

Syllabus for
ENG 359 English Medieval Period: 650-1500
3 Credit Hours
Fall 2022

Coronavirus: All faculty members and students are expected to be face-to-face in the classroom except under conditions provided in the ORU Coronavirus Response Plan, which can be found at <https://oru.edu/campus-health/>.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A survey of English literature during the Middle Ages, including both poetry and prose. Special emphasis is on the medieval mystics and Arthurian romance.

Prerequisites: None

II. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

As a result of successfully completing this course, the student will be able to do the following:

- A. Discuss the religious, social, economic, and political developments of the period in relationship to the literature.
- B. Name, define, and describe the characteristics of the various literary types of the period.
- C. Name the important writers and works of the period and discuss their particular contributions to the development of English literature.
- D. Read aloud, with reasonably accurate pronunciation, a selection from various medieval works.
- E. Translate a selection of Middle English verse or prose using limited lexical aids.
- F. Define influences that shaped the various authors' works.

I. ASSOCIATED PROGRAMS

This course meets degree completion requirements for the Writing program.

- A. Outcome 1 – Student integrates his or her faith into learning experiences and demonstrates concepts that constitute a Christian Worldview.
- B. Outcome 2 – Student is able to think critically, analyze linguistic structures, synthesize information, and evaluate information critically.
- C. Outcome 3 – Student can write with clarity and skill, can write original works avoiding formulaic writing, and can employ various literary devices.
- D. Outcome 5 – Student can write correct and effective academic papers, evaluating information and using it ethically and appropriately with correct grammar, mechanics, and presentation.
- E. Outcome 7 – Student demonstrates understanding of literary genres and characteristics of literature from various time periods.

IV. UNIVERSITY OUTCOMES

This course aligns with the following University Outcomes as indicated on the last page:

- Personal Resilience – Student Learning Outcome I, M

Last Revision: Fall 2022: df

- Intellectual Pursuit – Student Learning Outcome A-F, H-L, N-U
- Global Engagement – Student Learning Outcome G

V. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

Required Textbooks

Borroff, Marie. *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*.

<http://introtoliterature.pbworks.com/w/file/fetch/105858819/Sir%20Gawain%20and%20the%20Green%20Knight%20-%20Marie%20Borroff.pdf>

Hirsh, John D., ed. *Medieval Lyric: Middle English Lyrics, Ballads and Carols*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing, 2004. ISBN: 9781405114820.

Lewis, C. S. *The Discarded Image: An Introduction to Medieval and Renaissance Literature*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge UP, 1964.

<https://portalconservador.com/livros/C-S-Lewis-The-Discarded-Image.pdf>

Malory, Thomas. *Le Morte d'Arthur*. Vol. 1. Project Gutenberg.

<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/1251/1251-h/1251-h.htm>

Malory, Thomas. *Le Morte d'Arthur*. Vol. 2. Project Gutenberg

<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/1252/1252-h/1252-h.htm>

Tolkien, J. R. R. *Pearl*. <https://allpoetry.com/poem/8499963-Pearl-by-J-R-R-Tolkien>

Tolkien, J. R. R. *Sir Orfeo*. <https://allpoetry.com/Sir-Orfeo>

Turville-Petre, Thorlac, and J. A. Burrow. *A Book of Middle English*. 4th ed. Wiley-Blackwell, 2021. ebook. ISBN: 978-119619307.

Windett, Barry, ed. *English Mystics of the Middle Ages*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge UP, 1995. ISBN: 9780521327404.

VI. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. Department Policies and Procedures

1. **Class Assignments**

- Students need to come to class with the appropriate textbooks, course materials, and other supplies as designated by the professor.
- Professors may refuse to accept an assignment if it has inappropriate content, does not meet the assignment's criteria (e.g., not typed, incorrectly documented), is incomplete, is suspected of plagiarism, or is turned in too late.

