ENGL200A British Literature
Fall 2007 RCH 301
Prof. Sarah Tolmie

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Office Hours Tue/Thur 10:20-11:20
Hagey Hall 266
University extension 36795
e-mail stolmiec@watarts.uwaterloo.ca

This course is designed as a survey of literatures in the British isles from the early medieval period until the eighteenth century. It is meant to provide students with a brief introduction to the enormous range of styles, subjects, forms — and to some extent languages — of poetry and prose, in manuscript and then in print, available to the reader before 1800.

Required Textbook
*The Longman Anthology of British Literature* Third Edition (3 vols)

Work required and mark breakdown
Essay #1 (1000 words, bibliography of two items, MLA style) **due 11 October** 25%
Essay #2 (1500 words, bibliography of three items, MLA style) **due 15 November** 30%
Midterm test (1.5 hours) 15%
Exam 30%

*Teaching Assistants* on this course will also have separate office hours; students in their sections of tutorial are encouraged to approach the TA first with questions or concerns, but are free to attend the professor’s office hours at any time. Grading for the course will be performed by the tutorial leaders. In the event of any grade dispute arising that cannot be resolved between TA and student, the professor will read the work concerned and assign a final mark.

*Teaching Assistants and their Office Hours*
Craig Love, PAS 2222 Thur 11:30-12:20
David Shakespeare
Maria O’Brien PAS 2218 Thur 2:30-4:00
Danila Sokolov

*Essays*
Essay questions for the two short essays required on the course will be distributed in class, but students are free to devise topics independently, provided that they are approved by their tutorial leader. Each essay must show evidence of some secondary reading, preferably scholarly articles from journals; only one source on any bibliography can be from the internet. Essays must be formatted throughout according to MLA style as outlined in the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* or summarized in any of
the student writing guides such as the *Little Brown Handbook*. Essays will be marked for correctness of grammar, presentation and citation as well as intellectual content.

**Midterm Test**
This will occupy one class period on 23 October and cover all of the material up to that date. It will be in short essay format with a choice of questions.

**Exam**
This will occur during the final examination period and cover all of the course content.

**University Policies**
University policy on plagiarism is appended: plagiarized essays will receive a grade of zero and may result in further academic penalty. Students who believe that they have been wrongfully or unjustly penalized have the right to grieve; see Policy #70, Student Grievance (http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm). The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities. If you require academic accommodations (such as alternate test and exam arrangements) please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term and inform the course instructor.

**Schedule of classes (may be subject to revision)**

Classes will be lecture format, but will also include class discussion and close reading of texts. Please bring the textbook each time and do as much reading as possible in advance. Page numbers below are from the *Longman Anthology*.

11 September introduction to the course; the English canon; heroic culture

18 September the romance genre; British mythological history; King Arthur
Readings: Geoffrey of Monmouth 164-175, Thomas Malory 259-69; 279-89

25 September satire and public life; Geoffrey Chaucer 193-98; *The Canterbury Tales*

2 October Chaucer: *The Pardoner's Prologue and Tale*
Readings: *The Pardoner's Tale* 432-43
TA lecture: Maria O'Brien

9 October sonnets and the career of poetry; versification
Readings: Wyatt 696-99; Surrey 706, 708, 712; Spenser 980-83; Sidney 1036-1041; Shakespeare 1276-1280
TA lectures: Craig Love, Danila Sokolov
ESSAY #1 DUE IN TUTORIAL THIS WEEK

16 October
religion and controversy; vernacular mysticism and social protest;
Reformation
Readings: Julian of Norwich 509-23, William Tynedale 790-92,
John Foxe 800-03, John Bunyan 1107-14, Elizabeth I 1114-21,
The King James Bible 1101-03

23 October
MIDTERM TEST

30 October
ever modern drama; staging; Shakespeare’s theatrical career
Readings: The Tempest Acts 1-3
TA lecture: David Shakespeare

6 November
tavel writing; Shakespeare and the New World
Readings: The Tempest Acts 4-5, Sir Walter Raleigh 1239-1250,
Strachey and Montaigne 1400-1408

13 November
neoclassicism; the pastoral; Puritanism; John Milton
Readings: Lycidas 1806-11
ESSAY #2 DUE IN TUTORIAL THIS WEEK

20 November
urban life and popular media; scientific discourse; Samuel Johnson
2858-61; James Boswell
Readings: Tatler, Spectator, Rambler, Idler 2462-72; 2872-7;
2880-86, Johnson’s Dictionary 2902-10; Boswell, London Journal
2944-54

27 November
Exam Review