



HL1002  
Survey of English  
Literature I





Welcome to HL1002! This course will introduce you to more than a millennium of English literature, from the monsters of *Beowulf* to the exuberant digressions of Laurence Sterne's *The Life and Adventures of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman*. We will examine a wide range of mostly canonical works in their historical context, paying particular attention to their influence on later literature. The readings will lead us to important questions about the nature of literature and how it changes over time, what it means to talk about 'English' literature, and the relationship between literature and history.

## UNIT ONE: OLD ENGLISH

### Week 1: Introduction to Old English

Bede on 'Caedmon's Hymn'  
Anglo-Saxon riddles (handout)

### Week 2: Elegy, Heroism, and Religion

'The Wanderer'  
'The Battle of Maldon' (handout)  
'The Dream of the Rood'

### Week 3: *Beowulf*

*Beowulf*



## UNIT TWO: MIDDLE ENGLISH

### Week 4: Introduction to Middle English Literature: Multilingualism

*first short paper due in lecture*

Marie de France, *Lanval*

'De amico ad amicum' and 'Responcio' (handout)

### Week 5: The *Gawain*-Poet

*Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*

### Week 6: Chaucer

Chaucer, 'General Prologue' to *The Canterbury Tales* and 'The Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale'



## UNIT THREE: RENAISSANCE LITERATURE

### Week 7: Introduction to Renaissance Literature: Sonnets

*second short paper due in lecture*

Wyatt, 'Whoso list to hunt' and Petrarch, 'Rima 190'  
Surrey, 'Alas! so all things now do hold their peace' and  
Petrarch, Rima 164'

Sidney, *Astrophil and Stella*, sonnets 1, 6, 28, 31, 33, 37, 45,  
47, 61, 69, 71, 72, 81, and 108, and songs 4 and 11

Shakespeare, *Sonnets*, 1, 3, 12, 18, 116, and 130

### Recess Week

### Week 8: *The Faerie Queene*

Spenser, *The Faerie Queene*, Book 1. Skim cantos 3 and 6.

### Week 9: Shakespeare

*2000-word essay due on Turnitin by 9am on lecture day*

Shakespeare, *Twelfth Night*



## UNIT FOUR: RESTORATION LITERATURE AND THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

### Week 10: Introduction to Restoration Literature: *Paradise Lost*

Lanyer, 'Eve's Apology in Defense of Women'

Milton, *Paradise Lost*, Book I, 1-330; Book II, 299-485 and 629-1055; Book III, 1-302; Book IV, 1-408 and 440-491; Book IX, 192-1189; Book X, 452-577 and 706-1104; Book XII, 466-649

### Week 11: Swift, Pope, Defoe

Pepys, 'The Plague Year' (handout)

Defoe, extracts from *A Journal of the Plague year* (handout)

Swift, 'A Modest Proposal'

Pope, 'The Rape of the Lock'

### Week 12: *Tristram Shandy*

Sterne, extracts from *Tristram Shandy* (handout)

### Week 13: Conclusion and Revision



## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

### Course Text:

Stephen Greenblatt, ed., *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*, tenth edition, vols A, B, and C (New York: W. W. Norton and Company, 2018).

Course texts not included in these volumes will be made available online. Other editions of *The Norton Anthology* are acceptable if they contain the assigned texts.

### Assessment:

Essay (2000 words)	40%
Exam	50%
Participation, including two short papers	10%

As the major written assignment for this course, your essay will be submitted through Turnitin. Please include a declaration stating: 'This paper represents my own work in accordance with University regulations. I include proper academic references to all my sources and have not used generative AI.' You do not have to submit a paper copy unless requested by your tutor.

### Course Policies:

#### Attendance and Participation:

barring documented illness or emergencies, you must attend every lecture and tutorial. You must arrive on time, having done the required readings and any assigned work, and be ready to participate in the class



discussion. Failure to do so will reduce your participation grade significantly. If you must miss a class, please give your tutor as much notice as possible.

#### Late Work and Extensions:

if your essay is late, it will be marked down by one third of a grade (i.e. an A- to a B+) for each day that it is overdue. If you think that you will have to submit your essay late, please speak to your tutor as soon as possible. We would rather know the situation than be surprised and disappointed by a missing essay!

#### Seeking Help Outside Class:

you are encouraged to use any form of legitimate aid to help you write papers and research topics that interest you. Obvious sources of legitimate assistance include your tutors, the writing coaches at the LCC Communication Cube, and the subject librarians at the library. When meeting with tutors, you should prepare specific questions about your work in order to make the most of your time together. Tutors are not expected to read more than one draft per assignment.

#### Plagiarism, Academic Dishonesty, and Generative AI:

Don't do it! If your tutors or I find that you have misrepresented someone else's work as your own, you will fail the assignment and possibly the course. If you are unsure of how or when to cite a source, please refer to the university's academic integrity resources or ask your tutor. You must not use generative AI (such as ChatGPT) or other writing-assistance programs (such as Grammarly) for your assignments. In learning to write well, you are also learning to think clearly.

#### Questions?

Feel free to come to me or to your tutor if you have any questions. Most importantly, if you feel that you're falling behind in the course for any reason, *please talk to one of us*. The sooner we discuss any obstacles to your success in this class, the more likely it is that we will be able to fix them!