ENGL200A British Literature  
Fall 2009 MW 10:30-11:20 MC 1056  
Prof. Sarah Tolmie

CONTACT INFORMATION:  
Prof. Tolmie  
Office Hours MW 2:00-3:00  
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Course Description  
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 and forms of poetry and prose, in manuscript and then in print, available to the reader before 1800.

Course Objectives  
By the end of this course you will have gained a sense of the historical development of English literature from c. 1000-1750 AD and learned appropriate technical vocabulary to describe its changing genres and forms.

Required Textbook  

Work required and mark breakdown  
Essay #1 (1000 words, bibliography of two items, MLA style) due 30 October 25%  
Essay #2 (1500 words, bibliography of two items, MLA style) due 4 December 30%  
Midterm test (50 minutes) 14 October 15%  
Exam  30%

Lateeness policy  
Essays must be passed in directly to tutorial leaders on the due date. Late essays will be penalized 10% (a letter grade) automatically and will not be accepted after one week past the deadline, resulting in a grade of zero for the assignment. Extensions can be granted only for documented illness. Essays can also be passed in to the English department drop box in Hagey Hall, addressed to the tutorial leader, the day before the due date in the event that a student cannot attend tutorial. Material in the drop box will be date-stamped. Marked essays will be returned in tutorials.

Turnitin.com  
All essays in the course must be submitted electronically to tutorial leaders for plagiarism screening at turnitin.com as well as on paper. **Electronic submission must be by 5 pm on the essay due date or late penalty will ensue, even if paper copies have been handed in.**
Missed exams or midterms
The examination will take place during the final exam period and cannot be rescheduled. Student travel plans do not constitute grounds for moving the examination date. The midterm test can only be rescheduled if a doctor’s note is provided.

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’ Contact and Office Hours

David Arthur  daarthur@uwaterloo.ca  PAS 1060 M/W 11:30-12:00
Jessica Antonio  jantonio@uwaterloo.ca  PAS 1217 F 9:30-10:30
Meredith Quinn Powell  mqpowell@uwaterloo.ca  PAS 1064 Wed 1:30-3:30

Tutorial Sections (Fridays)

101 - 10:30-11:20  HH 123  Sarah Tolmie
106 - 10:30-11:20  HH 345  Jessica Antonio
102 - 11:30-12:20  HH 123  David Arthur
107 - 11:30-12:20  HH 345  Jessica Antonio
103 - 12:30-1:20  HH 345  David Arthur
104 - 1:30-2:20  HH 123  Meredith Powell
105 - 2:30-3:20  HH 123  Meredith Powell

Description of Course Assignments

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 leaders. 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 14 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. It will be in essay and short essay format.

University Policies

**Academic Integrity:** in order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, [http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm)

**Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, [http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm)

**Appeals:** A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals, [http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm)

**Accommodations for Persons with Disabilities**
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 and topics**

**page numbers below are from the Norton anthology, 8th edition**

**Week 1**
M Sept 14 The British canon; introduction to Old English literature; Caedmon’s Hymn 25-27
W 16 Old English literature and heroic culture: The Old English *Judith* 100-08; The Old Irish *Exile of the Sons of Uisliu* 129-38

**Week 2**
M 21 Geoffrey Chaucer; *The Canterbury Tales*; The General Prologue 218-25
W 23 The Canterbury Prologue: The Host and the Pardoner 236-38

**Week 3**
M 28 *The Canterbury Tales*: The Pardoner’s Prologue 284-88
W 30 *The Canterbury Tales*: The Pardoner’s Tale 288-98

**Week 4**
M Oct 5 Thomas Malory: *Morte Darthur* 439-55
W 7 TA Lecture, Meredith Quinn Powell: *Morte Darthur*

**Week 5**
M 12 THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS
W 14 MIDTERM TEST

**Week 6**
M 19 Sonnets and the career of poetry: Thomas Wyatt 594-97, 599-600 and Henry Howard 608-09, 612-13
W 21 Edmund Spenser: *The Faerie Queene*, Book One, Cantos 1-5

**Week 7**
M 26 Spenser: *The Faerie Queene*, Book One, Cantos 1-5
W 28 Sir Walter Ralegh 917-26
F 30 ESSAY #1 DUE IN TUTORIAL

**Week 8**
M Nov 2 Sir Philip Sidney: *The Defense of Poetry* 953-74; sonnets 975-78, 982
W 4 Shakespeare’s sonnets 1060-65, 1073-74

**Week 9**
M 9 John Donne: 1263, 1266-67, 1271, 1275, 1276, 1283, 1295-98
W 11 Katherine Philips 1690-95; Andrew Marvell 1703-1710

**Week 10**
M 16 John Milton: *Paradise Lost*, Book 1
W 18 TA Lecture, David Arthur: *Paradise Lost*, Book 1

**Week 11**
M 23 *Paradise Lost*, Book 4
W 25 TA Lecture, Jessica Antonio: Addison and Steele 2470-78, 2485-88; Francis Burney 2811-15, 2822-27
Week 12
W 2 Dec EXAM REVIEW
F 4 Dec ESSAY # 2 DUE IN TUTORIAL