ENGLISH 200A (03) & AH (03)

Survey of British Literature 1

— Syllabus —

Fall 1991

M.A. Gerhardstein

A. Texts

Fielding, Joseph Andrews (Riverside)
Congreve, The Way of the World (Nebraska)

B. Purpose of the Course

Together, English 200A and 200B are intended to give that overview of English literature from the Middle Ages to the present which is an essential aspect of every English student's undergraduate education. The courses provide an introduction to the major periods of English literature through an examination of some of the most significant of the writers, the trends and movements, and the ideas involved. English 200A, the first half of the course, deals with the earlier four of the major periods: the Middle Ages (to 1485), the Sixteenth Century (1485-1603), the Early Seventeenth Century (1603-1660), and the Restoration and Eighteenth Century (1660-1798).

C. Requirements of the Course

Students are expected to study the assigned literary works and editorial materials in advance and to be prepared to participate in class discussion.

Written requirements include two essays (5 or 6 typed pages each); a midterm examination covering the material from Beowulf through Shakespeare; and a final examination, covering the material of the course as a whole. In the calculation of the course grade, the following weights will be assigned: essays, 20% each; midterm exam, 20%; final exam, 40%.

D. Course Schedule

I. The Middle Ages: To 1485 (Sept. 10-26)

Period Introduction, pp. 1-18

Beowulf, pp. 19-72

Chaucer: Author Introduction, pp. 72-78; General Prologue, pp. 79-100; The Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale, pp. 117-146; The Nun's Priest's Tale, pp. 163-178
II. The Sixteenth Century: 1485-1603 (Oct. 1-15)

Period Introduction, pp. 239-259

Shakespeare: Author Introduction, pp. 484-486; Sonnets 18, 29, 30, 55, 71, 73, 87, 94, 116, 129, 130, 146, pp. 490-503; 1 Henry IV, pp. 503-574

III. The Early Seventeenth Century: 1603-1660 (Oct. 22-Nov. 7)

Period Introduction, pp. 575-583

Donne: Author Introduction, pp. 586-589; The Good-Morrow, p. 589; The Flea, pp. 597-598; The Blossom, pp. 604-605; Holy Sonnets 7, 9, 10, 14, pp. 615-617

Milton: Author Introduction, pp. 647-649; Paradise Lost, pp. 677-823

IV. The Restoration and Eighteenth Century: 1660-1798 (Nov. 12-Dec. 3)

Period Introduction, pp. 825-846

Congreve, The Way of the World

Swift: Author Introduction, pp. 890-893; Gulliver’s Travels, pp. 915-1078

Pope: Author Introduction, pp. 1085-1090; The Rape of the Lock, pp. 1108-1128; Essay on Man, pp. 1130-1138

Fielding: Joseph Andrews

E. Schedule of Essays and Examinations

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 17</td>
<td>Midterm examination</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 29</td>
<td>Essay #1 due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 3</td>
<td>Essay #2 due</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Final examination</td>
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Note: Not all of the assigned works will be discussed in class. Times given to each period may vary somewhat from their indications on this syllabus.