- Tardies**—Tardies are an inconvenience to the other class members and the professor, and they prevent the late student from obtaining maximum value from the class. Therefore, excessive tardies may adversely affect the semester grade. It is to the student's advantage to make sure that the professor is informed immediately following the close of the class that the student was tardy and not absent. It is not the professor's responsibility to stop the class to mark the tardy; the student is the one responsible for conveying that information immediately following that class, not at a later time.

3. **Late Work**

- The student is responsible for obtaining class assignments and material covered during an absence, and all work is expected to be completed as scheduled. Late work may result in a lower grade. An absence is not an excuse for turning in late work or for being unprepared with assignments

for the class following the absence. Computer or printer malfunction does not constitute an excuse for late work; students should have their work prepared in time to ensure that they can get it proofread, edited, and printed prior to the instructor's due date. These responsibilities assist the student in professional development.

- b. Assignments missed because of administratively excused absences are accepted with no penalty. Generally, assignments missed from an excused absence, such as sickness or family crises, can be made up and the instructor should be notified as soon as possible to reach an agreement on due dates and possible penalties. Each instructor has his or her own late-work policy that is given to students at the beginning of a course, so a teacher may decide that work missed because of an unexcused absence cannot be made up. Instructors use their own judgment in accepting late work resulting from all other absences. In cases where absences can be anticipated, such as for non-University sponsored mission trips, the work should normally be submitted prior to the absence.

4. **Attendance**

- a. Attendance at each class or laboratory is mandatory. Excessive absences can reduce a student's grade or deny credit for the course.
- b. **Excused and Unexcused Absences**—As stated in the university policy section of this syllabus, class attendance is mandatory, but because unavoidable circumstances can prevent perfect attendance, each student is allowed to miss class the number of times per week a class meets. This allowance is intended for illness, personal business, and emergency. Work missed because of an excused absence (e.g., illness, family emergency) can be made up; however, it is up to the teacher's discretion whether or not to accept work missed due to an unexcused absence (e.g., oversleeping, skipping class). If a student exceeds this number of absences, the student may lose points due to late work or for excessive absences, which may affect the semester grade. Extended illnesses are handled on an individual basis and require verification from a doctor.
- c. **Administratively Excused Absences**—Only absences that are required by approved University activities are given administrative excuses. Students who must miss class for University-sponsored activities must follow these procedures:
 - (1) Inform the professor before the event and make arrangement for the work to be submitted prior to the absence or at a mutually agreed upon deadline.
 - (2) Present an administrative excuse form with appropriate signatures when he or she returns to class. Doctors' or nurses' notes, or letters from groups sponsoring mission trips or activities do not qualify a student for an administratively excused absence.
 - (3) Obtain information covered during an absence. All work must be completed as scheduled.
 - (4) Not commit to class presentation (oral reports, speeches, group presentations, etc.) on a date that the student will be gone. Makeup work is not permitted if the student voluntarily committed to a performance on the date of an administratively excused absence.

- 5. **Plagiarism**—Each student attending Oral Roberts University is required to do his

or her own academic work and must not inappropriately collaborate with other students on assignments.

- a. Students must document all sources and ideas that are not their own original information by following correct MLA (Modern Language Association) documentation procedures. Failure to do this produces a plagiarized paper, which results in an F for the paper. Flagrant cheating results in an F for the course.
- b. Students may be asked to submit their assignments to Turnitin.com (an online anti-plagiarism program) or have their work submitted to D2L, which also submits work to Turnitin.com.

6. **Incompletes**—As stated in the University catalog, incompletes are granted only for “good cause,” such as extended hospitalization, long-term illness, or a death in the family. Students must petition for an incomplete using the form available in the English and Modern Languages Department. Very few incompletes are granted.

7. **Whole Person Assessment**—If this course requires an ePortfolio assignment, it is listed in the next section (“Course Policies and Procedures”) and explained in the WPA Handbook at <http://eportfolio.oru.edu>. Students need to comply as indicated in this syllabus, by the instructor, and in the WPA Handbooks.

