

English 211, English Literature I
Spring 2021
TR 3:30-4:45
CCC 101

Dr. Wade Mahon
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Office hrs: TR 2-3, or by appt.

Syllabus

Required Text: *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*, 10th ed., vols. A, B, and C.
Geoffrey Chaucer. *The Canterbury Tales*. Ed./Trans. A. Kent Hieatt and Constance Hieatt.

Overview: This course is a broad survey of English literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the end of the 18th century. Our goals include:

- familiarity with the literary history, major themes, literary forms, and major authors of this period,
- greater experience in interpreting, discussing, and writing about literature,
- an appreciation of the development of the English language, and
- critical consideration and discussion of themes that are still relevant to our world today.

These goals are key components of a liberal arts education and its end of providing students with a broad foundation of cultural knowledge. We will try to accomplish these goals through reading assignments, class discussions, lectures, short writing assignments, quizzes, and exams.

Requirements: You will be expected to complete all reading assignments by the day they are due and turn in any homework related to the readings. You will also be expected to participate in class discussions. Daily reading assignments will be available on Canvas. PowerPoints, handouts, and other materials will be saved on Canvas.

Grades:

- Essay (500 pts): At least 1 short paper. There will be two paper assignments, one focused on literature before 1600 due right after Spring Break and one focused on literature between 1600 and 1800 due on the Final Exam date. You may choose to turn in one or both of these papers. If you turn in both papers, I will keep the higher of the two grades.

- Participation (500 pts): There are 3 components of this grade:

Weekly Quizzes (210 pts): There will be brief weekly reading quizzes (total of 14). These 15-question quizzes will help assess reading comprehension.

Reading Responses (150 pts): There will be 1-2 reading responses each week. One will be a question related to the reading, and the other will be a quotation from the reading that you think is significant or note-worthy.

Attendance and in-class participation (140 pts): Consistent attendance is required in order to receive a B in this category. Participation includes asking relevant questions, offering constructive observations, staying on-task in class activities, etc.

Your final grade average will be computed in the following manner:

Paper	500
Participation	<u>500</u>
Total	1000 points

Semester Calendar

<p>Jan. 26—Course Introduction Jan. 28—Bede, Anglo-Saxon poetry, oral tradition</p> <p>Feb. 2—<i>Beowulf</i> Feb. 4—<i>Beowulf</i></p> <p>Feb. 9—Anglo-Norman England, <i>Sir Gawain</i> Feb. 11—<i>Sir Gawain</i></p> <p>Feb. 16—Chaucer, <i>Prologue to the Canterbury Tales</i> Feb. 18—Chaucer, <i>The Miller’s Tale</i></p> <p>Feb. 23—Chaucer, <i>Wife of Bath’s Tale</i> Feb. 25—More, <i>Utopia</i></p> <p>Mar. 2—More, <i>Utopia</i> Mar. 4—Sonnets: Howard, Surrey</p> <p>Mar. 9—Sonnets: Sidney, Spenser, Shakespeare Mar. 11—Shakespeare, <i>Othello</i></p> <p>Mar. 16—Shakespeare, <i>Othello</i> Mar. 18—Online Draft Workshop</p> <p>Mar. 23—SPRING BREAK Mar. 25—SPRING BREAK</p>	<p>Mar. 30—Paper #1 Apr. 1—17th-century poetry: Donne, Jonson</p> <p>Apr. 6—Milton, <i>Paradise Lost</i> Apr. 8—Milton, <i>Paradise Lost</i></p> <p>Apr. 13—Behn, <i>Oroonoko</i> Apr. 15—Behn, <i>Oroonoko</i></p> <p>Apr. 20—Pope, <i>Rape of the Lock</i> Apr. 22—Pope, <i>Rape of the Lock</i></p> <p>Apr. 27—Swift, <i>Gulliver’s Travels</i>, part 1 Apr. 29—Swift, <i>Gulliver’s Travels</i>, part 2</p> <p>May 4—Swift, <i>Gulliver’s Travels</i>, part 4 May 6—18th-century poetry: Johnson, Gray, Goldsmith</p> <p>May 11—Johnson, <i>Rasselas</i> May 13—Johnson, <i>Rasselas</i></p> <p>May 19—Paper #2 (Wednesday) 2.45-4:45</p>
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Learning outcomes

GEP: Humanities	<p>Students who successfully complete this course will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read closely, think critically, and write effectively about texts or cultural artifacts that reflect on perennial questions concerning the human condition (such as the search for truth and meaning, the confrontation with suffering and mortality, or the struggle for justice, equality, and human dignity). • Investigate and thoughtfully respond to a variety of ideas, beliefs or values held by persons in situations other than one’s own.
English Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analyze and interpret British literature critically to demonstrate a comprehension of literary themes, of the conventions and language of literature, and / or of key concepts about British culture