ENGLISH 200A

Survey of British Literature: I

Fall 1988
Section 04
MWF 10:30; HH 139
Section 05
MWF 12:30; HH 139
Office Hours: MTWRF 1:30-2:30, or by appointment

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Course Description

An historical survey of major figures, types, and trends in British literature from the Middle Ages to the late eighteenth century.

Required Texts

The Norton Anthology of English Literature. 5th ed. (Major Authors Ed.).

Recommended Texts

W.K. Thomas. Correct Form in Essay Writing.
Any good college dictionary.

Course Requirements

Two essays of five or six double-spaced typewritten pages (or the equivalent in handwriting), to be assigned. These two essays will account for approximately 40% of the final grade. (Other details will be provided later.) You are asked to read carefully the leaflet "Plagiarism: What It Is and How to Avoid It."

One three-hour final examination: The final examination will account for approximately 40% of the final grade. (Other details will be provided later.)

(The remaining 20% of the final grade will be determined by the instructor on the basis of tests or other factors that will be discussed later.)

Assignments

All assignments listed below are in the Norton Anthology.

Please note: The Norton Anthology provides an Introduction for each author which should be read at the time the author's works are studied.

One Meeting: Introduction to the course

Three meetings: Beowulf

1. Beowulf (to p. 44)
2. Beowulf (to p. 57)
3. **Beowulf** (concluded)

**Five meetings: Chaucer**

1. General Prologue to *Canterbury Tales* (begun)
2. General Prologue to *Canterbury Tales* (concluded)
3. Wife of Bath's Prologue
4. Wife of Bath's Tale
5. Pardoner's Prologue and Tale

**Four meetings: Spenser**

1. *Faerie Queene*: "A Letter of the Authors"; Cantos I and II
2. *Faerie Queene*: Cantos III and IV (Omit Canto V.)
3. *Faerie Queene*: Cantos VI, VII, and VIII
4. *Faerie Queene*: Cantos IX, XI, and XII (Omit Canto X.)

**Four meetings: Marlowe (The Tragical History of the Life and Death of Dr. Faustus)**

1-4. Please read the play in its entirety before we begin to study it.

**Four meetings: Shakespeare (The First Part of King Henry the Fourth)**

1-4. Please read the play in its entirety before we begin to study it.

**Five meetings: Milton**

1. *Paradise Lost*: Book I
2. *Paradise Lost*: Book II
3. *Paradise Lost*: through Book IV (p. 758)
4. *Paradise Lost*: through Book IX
5. *Paradise Lost* (concluded)

**Four meetings: Swift**

1. *Gulliver's Travels*: "Letter from Captain Gulliver . . ."; "The Publisher to the Reader"; Part I (begun)
2. *Gulliver's Travels*: Part I
4. *Gulliver's Travels*: Part IV

**Three meetings: Pope**

1. "Rape of the Lock," Canto I
2. "Rape of the Lock," Cantos II and III
3. "Rape of the Lock," Cantos IV and V

Please note: It may be necessary to omit or shorten one or two assignments.