B. Course Policies and Procedures

1. Evaluation Procedures

The final grade for this course is based on the following requirements:

- a. Literary, Historical, or Religious Background Paper with Powerpoint Presentation (15%)
- b. Paper over a work discussed in class (10%)
- c. Paper over a work not discussed in class with Powerpoint Presentation (20%)
- d. Analysis Paper over book (one of the mystics) (15%)
- e. Paper over King Arthur (15%)
- f. Final (20%)
- g. Quizzes/Threaded Discussions (5%)

2. Students should not expect extra credit to help raise a grade.

3. The following scale is used for points accumulated:

A=90-100% B=80-89% C=70-79% D=60-69% F=59% and below

4. WPA Requirements

There is no WPA requirement for this class.

5. Papers will be evaluated for the following:

a. Content

- (1) The central idea grows from honest grappling with an issue; it is original, insightful, and interesting; and it is convincingly supported by details, examples, and illustrations.
- (2) The writer is reliable—honestly and sincerely avoiding inaccurate or misleading statements; correctly distinguishing between facts, opinions, and judgments; and acknowledging all borrowings.

b. Organization

- (1) A concise, comprehensive statement of the main idea (a thesis) is the focus of attention.
- (2) The focus is discernible and consistent in title, introduction, body, and conclusion.

- (3) Each paragraph contains a controlling idea relevant to the development of the subject.
- (4) Details and subtopics are arranged in a comprehensible order.
- c. Style
 - (1) The writer's words reflect a reasonable and responsible attitude toward his or her subject and audience.
 - (2) The language is suitable for subject and occasion.
 - (3) Right words (concrete and specific words) in the right places achieve exactness of meaning.
 - (4) Sentence structure and vocabulary are varied and mature.
 - (5) Phrasing has vitality.
- d. Mechanics
 - (1) There are no errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation.
 - (2) In addition to providing correctness, the writer should punctuate to promote clarity of meaning, to stress points that need emphasis, and to control rhythm.

VII. COURSE CALENDAR

Week(s)

1. Introduction to Old and Middle English
2. Old English—"Caedman's Hymn," "The Wanderer"
Old English--"The Dream of the Rood"
3. Middle English Grammar
Middle English--"The York Play of the Crucifixion"
4. "The Peterborough Chronicle 1137"
"The Owl and the Nightingale"
5. William Langland: "Piers Plowman"
"Patience"
6. *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*
"Pearl"
"Sir Orfeo"
7. St. Erkenwald
John Gower: *Confessio Amantis*
8. Chaucer, Geoffrey, *Troilus and Criseyde*
9. Chaucer, *The Canterbury Tales*,
"The Reeve's Tale"
"The Prioress's Tale"
10. Layamon: Brut

11. Thomas Malory, *Le Morte d'Arthur*
12. English Lyrics
Medieval Mystics
Walter Hilton
"The Cloud of Unknowing"
13. "Ancrene Wisse"
Julian of Norwich, *Revelations of Divine Love*
14. *Book of Margery Kempe*
Review and Final Exam

Primary Program: B.A. Writing
ENG 359 English Medieval Period: 650-1500
Fall 2022

This course contributes to the ORU student learning outcomes as indicated below:

Significant Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

Moderate Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

Minimal Contribution – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

OUTCOMES	Significant Contribution	Moderate Contribution	Minimal Contribution
Spiritual Integrity			
Personal Resilience			
ENG 359 Outcome 1 – Student integrates his or her faith into learning experiences and demonstrates concepts that constitute a Christian Worldview.		X	
Intellectual Pursuit			
ENG 359 Outcome 2 – Student is able to think critically, analyze linguistic structures, synthesize information, and evaluate information critically.	X		
ENG 359 Outcome 3 – Student can write with clarity and skill, can write original works avoiding formulaic writing, and can employ various literary devices.	X		
ENG 359 Outcome 5 – Student can write correct and effective academic papers, evaluating information and using it ethically and appropriately with correct grammar, mechanics, and presentation.	X		
ENG 359 Outcome 7 – Student demonstrates understanding of literary genres and characteristics of literature from various time periods.	X		
Global Engagement			
Bold Vision			

(Revised 05/11/2022)