English 208H

Arthurian Legend

Winter 1988
Section 01
MWF 10:30; Phy 308
Instructor: W.U. Ober
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Office Hours: MTWRF 1:30-2:30 or by appointment.

Course Description

The story of Arthur and his knights of the Round Table will be discussed as it is treated at various times in various works and genres. Such matters will be considered as the character of Arthur, the concept of Camelot, and the Fellowship of the Round Table.

Required Texts


Alfred, Lord Tennyson. Idylls of the King. Signet.

Recommended Texts

W.K. Thomas. Correct Form in Essay Writing.

Any good college dictionary such as the latest Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary.

Course Requirements

One essay of eight double-spaced typewritten pages (or the equivalent in handwriting), to be assigned. The essay 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

The selections listed below will be studied in the following order. Please make an effort to read each selection in its entirety before we begin to study it.


Two meetings: "The Tale of Culhwch and Olwen"—Wilhelm and Gross, pp. 27-55.

Two meetings: "Arthur in Geoffrey of Monmouth"—Wilhelm and Gross, pp. 57-86.

Four meetings: Chrétien's Lancelot, or the Knight of the Cart—Wilhelm and Gross, pp. 89-150.

Four meetings: Chrétien's Perceval—Loomis, pp. 3-87.

Four meetings: Gottfried's Tristan and Isolt—Loomis, pp. 88-232.

Four meetings: Sir Gawain and the Green Knight—Wilhelm and Gross, pp. 157-209.


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