



HL1002

Survey of English Literature I





Welcome to HL1002! This course will introduce you to more than a millennium of English literature, from the monsters of *Beowulf* to the exuberant digressions of Laurence Sterne's *The Life and Adventures of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman*. We will examine a wide range of mostly canonical works in their historical context, paying particular attention to their influence on later literature. The readings will lead us to important questions about the nature of literature and how it changes over time, what it means to talk about 'English' literature, and the relationship between literature and history.

UNIT ONE: OLD ENGLISH

Week 1: National Day: class does not meet

Week 2: Introduction to Old English: Elegy, Heroism, and Religion

Bede on 'Caedmon's Hymn'

'The Battle of Maldon'

'The Dream of the Rood'

Week 3: *Beowulf*

Beowulf



UNIT TWO: MIDDLE ENGLISH

Week 4: Introduction to Middle English Literature: Multilingualism

Marie de France, *Lanval*

optional texts: 'De amico ad amicam' and 'Responcio'

Week 5: The *Gawain*-Poet

first short paper due in lecture

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight

Week 6: Chaucer

Chaucer, 'The Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale'

optional text: 'General Prologue' to *The Canterbury Tales*



UNIT THREE: RENAISSANCE LITERATURE

Week 7: Renaissance Sonnets

second short paper due in lecture

Wyatt, 'Whoso list to hunt' and Petrarch, 'Rima 190'

Surrey, 'Alas! so all things now do hold their peace' and Petrarch, Rima 164'

Sidney, Astrophil and Stella, sonnets 1, 6, 28, 31, 33, 37, 45, 47, 61, 69, 71, 72, 81, and 108, and songs 4 and 11

Recess Week

Week 8: The Fairie Queene

Spenser, *The Faerie Queene*, Book 1 (skim cantos 3 and 6; read the rest)

Week 9: Shakespeare

2000-word essay due on Turnitin by 11.59pm before lecture day

Shakespeare, *Twelfth Night*



UNIT FOUR: RESTORATION LITERATURE AND THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

Week 10: Introduction to Restoration Literature: *Paradise Lost*

Milton, *Paradise Lost*, Book I, 1-330; Book II, 299-485 and 629-1055; Book III, 1-302; Book IV, 1-408 and 440-491; Book IX, 192-1189; Book X, 452-577 and 706-1104; Book XII, 466-649
optional (Renaissance) text: Lanyer, 'Eve's Apology in Defense of Women'

Week 11: Swift, Pope, Defoe

Defoe, extracts from *A Journal of the Plague year*
Swift, 'A Modest Proposal'
Pope, 'The Rape of the Lock'

Week 12: Conclusion and Revision

Week 13: Deepavali: class does not meet



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Course Text:

Texts will be made available online. *The Norton Anthology of English Literature* (any recent edition) is recommended for introductions to the texts and periods covered.

Assessment:

Essay (2000 words)	40%
Exam	50%
Participation, including two short papers	10%

As the major written assignment for this course, your essay will be submitted through Turnitin. Please include a declaration stating: 'This paper represents my own work in accordance with University regulations. I include proper academic references to all my sources.' You do not have to submit a paper copy unless requested by your tutor.

Course Policies:

Attendance and Participation:

barring documented illness or emergencies, you must attend every lecture and tutorial. You must arrive on time, having done the required readings and any assigned work, and be ready to participate in the class



discussion. Failure to do so will reduce your participation grade significantly. If you must miss a class, please give your tutor as much notice as possible.

Late Work and Extensions:

if your essay is late, it will be marked down by one third of a grade (i.e. an A- to a B+) for each day that it is overdue. If you think that you will have to submit your essay late, please speak to your tutor as soon as possible. We would rather know the situation than be surprised and disappointed by a missing essay!

Seeking Help Outside Class:

you are encouraged to use any form of legitimate aid to help you write papers and research topics that interest you. Obvious sources of legitimate assistance include your tutors, the writing coaches at the LCC Communication Cube, and the subject librarians at the library. When meeting with tutors, you should prepare specific questions about your work in order to make the most of your time together. Tutors are not expected to read more than one draft per assignment.

Plagiarism, Academic Dishonesty, and Generative AI:

Don't do it! If your tutors or I find that you have misrepresented someone else's work, including that of generative AI, as your own, you will fail the assignment and possibly the course. If you are unsure of how or when to cite a source, please refer to the university's academic integrity resources or ask your tutor. Please do not rely on generative AI: in learning to write well, you are also learning to think clearly.

Questions?

Feel free to come to me or to your tutor if you have any questions. Most importantly, if you feel that you're falling behind in the course for any reason, *please talk to one of us*. The sooner we discuss any obstacles to your success in this class, the more likely it is that we will be able to fix them!