

Dr. Shelby Ragan
Bea Wood 221
Office Phone: 940-397-4245
E-mail: shelby.ragan@msutexas.edu
Office hours: TR 8:45-10:45 AM, W 2-3 PM

English 2813: Survey of English Literature I
Section 101
Fall 2021

Course Description

A survey of English Literature from its seventh century beginnings through the neoclassical era. Emphasis is on the works of principal authors as they reflect literary and historical backgrounds.

Texas and Materials

- *The Norton Anthology of English Literature: The Major Authors*, 10th edition, vol. 1, edited by Stephen Greenblatt. ISBN: 978-0-393-60308-8
- 1 composition notebook
- D2L access (internet and computer)

Course Objectives

- Develop and demonstrate a thoughtful understanding, analysis, and appreciation for the diction, syntax, and themes of selected readings from the early English literature canon.
- Write a paper five-to-six pages long that addresses our primary texts with relevant secondary sources. The paper addresses the significance of a text in regard to its historical context and what it means to be a person in western culture.

Assessment of THECB core objectives for LANGUAGE, PHILOSOPHY & CULTURE

- **Critical thinking**
 - To assess a student's critical thinking, the Research Project rubric will be applied to the Research Paper.
- **Communication**
 - To assess a student's communication, the Research Project rubric will be applied to the Research Paper.
- **Personal Responsibility**
 - To assess a student's personal responsibility, the Research Project rubric will be applied to the Research Paper.
- **Social Responsibility**
 - To assess a student's social responsibility, the Research Project rubric will be applied to the Research Paper.

Assignments

Close Reading Assignments	30 pts
Daybooks	20 pts
Participation	10 pts
Argumentation	5 pts
Sonnet Annotation	5 pts
Midterm Reflection	10 pts
Final Essay	20 pts

This class will not use the plus/minus grading system. In this class, the following numerical equivalents for final grades are used: A = 100-90%; B = 89-80%; C = 79-70%; D = 69-60%; F = 59-0%.

According to MSU's Undergraduate Catalogue, "letter grades have the following significance:

- A indicates excellent work
- B indicates good work
- C indicates satisfactory work
- D indicates passing work
- F indicates failing work" (73).

Consequently, work that meets the basic requirements earns a C, not an A or B. If you wish to earn As and Bs, you will have to work harder to produce better than satisfactory, or average, writing.

Submission Format and Policy

All formal assignments are to be typed and formatted - and outside sources documented - according to MLA style, including an MLA header.

Formal assignments are to be submitted to the appropriate Assignment Dropbox on D2L *before* class begins on the due date. Sometimes a physical copy may *also* be required to bring to class, but those times will be specified.

Informal writing (including reading notes, in-class notes, and in-class activities) are to be completed in your composition notebook as part of your daybook grade.

By enrolling in this class, the student expressly grants MSU a "limited right" in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The "limited right" shall include

but shall not be limited to the right to reproduce the student's work product in order to verify originality and authenticity, and for educational purposes.

Note: You may not submit a paper for a grade in this class that already has been (or will be) submitted for a grade in another course, unless you obtain the explicit written permission of me and the other instructor involved *in advance*.

Contacting Instructors

The best way to contact me is by email (shelby.ragan@msutexas.edu). Please allow 24 hours for a response (48 hours on the weekends).

Late Work Policy

Late assignments, defined as work not submitted by the start of class on the designated due date, will be accepted, but they will lose 10% of the final grade. Additionally, *no late work will be accepted more than 48 hours after the original deadline*. If you are unable to come to class on the day an assignment is due, you should still upload it into the D2L Dropbox folder on time to avoid late paper deductions.

Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism is the use of someone else's thoughts, words, ideas, or lines of argument in your own work without appropriate documentation (a parenthetical citation at the end and a listing in "Works Cited")—whether you use that material in a quote, paraphrase, or summary.

At the very least, plagiarism will result in an F on the assignment; at worst, the consequence will be an F in the course. Offenders will be reported to the Chair of the Department of English, Humanities, and Philosophy and/or the Director of Student Conduct.

Attendance Policy

It is important that you attend class and arrive on time. If you have a total of more than two weeks' worth (MWF 6 classes/TR 4 classes) of absences (excused or not) the missed instruction will make it difficult for you to excel in the class. Students who miss class will not be directly penalized, but they will miss out on opportunities for participation and explanations of assignments that could impact the final grade. If you need to miss several classes because of personal reasons, you should alert the Dean of Students office and provide them with the necessary documentation so that they can verify the situation for all of your instructors. Please see the MSU Texas Return to Campus webpage for more information should you begin to experience COVID-19 symptoms.

Students with Disabilities

Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary arrangements. Students must present appropriate verification from the University's Disability Support Services (DSS) Office during the instructor's office hours. Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodation(s) to a student until appropriate verification from DSS has been provided.

