
Theatre ticket ($9). You are required to attend the performance “Ghosts” in the Moravian College Theatre on February October 20-23. ***Plan ahead and buy your ticket well in advance, since tickets do sell out.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The purpose of this course is multi-faceted. In reading the assigned texts, we will not only become acquainted with specific works written by well-known British authors, but we will also familiarize ourselves with British literary history and the connections between literature and other forms of cultural expression, all of which information is valuable to any well-rounded student. Because literature is not just a record of facts or opinions, but a representation of reality, reading it well requires the ability to interpret its possible meanings. In this class, we will exercise our analytical skills, with the ultimate goal of enhancing our understanding and enjoyment of literature. Finally, since reading and writing go hand in hand, we will work on our ability to articulate our own experience of the texts that we read by writing essays about them, thus reinforcing our ability to both read well and write well.

COURSE METHOD: This course will consist of some lecturing, a good deal of both class and group discussion, essays, exams, and a number of short written assignments, both inside and outside of class.

EVALUATION: Essays (15% 25%), Midterm (20%), Final exam (25%), and assignments and class participation (15%). Grade Scale: 93-100=A; 90-92=A-; 87-89=B+; 83-86=B; 80-82=B-; 77-79=C+; 73-76=C; 70-72=C-; 67-69=D+; 63-66=D; 60-62=D- . It is within the instructor’s purview to apply qualitative judgment in determining grades for any assignments and for the final course grade.

ATTENDANCE: I expect you to attend class regularly and promptly, to have completed the assignment, and to be ready for discussion. If you must be absent for some extraordinary reason, you must inform me in advance or supply a note from a legitimate authority. If you miss more than three classes without providing a written excuse, your grade will drop by one third of a letter grade for each absence. Missing a conference counts as missing four classes. Recurrent lateness will also result in a lower grade.

CLASS DISCUSSION: We all bring to our reading of literature a variety of skills and insights. By sharing these with one another, we enhance our joint effort to understand and appreciate the literary works at hand. I will count on everyone to try, regularly, to contribute to the discussion. To every class session, bring in at least one observation regarding the assignment. If necessary, I will call on you for your contribution. Your participation grade will reflect your regular, voluntary engagement in class discussion.

Although some reading assignments—particularly poems—may seem short, your reading and full appreciation of these texts will require time and effort. You should expect to work 4+ hours per week outside of class preparing for discussion, in addition to preparation for essays and exams.

**Please turn off and put away all cell phones during class.**

**The midterm exam is on Fri. Oct. 7 and final exams run from Dec. 14-20; adjust your travel plans to accommodate that schedule.**
WRITING ASSIGNMENTS: A number of short writing assignments, inside and outside of class, will indicate to me how carefully you are reading and thinking about the material. The first essay will be a personal response. The second will be an analytical essay in which you will have the opportunity to present your own argument regarding a specific text that we have read. These essays should follow the guidelines outlined in the handout, “ISSUES TO HAVE IN MIND AS YOU WRITE YOUR ESSAY,” which will help you in writing coherently and persuasively. We will discuss these guidelines in detail in class.

Note: Due dates for essays are firm. If for some extraordinary reason you must be late, you need to talk to me before the essay is due. Late papers automatically receive a lower grade. Short written assignments handed in late will receive no more than half credit.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is the misrepresentation of someone else’s work as your own. This includes such instances as quoting directly from a published work without giving the author credit (i.e. proper citation), inserting the author’s words as your own, using or “borrowing” another student’s work, buying a paper from a professional service, etc. It is your responsibility to be familiar with what constitutes plagiarism and, in the event of uncertainty, to ask in a constructive manner about a writing in question before it is due in a final version. You are also required to keep all note cards and rough drafts on papers and assignments until given a final grade for that course. Evidence of plagiarism and cheating will be dealt with in accordance with the college policy on academic honesty found in the Student Handbook. Please read this policy in its entirety. In the event of a suspected infraction – in fairness to your peers and the standards of the college – it is my job to send the materials in question to the Dean’s Office at which time you are given the chance to provide your perspective on the matter.

READING ASSIGNMENTS: Readings must be completed by the day on which they are listed. This schedule may be revised as the course progresses. I will announce changes in class. If you are late or absent, it is your responsibility to become informed of any changes. Whenever an introduction to a period or author is assigned, you should study this material carefully, since it will greatly enhance your understanding of the texts that follow.

Week 1
Mon. Aug. 29 Introduction

Beowulf, pp. 23-29

Fri. Sept. 2 Beowulf, pp. 27-70

Week 2
Wed. Sept. 7 “Geoffrey Chaucer,” pp. 173-176
“The Canterbury Tales,” “The General Prologue,” pp. 177-198
I strongly recommend that, in order to get accustomed to Chaucer’s Middle English, you make use of Vincent Hopper’s interlinear translation of the “Tales,” which I have put on reserve at Reeves Library (PR1867.H55). An online version is also available at http://www.courses.fas.harvard.edu/~chaucer/teachslf/gp-par.htm
However, you should also make use of your Norton text and its important annotations.

Fri. Sept. 9 Chaucer, “The General Prologue”
Week 3

Mon. Sept. 12 **Essay Due**
“The Sixteenth Century,” pp. 315-336


Fri. Sept. 16 Reread Shakespeare’s sonnets 29, 30, 65, 73, 87, 116, 129, 130, 144, 146, 147. Read all the assigned sonnets, but be prepared to present one in class.

Week 4

Read all the assigned sonnets, but be prepared to present on in class.

Wed. Sept. 21 “The Early Seventeenth Century,” pp. 577-596 (end of section)
John Donne, pp. 599-601
“The Good Morrow”
Song: (“Go and Catch a Falling Star”)
“The Sun Rising”
“A Valediction: Of Weeping”
“The Flea”
“The Ecstasy”
Holy Sonnet #14

Fri. Sept. 23 “Ben Jonson,” pp. 637-638
“On My First Son”
“Song” To Celia”
“John Milton,” pp. 691-694
Milton, *Paradise Lost*, Intro. and Book 1, pp. 722-742

Week 5

Mon. Sept. 26 “John Milton,” pp. 691-694
*Paradise Lost*, Intro. and Book 1, pp. 722-742

Wed. Sept. 28 Writing Workshop

“John Dryden,” pp. 877-878
“MacFlecknoe”
“A Song for St. Cecilia’s Day”
“Epigram on Milton”

Week 6

“The Rape of the Lock,” pp. 1134-1153

Wed. Oct. 5 Frances Burney, pp. 1301-1302
The Journals and Letters
[First Journal Entry]
[“Down with her, Burney!”]
[Encountering the King]
[A Mastectomy]

Fri. Oct. 7 **Midterm**

Fall Recess

Week 7

“William Blake,” pp. 1344-1347
SONGS OF INNOCENCE
“The Lamb”
“The Chimney Sweeper”
SONGS OF EXPERIENCE
“The Clod & the Pebble”
“The Chimney Sweeper”
“The Sick Rose”
“The Tyger”
“Ah Sun-Flower”
“London”
“A Poison Tree”
“A Divine Image”
1377-1378; Plates 2, 3, 4, and 5, pp. 1378-1380

Preface to Lyrical Ballads, pp. 1435-1448
Essay Due
Sign up for individual conferences

Wed. Oct. 19  Wordsworth,
“Lines Composed a Few Miles above Tintern Abbey”
“I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud”

Fri. Oct. 21  No Class.  This class will be replaced by your mandatory
attendance at “Ghosts” in the Moravian College Theatre, on Oct. 20-23.

Week 9    Mon. Oct. 24  Discuss performance of “Ghosts”

Wed. Oct. 26 Individual Conferences
Begin reading Frankenstein

Fri. Oct. 28  Individual Conferences

Week 10   Mon. Oct. 31 Individual Conferences

Wed. Nov. 2 Individual Conferences
Finish reading Frankenstein

Fri. Nov. 4  Mary Shelley, Frankenstein

Week 11   Mon. Nov. 7  Shelley, Frankenstein

Wed. Nov. 9  “John Keats,” pp. 1793-1796
“Oh First Looking into Chapman’s Homer”
“On Seeing the Elgin Marbles”
“Ode to a Nightingale”
“Ode on a Grecian Urn”
“To Autumn”
Letter to George and Thomas Keats, pp. 1844-1845

Fri. Nov. 11 Romantic Music

Week 12  Mon. Nov. 14 “The Victorian Age,” pp. 1859-1879
          “Elizabeth Barrett Browning,” pp. 1892-1893
          Aurora Leigh, pp. 1898-1910

          “The Lady of Shalott”
          “Ulysses”
          “The Charge of the Light Brigade”

Revision of Essay Due

            “Porphyria’s Lover”
            “Soliloquy of the Spanish Cloister”
            “My Last Duchess”

Week 13  Mon. Nov. 21 “Matthew Arnold,” pp. 2073-2078
          “Dover Beach”

Thanksgiving Recess

Week 14  Mon. Nov. 28 “The Twentieth Century,” pp. 2271-2287
          “William Butler Yeats,” pp. 2363-2366
          “The Stolen Child”
          “The Lake Isle of Innisfree”
          “The Wild Swans at Coole”
          “Easter 1916”
          “The Second Coming”
          “Leda and the Swan”

Wed. Nov. 30 “Thomas Hardy,” pp. 2290-2291
          “Hap”
          “The Darkling Thrush”
          “Channel Firing”

Fri. Dec. 2 “Virginia Woolf,” pp. 2402-2403
          From A Room of One’s Own,
          Chapter 3, pp. 2435-2440 (end of page)
          2474, last paragraph –2475 (end of essay)

Week 15  Mon. Dec. 5 Woolf
          From A Room of One’s Own,
          Chapter 3, pp. 2435-2440 (end of page)
Wed. Dec. 7  “Katherine Mansfield,” pp. 2645
           “The Garden Party”

Fri. Dec. 9  “T. S. Eliot,” pp. 2604-2607
           “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”
           “Journey of the Magi”

Week 16  Mon. Dec. 12  Student reflections on British literature
           Review; Evaluations