

San José State University
English Department
English 50, Beginnings to the American Experiment, Section 02,
Fall 2021

Instructor(s): Professor N. Stork
Office Location: FOB 218 and ZOOM
Email: Nancy.Stork@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: T 9 - 10 AM, Thursday 12 noon - 1 pm and by appointment
Class Days/Time: TR 2:15-3:30 pm
Classroom: ZOOM link will be sent and posted on CANVAS

Course Description

Exploration of Anglo-Saxon, Medieval, Renaissance, and Early Colonial Writings in Britain and America. Class engages literary texts, literary history, and historical events that shape the literature of the period.

Course Format: Online via ZOOM

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be:

1. *Be familiar with earlier stages of the English language*
2. *Know the historical context of medieval and Renaissance England and 17th century America as it relates to literary expression*
3. *Understand how to do historical research into the history and meanings of a literary text*

All readings are available on-line, as indicated in the Schedule of Classes below.

Late Policy:

Work can be accepted up to one week late with no penalty with documented proof of a serious and compelling emergency.

Work can also be accepted up to one week late with no documentation for a full grade penalty.

For anything more than one week late, please see me.

Library Liaison

Peggy Cabrera, peggy.cabrera@sjsu.edu

Course Requirements and Assignments

Please read all assigned readings in advance of class.

Old English Close Reading and Word Study	20%
Malory, Kempe or Julian Prose Analysis	20%
Final Paper	30%
Three Reading quizzes	30%

Grading Information

The normal percentages apply:

97-100%	A+
93-96.99%	A
90-92.99%	A-
87-89.99%	B+
Etc.	

Your work will be assessed for completeness, historical accuracy, literary analytical skills and prose style. This means, yes, you will lose points if you have mechanical problems with your prose (comma splices, run-ons, fragments, subject-verb agreement).

Please see me if you have any concerns about this and I will arrange for extra help during office hours or through The Writing Center.

I am always available to read a first draft if you can submit it at least 48 hours before the due date.

Classroom Protocol

Please have your ZOOM video activated for Discussions. If you do not have video access, please let me know in advance of class starting.

English 50, Fall 2021, Course Schedule

Themes: True Gods, False Gods, Folk Religion and Creation

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines (If appropriate, add extra column(s) to meet your needs.)	
1	Aug 19	Introduction	
1	Aug 24	Survey of Biblical passages on Creation and the Devil. General background on early history of the English language.	
2	Aug 26	The Conversion of King Edwin from Bede's <i>Ecclesiastical History of the English People</i> , Book II: Chapters 9, 12-14 https://www.gutenberg.org/files/38326/38326-h/38326-h.html	
2	Aug 31	Anglo-Saxon Charms, Read the first 5 entries on the following website: http://www2.hawaii.edu/~kjolly/unc.htm	
3	Sep 2	Ælfric of Eynsham's <i>De Falsis Diis</i> : https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/De_falsis_diis	
3	Sep 7	Read <i>Dream of the Rood</i> : https://lightspill.com/poetry/oe/rood.html	
4	Sep 9	Read <i>Beowulf</i> , lines 320-924 https://heorot.dk/beowulf-rede-text.html	
4	Sep 14	<i>Beowulf</i> , lines 2144-2390 and 2603-2891	
5	Sep 16	Read <i>The Battle of Maldon</i> : https://lightspill.com/poetry/oe/maldon.html See also: https://lrc.la.utexas.edu/eieol/engol/60	

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines (If appropriate, add extra column(s) to meet your needs.)	
5	Sep 21	Review and First Reading QUIZ (in-class) ZOOM cameras must be turned on for duration of quiz	QUIZ
6	Sep 23	<i>Child Ballad 32, King Henry</i> https://www.sacred-texts.com/neu/eng/child/ch032.htm <i>Tam Lin (find the version you like best)</i> https://tam-lin.org/ You may also be interested in the musical versions of these ballads on youTUBE. Steeleye Span and Fairport Convention	Old English Close Reading and Word Study DUE
6	Sep 28	Play 1 and 2 of the York Corpus Christi Plays https://d.lib.rochester.edu/teams/text/davidson-play-1-the-creation-of-the-angels-and-the-fall-of-lucifer https://d.lib.rochester.edu/teams/text/davidson-play-2-the-creation-through-the-fifth-day	
7	Sep 30	Chaucer, <i>The Friar's Tale</i> https://sites.fas.harvard.edu/~chaucer/teachslf/frit-par.htm	
7	Oct 5	Julian of Norwich, <i>Revelations of Divine Love, the Short Text</i> . Read Chapters 2-7, 58-60. https://www.gutenberg.org/files/52958/52958-h/52958-h.htm#CHAPTER_II	
8	Oct 7	Read The Book of Margery Kempe, Chapters 1-3 (lines 130-300). https://d.lib.rochester.edu/teams/text/staley-book-of-margery-kempe-book-i-part-i	
8	Oct 12	Read, Thomas Malory, <i>Le Morte d'Arthur</i> Book I, Chapters I-VII Book III, Chapters I-II https://www.sacred-texts.com/neu/mart/index.htm	

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines <i>(If appropriate, add extra column(s) to meet your needs.)</i>	
9	Oct 14	Malory Book IV, Chapter I Book XI, Chapters I-IX https://www.sacred-texts.com/neu/mart/index.htm	
9	Oct 19	Malory Book XX, Chapters I-X Book XXI: Chapters I-V https://www.sacred-texts.com/neu/mart/index.htm	
10	Oct 21	Review and QUIZ	QUIZ
10	Oct 26	Workshop on Thomas Malory or Margery Kempe or Julian of Norwich Prose Analysis Please bring specific questions about your analysis or the draft of your paper.	
11	Oct 28	Christopher Marlowe, The Tragical History of Dr. Faustus, A-Text https://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.03.0010	Malory, Kempe or Julian Prose Analysis DUE
11	Nov 2	Dr. Faustus (continued)	
12	Nov 4	<i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book I www.paradiselost.org	
12	Nov 9	<i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book II and Book IV: lines 1-410	
13	Nov 11	No Class - Veteran's Day	

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines <i>(If appropriate, add extra column(s) to meet your needs.)</i>	
13	Nov 16	<i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book VII (Creation) www.paradiselost.org	
14	Nov 18	Andrew Marvell , <i>On a Drop of Dew,</i> <i>Bermudas,</i> <i>The Mower’s Song,</i> <i>The Mower to the Glow-Worms,</i> <i>The Garden</i>	
14	Nov 23	George Herbert, <i>Love (III) “Love Bade Me Enter”;</i> <i>Easter Wings,</i> <i>The Flower,</i> <i>The Pulley</i>	
15	Nov 25	No Class - Thanksgiving	
15	Nov 30	Edward Taylor, <i>Huswifery,</i> <i>Upon a Wasp Chilled,</i> <i>Infinity,</i> <i>I am the Living Bread (Meditation 8: John 6:51)</i>	
16	Dec 2	Review and Reading QUIZ	QUIZ
Final Paper		Due on CANVAS at midnight: Friday, Dec 10, 2021.	Final Paper DUE