Safe Zones Statement

The professor considers this classroom to be a place where you will be treated with respect as a human being – regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, political beliefs, age, or ability. Additionally, diversity of thought is appreciated and encouraged, provided you can agree to disagree. It is the professor’s expectation that ALL students consider the classroom a safe environment.

Writing Proficiency Requirement

All students seeking a Bachelor’s degree from Midwestern State University must satisfy a writing proficiency requirement once they have 1) completed 6 hours of Communication Core and 2) earned 60 hours. Students may meet this requirement by passing the Writing Proficiency Exam, passing two Writing Intensive courses, or passing English 2113. If you have any questions about the exam, visit the [Writing Proficiency Office website](#) or call 397-4131.

Daily Schedule of Readings and Assignments

See attached calendar. Schedule is subject to change based on my discretion and the needs of the class.

When reading is assigned, it should be completed *before* class, and you should take notes in your daybook (having notes from the reading, as well as in-class notes, is part of what gets graded from your daybook at the end of the semester).

Dates where class is not meeting are marked as “no class,” but empty cells indicate only that there is nothing you need to read or complete beforehand.

Course Schedule

Week 1	8/23 Introduction to course	8/25 Syllabus and assignments	8/27 Overview of canon, intro to <i>Norton Anthology</i>
Week 2	8/30 Middle Ages introduction (3-29)	9/1 <i>Beowulf</i> introduction (37-42)	9/3 <i>Beowulf</i> (42-59)
Week 3	9/6 No class	9/8 <i>Beowulf</i> (59-81)	9/10 <i>Beowulf</i> (81-109)
Week 4	9/13 Marie de France intro (115-17) “Lanval” (117-31) Beowulf close reading due	9/15 <i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> intro (140-42) Text (143-53) “Lanval” close reading due	9/17 No class
Week 5	9/20 <i>Sir Gawain</i> (153-66)	9/22 <i>Sir Gawain</i> (166-84)	9/24 <i>Sir Gawain</i> (184-94)
Week 6	9/27 Chaucer intro (195-200) <i>Sir Gawain</i> close reading due	9/29 “General Prologue” (200-21)	10/1 “Wife of Bath’s Prologue and Tale” (237-57)
Week 7	10/4 “Wife of Bath” (257-66)	10/6 Middle Ages review <i>Canterbury Tales</i> close reading due	10/8 16th century intro (359-91)

Week 8	<p>10/11</p> <p>Elizabeth I intro (403-04) “On Monsieur's Departure” (405) “Speech to the Troops at Tilbury” (407-08)</p>	<p>10/13</p> <p>Shakespeare intro (550-54)</p> <p>Elizabeth I close reading due</p>	<p>10/15</p> <p>Sonnet 15 (556) Sonnet 71 (560-61)</p>
Week 9	<p>10/18</p> <p>Sonnet 116 (564) Sonnet 130 (565)</p>	<p>10/20</p> <p>16th century review</p> <p>Sonnet annotation due</p>	<p>10/22</p> <p>Midterm review</p>
Week 10	<p>10/25</p> <p>Early 17th century intro (655-83)</p> <p>Midterm reflection due</p>	<p>10/27</p> <p>Donne intro (684-86) “The Flea” (687)</p>	<p>10/29</p> <p>“A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning” (697-98) “Satire 3” (705-08)</p>
Week 11	<p>11/1</p> <p>Cavendish intro (782-83) “Blazing World” (783-88)</p> <p>John Donne close reading due</p>	<p>11/3</p> <p>Early 17th century review</p> <p>“Blazing World close reading due</p>	<p>11/5</p> <p>Restoration and 18th century intro (955-85)</p>
Week 12	<p>11/8</p> <p>Aphra Behn intro (1027-29) <i>Oroonoko</i> (1033-47)</p>	<p>11/10</p> <p><i>Oroonoko</i> (1048-65)</p>	<p>11/12</p> <p><i>Oroonoko</i> (1066-80)</p>
Week 13	<p>11/15</p> <p>Pope intro (1266-70) “Essay on Criticism” (1270-74)</p>	<p>11/17</p> <p>Johnson intro (1344-46) “Preface to Shakespeare” (1401-10)</p>	<p>11/19</p> <p>Restoration review</p> <p>“Preface to</p>

	<i>Oroonoko</i> close reading due	“Essay on Criticism” close reading due	Shakespeare” close reading due Argumentation in-class work
Week 14	11/22 Semester review Argumentation outline due Daybooks due	11/24 Holiday Break	11/26 Holiday Break
Week 15	11/29 Final essay workday	12/1 Final essay workday	12/3 Last day of class Final essay due Monday of finals week