ENG 3800-051: Medieval English Literature

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English 3800.051: Medieval English Literature
Summer 2009

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Texts:
- Beowulf (Heaney, trans.)
- The Book of Margery Kempe (Windeatt, trans.)
- Geoffrey Chaucer, The Wife of Bath (Beidler, ed.)
- The Lais of Marie de France (Hanning and Ferrante, trans.)
- William Langland, Piers Plowman (Schmidt, ed.)
- Thomas Malory, Complete Works (Vinaver, ed.)
- Middle English Romances (Shepherd, ed.)
- Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Patience, Pearl (Borroff, ed.)
- Various on-line texts and handouts

Schedule of Readings and Assignments

May
18: Old English
19: Beowulf
20: 1066-1200 or When They Wrote in French in England
    The Lais of Marie de France, pp. 1-161
21: The Lais of Marie de France, pp. 162-233
   *45-Minute Exam #1
22: The Beginnings of Middle English: Two 13C Debate Poems
    The Thrush and the Nightingale – http://www.soton.ac.uk/~wpwt/digby86/thrushint.htm
    The Owl and the Nightingale – http://www.soton.ac.uk/~wpwt/trans/owl/owlintro.htm
25: No Class: Memorial Day
26: Middle English: Romance
   Sir Orfeo, The Weddyng of Syr Gawen and Dame Ragnell (in Shepherd)
27: Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Parts I-II
28: Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Parts III-IV
29: Geoffrey Chaucer, The Wife of Bath’s Tale
   *45-Minute Exam #2

June
1: No Class: Replaced by Movie Night
2: Middle English: Spirituality
   Margery Kempe, Chapters 1-16, 18, 46-54, 79-81
   Chaucer, The Wife of Bath’s Prologue
3: Pearl, I-X
4: Pearl, XI-XX
5: Piers Plowman, Vision 1, pp. 1-41
   *45-Minute Exam #3
8: No Class: Replaced by Feast
9: Middle English: Thomas Malory, Le Morte D’Arthur
   Malory, "The Tale of King Arthur," pp. 1-110
11: Malory, "Sir Launcelot and Queen Quinevere" and "Morte Arthur," pp. 609-726
12: *Final Exam

The class will also meet for two evening or late-afternoon events: a movie and a feast. These meeting times will be determined on the first class day.
Course Requirements and Grading

Final grades will be determined on a 100-point scale:

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Three 45-Minute Exams</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td>Participation/Attendance</td>
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**Course Grade:** A = 91-100; B = 82-90.99; C = 73-81.99; D = 65-72.99; F = below 65

**Exams.** The 45-Minute Exams are essay tests. The Final Exam will combine essays and identifications. I will distribute study sheets in advance of each exam.

Course/University Policies

**Honor Policy.** I believe education is based on trust. Should you cheat and I find out about it, you can expect to fail the course. The University may take additional action.

**Plagiarism.** If you use other people's words or ideas without citing your sources and indicating when you have quoted, you risk failing an assignment or even the course depending on how serious I deem the offense. If you are not sure what plagiarism is, or whether a particular use of language is plagiarism, ask me before you turn in an assignment.

**Students with Disabilities.** "If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible."