



NORTHWEST
MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY
MARYVILLE | KANSAS CITY

College of Arts & Sciences
Department of Language, Literature, and Writing

English Literature: Beowulf to the 18th Century

10-245-01 (3 cr. hrs.)

Instructor: Dr. Wayne A. Chandler
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Office hrs: TBD

Description: A study of selected English literary masterpieces and their backgrounds from the Anglo-Saxons through Boswell's biography of Samuel Johnson. Readings may include Chaucer, More, Spenser, Marlowe, Shakespeare, Donne, Milton, Pope, Swift, Boswell, and/or others.

Rationale: The works covered in this course demonstrate the development of English as a language and as literature. They contain historical, philosophical, ethical, and religious content that relates directly to the history and culture of modern society.

Methods of Instruction: The course will be delivered entirely online, through Canvas. The materials—readings, quizzes, lectures, and any written assignments—will be grouped into modules. The student may complete the modules at her or his own pace: *however*, the student must complete the modules in order and before the deadline for each exam.

Required materials: *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*. Instructor might provide additional materials.

Graded course requirements:

Exam #1—25%	Exam #4—15%
Exam #2—25%	Quizzes—10%
Exam #3—15%	Written assignments (including discussion)—10%

Quizzes: Before watching the video lecture over a new work or group of works, the student will be required to take a quiz over the material to be discussed. Because there will be twelve or more quizzes, doing badly on one or two should not hurt a student's grade terribly: *however*, the quizzes do add up and comprise 10% of the course grade, so the student should try to do well on them.

Attendance: Because the course will be delivered entirely online, there is no attendance policy. *However*, the student is expected to spend as many hours online as are required to watch the entirety of all lectures, take all quizzes and exams, and engage in any online reading or writing that is assigned.

Student Learning Outcomes: The student should complete this course having developed both greater knowledge and enhanced appreciation of the content, historical context, and subsequent cultural and literary influence of British literature of the medieval, early modern (Renaissance), and Restoration periods.

Assessment Methods: Reading quizzes, unit exams, response papers and/or essays, and online discussion threads.

Academic integrity policy: The students, faculty, and staff at Northwest endeavor to sustain an environment that values honesty in academic work, that acknowledges the authorized aid provided by and intellectual contributions of others, and that enables equitable student evaluation. Please refer to Northwest Missouri State University's Academic Integrity Policy at <http://www.nwmissouri.edu/policies/academics/Academic-Integrity.pdf>

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Course schedule: The schedule below is accurate as of the first day of class. However, it is subject to change, of which the instructor will notify students. Students are responsible for keeping up with such changes.

For students in general, the most fruitful plan of action would be as follows. The student does not *have* to follow this plan exactly: it is a good suggestion but not a requirement.

1. Plan to spend one-to-three hours per day reading. If you are a slow reader, plan to spend more time than that.
2. The day *before* material is listed, read the material and then take the corresponding quiz.
3. The day material *is* listed, watch the video lecture(s) and complete any writing assignment(s) regarding that material.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Week 1	Module 1: Class overview; historical background	<i>The Dream of the Rood,</i> <i>The Wanderer,</i> <i>The Wife's Lament</i>	<i>Beowulf</i>	<i>Beowulf</i>
Week 2	Module 2: <i>Sir Gawain and the</i> <i>Green Knight</i>	Chaucer: "The General Prologue" of <i>The</i> <i>Canterbury Tales</i> ; EXAM #1	Module 3: Edmund Spenser: <i>The</i> <i>Faerie Queen</i> , Book 1	Edmund Spenser: <i>The</i> <i>Faerie Queene</i> , Book 1
Week 3	Amelia Lanyer: <i>Salve</i> <i>Deus Rex Judæorum</i>	Module 4: Christopher Marlowe: <i>Dr.</i> <i>Faustus</i>	Shakespeare: <i>Othello</i>	Shakespeare: <i>Othello</i> ; EXAM #2
Week 4	Module 5: Sonnets by Shakespeare and others	Poems by John Donne, Robert Herrick, Andrew Marvell, and others.	Poems by John Donne, Robert Herrick, Andrew Marvell, and others.	Poems by John Donne, Robert Herrick, Andrew Marvell, and others. EXAM #3
Week 5	Module 6: John Milton: selections from <i>Paradise Lost</i>	John Milton: selections from <i>Paradise Lost</i>	Jonathan Swift: <i>A</i> <i>Modest Proposal</i> and selections from <i>Gulliver's Travels</i>	Alexander Pope: selections from <i>An Essay on Man</i> ; Thomas Gray: "Ode on the Death of a Favourite Cat, Drowned in a Tub of Goldfishes" EXAM #4