Hunt, My lute, awake!, Mine own John Pains; Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, The Soote Season, Love that Doth Reign, Wyatt Resteth Here

Read through *Songes and Sonettes* (downloadable from website) and complete questionnaire

Week 7 7-9 October

Sir Philip Sidney, *Defense of Poesy*, *Astrophil and Stella* 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 108;
Edmund Spenser, *The Shepherdes Calender*

Week 8 14-16 October

Edmund Spenser, *The Shepherdes Calender*
Midterm Exam (Thursday)

Week 9 21-23 October

Christopher Marlow, *Doctor Faustus*

Week 10 28 - 30 October

Christopher Marlow, *Doctor Faustus*

Week 11 4-6 November

Ben Jonson, To William Camden, On Lucy..., To Penshurst,

Song: To Celia, To the Memory of My Beloved...
Read through *Passionate Pilgrime* and complete questionnaire.

Week 12 13 November

11 November: Veterans' Day, no class
John Donne, The Flea, Song, The Bait

Week 13 18-20 November

John Donne, the Canonization, Air and Angels,
A Valediction: Of Weeping, Love's Alchemy, A Nocturnal upon St. Lucy's..., A
Valediction: Forbidding Mourning, Elegy 19, Holy Sonnet 14, Good Friday, 1613

Week 14 25 November

27 November: Thanksgiving, no class
Travel Writing (material I will distribute)

Week 15 2-4 December

George Herbert, The Altar, Easter Wings, The Windows, Affliction (1);
Henry Vaughan, Regeneration, The World; Richard Crashaw, To the Infant Martyrs, I am
the Door

Week 16 9-11 December

John Milton, *Paradise Lost*
Miscellany due

15 December Final Exam (7.30 am – 9.30 am)

Subject to Revision