

English 384W.02–Early English Masterworks  
Summer II 2008–3 Hours Credit  
Prerequisites: 9 hours of English  
Meeting Room: Ev 260

Instructor: Lee Courtney: Ev 406 / 936 294 1416 / eng\_lfc@shsu.edu  
Office Hours: Daily 9-10 (or by appointment)

Text: The Longman Anthology of British Literature: Volume A (Second Compact Edition)

Course Description: English 384W.01 is “a study of the major figures in English literature from the beginning to 1798.”

Purposes of the Course: The course has four primary purposes: to introduce (or re-introduce) you to some of the most important works in the literature of our language, foundational elements in all Anglophone cultures; to help you understand better the social, intellectual, and aesthetic contexts from which those works emerged; to assist you in becoming a more capable and critical reader; and to give you an opportunity to improve your own writing skills.

About Your Grade: There are five equally-weighted major assignments—three in-class exams (each 40% objective and 60% essay) and two out-of-class essays (800-1000 words each).

In Addition: Except for the times exams are scheduled, the class will open daily with a 10-minute 5-point bonus assignment. At the end of the semester, I will divide your bonus point total by 18 and add the quotient to your major assignment average to determine your semester grade. Here, a 90 is an A, an 80 a B, and so on.

Attendance Policy: On-time, full-time, every-time attendance is the best policy under any circumstances. When you don't show up, moreover, or (worse) come to class late, you'll lose valuable bonus points. There are no makeups for missed bonus assignments.

Classroom Decorum: Cell phones off, remember. When I am electronically interrupted, I get confused and start the lecture over: You do not want that.

Late Submissions: For each day an essay set is late, its value decreases by 10 points (unless there is an instructor-approved excuse).

Missed Exams: All missed exams will be made up on a common late date (to be announced).

Academic Dishonesty: "All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials."

Evidence of the unacknowledged or inappropriate use of another's ideas or words will mean a zero on the assignment in question.

Americans with Disabilities Act: "It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified should not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the University. Further, they should not be denied the benefits of these programs, nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired."

No accommodations can be made for a student who has not registered with the Counseling Center. All communications with (and from) the Center will be kept strictly confidential.

Religious Holidays: "Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment form which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence."

Schedule of Assignments:

July 8           Lecture: The Middle Ages  
July 9  
July 10 Beowulf, 27-91 in LABL  
July 11  
  
July 14 Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, 169-225  
July 15 Essay I Assigned  
July 16 The Canterbury Tales: "The General Prologue," 251-271  
July 17 Exam 1  
July 18 Lecture: Drama of the Early Modern Period  
  
July 21 Twelfth Night, 742-96  
July 22 Essay I Due / Essay II Assigned  
July 23         Dr. Faustus, 685-733  
July 24 Lecture; Poetry Of the Early Modern Period  
  
July 28 John Donne: Assigned Poem / Essay II Due  
July 29 Paradise Lost: Books 1 and 2, 921-54  
July 30 Books 4 and 9, 968-1013  
July 31         Exam 2  
  
August 4       Lecture: The Restoration and the Eighteenth Century  
August 5       Oroonoko, 1134-76  
August 6       "The Rape of the Lock," 1247-67  
August 7       Exam 3