Spring 1-15-2008

ENG 4950-001: Literary history and bibliography

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Course Design, Goals and Objectives: This course as an overview of the major developments in English literature, from its beginnings to the twentieth century. The goal is to increase your knowledge of literary history and to deepen your understanding of the function of literary history in English studies today. Class time will be devoted to lecture, discussion of background issues, discussion of selected literary works, and to your brief reports on developments in English literature. (I will distribute a detailed description of the report and report topics early in the semester.)

This is a writing-intensive course. You may submit a paper from this class as part of your EWP. For more information, visit the assessment website: www.eiu.edu/~assess

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.

English Department Statement on Plagiarism: "Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism – 'The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's own original work' (Random House Dictionary) – has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office."


Course Requirements and Grading:
- four exams – 80% (20% each)
- class report – 10%
- participation in class discussions – 10%

You must complete all of the requirements above to pass the course.

Tentative Schedule

*Old English Period (500 - 1066)*

Jan 8: course introduction

Jan 10: period background (Norton 1-9); *Beowulf*
Jan 15: *Beowulf*

Jan 17: "The Wanderer"; "The Dream of the Rood"

**Middle English Period (1066 - 1485)**

Jan 22: period background (Norton 9-20); Chaucer, *The Canterbury Tales*: "The General Prologue"


Jan 29: *Everyman*

Jan 31: **EXAM**

**The Renaissance in England (1485 - 1660)**

Feb 5: period background (Norton 469 –496); Marlowe, *The Tragical History of Dr. Faustus*

Feb 7: Spenser, *The Faerie Queene*: Book I Canto 1

Feb 12: sonnets: Wyatt, “The long love that in my thought doth harbor,” “My galley”; Surrey, “Love, that doth reign and live within my thought,” “Alas! so all things now do hold their peace”

Feb 14: sonnets: Spenser, *Amoretti* 1, 34; Sidney, *Astrophil and Stella* 1, 2


Feb 21: Donne, *Holy Sonnets* 1, 5, 7, 9, 10, 14; "The Flea," "Good Friday, 1613"

Feb 26: **EXAM**

**The Restoration and Eighteenth Century (1660-1780)**

Feb 28: period background (Norton 2045 – 2068); Pepys, *The Diary* [The Great Fire]

Mar 4: Swift, *Gulliver’s Travels*: Part 1

Mar 6: Pope, “The Rape of the Lock”

Mar 11, 13: Spring Recess
The Romantic Period (1780 - 1830)


Mar 20: Shelley, "Hymn to Intellectual Beauty," "Ode to the West Wind," "England in 1819"

Mar 25: Keats, "Ode on a Grecian Urn," "Ode to a Nightingale," "The Eve of St. Agnes"

Mar 27: EXAM

The Victorian Period (1830 - 1901)

Apr 1: period background (Norton 1043 – 1063); Carlyle, Past and Present; Mill, Autobiography; Arnold, Culture and Anarchy


Apr 8: Browning, "Porphyria's Lover," "Soliloquy of the Spanish Cloister," "My Last Duchess"

Apr 10: Rossetti, C., "Goblin Market"

Apr 15: Darwin, "Origin of Species"; Gosse, Father and Son

Modern English Literature (1901 - 1950)


Apr 22: Yeats, "The Lake Isle of Innisfree," "Leda and the Swan," "Among School Children"

Apr 24: Eliot, "The Wasteland"

Monday Apr 28: EXAM (date of scheduled “final exam”)