English 3800
Policies and Procedures
Summer 2000
Shonk

Office: 339B Coleman Hall
Phone: 581-6310
Hours: M-F 12:30-1:30 and after class

Course Requirements/Grades

- Participation 5%
- Quizzes 15%
- Paper I (4-6 pp) 15%
- Midterm 15%
- Research paper (6-8 pp) 25%
- Final 25%

Absences and Make-up Policy

Unexcused absences do not permit one to make up any quizzes, exams, or other written assignments. In the case of an excused absence (illness, family emergency, etc.), one must complete the missed work within one week of one's return to class.

Papers and Exams

The shorter paper (Paper I) is to be an analytical essay upon the topic of a student’s choice. No research is required, but one may use secondary materials. Numerous possible topics will be given to the class about before the due date. The final paper requires three sources and will be on a topic of one’s own devising. I will be delighted to talk with you about possible topics several weeks before the due date.

The two exams will be divided into two roughly equal sections of short answer (terms, ID's, quotations) and a single essay question. The quizzes are basic reading quizzes given without warning and covering the material to be read on a given day. The quizzes will be worth 10 points each. The scores will be totaled and assigned a single letter grade, which will account for 15% of the course grade.

Goals of the Course

The course is designed to be both an introduction to and an investigation of the earliest literature in our language. The course will focus not only upon the literature itself and the various genres in which it is exhibited but also upon the major ideas, values, and beliefs of the culture portrayed in the literature of the period, values and beliefs which cast long shadows across western culture in the later centuries. Students will be expected to demonstrate their knowledge of the literary developments and the ideas contained in that literature in their exams and essays.
## Required Texts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author/Editor</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Borroff (trans.)</td>
<td><em>Pearl</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Marie de France</td>
<td><em>The Lais of Marie de France</em></td>
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<td>Chretien de Troyes</td>
<td><em>Arthurian Romances</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Langland</td>
<td><em>Piers Plowman</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Treharne (ed.)</td>
<td><em>Old and Middle English (OME)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Malory</td>
<td><em>Malory: Works</em></td>
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June
12 Introduction to the course. Backgrounds

13 Backgrounds (cont.); OME: “The Wanderer” (p. 42); “The Seafarer” (p. 48); “The Ruin” (p. 84)

14 OME: “Deor” (p. 60); “Wulf and Eadwacer” (p. 64); “The Husband’s Message” (p. 80); “The Dream of the Rood” (p. 108)

15 NAEL: Beowulf (p. 21)

16 Marie de France: “Guigemar” (p. 30); “Equitan” (p. 60)

19 Chretien de Troyes, Arthurian Romances: Yvain (p. 281)

20 NAEL: Gawain and the Green Knight (p. 202)

21 Borroff: Pearl

22 Langland, Piers Plowman: Passus I-III Paper I Due

23 Midterm Exam

26 Piers Plowman: Passus IV-VI

27 Malory, Tale of the Sankgreal

28 Malory, Launcelot and Guenevere

29 Malory, Morte Darthur

30 OME: The Owl and the Nightingale (p. 380); Sir Orfeo (p. 465)

July
3 NAEL: “The Wife of Bath’s Prologue and Tale” (p. 117)

4 No Classes

5 NAEL: The Second Shepherd’s Play (p. 318); Everyman (p. 363)

6 Final Exam