

ENGL 2813 | Fall 2026 | Dr. Heidi Hakimi-Hood

Survey of English Literature 1

ENGL 2813-150 | Tuesday and Thursday 8-9:20 AM | PY 201A

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Heidi Hakimi-Hood | Phone: (940) 397-4123 | Email: heidi.hakimihood@msutexas.edu

Office: BW 228 | Office hours in person, by phone, or on Zoom at the following times:

MWF: 10:00-11:00 AM | Tues. and Thurs.: 2:00-3:00 PM | OR BY APPOINTMENT

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.

Course Theme: Travelers, Rivals, Haters, and Heroes

Midwestern State University is a unique, opportunity-rich community, a place in which each of us belongs. Our MSU Texas Website states that we Mustangs “are scientists and artists. Athletes and bookworms. Texas natives and students from places all over the map.”

We are all fellow travelers here, and we are working toward becoming the heroes of our own academic and professional stories. As we have learned from the storytellers familiar to us, journeys can be filled with encouragers, travelers, rivals, haters, and heroes, and we must often travel along the same path. We will work together this fall to locate our fellow travelers and map out epic journeys in our readings. We will apply these findings to our class discussions and assignments.

Required Materials

Our required textbook is the E-book for Package 1 of The Norton Anthology of English Literature, 11th edition. Stephen Greenblatt, general editor. Volumes A, B, and C. (Details will be provided in class about how to access these texts through D2L).

A notebook and Pen/Pencil for in-class assignments and notes.

An MSU Email Address

THECB Core Learning Objectives

- To assess the student's **Critical Thinking**, the Research Project rubric will be applied to the Research Paper.
- To assess a student's **Communication**, the Research Project rubric will be applied to the Research Paper.
- To assess a student's **Personal Responsibility**, the Research Project rubric will be applied to the Research Paper.
- To assess a student's **Social Responsibility**, the Research Project rubric will be applied to the Research Paper.

Grading System & Policies

How your final grade will be determined:

Letter-grade system:

- A = 90-100
- B = 80-89
- C = 70-79
- D = 60-69
- F = 0-59

Course Work:

- In-Class Writing/Quizzes/Homework: 70%
- Midterm Exam: 10%
- Travel Log: 10%
- Final Research Paper: 10%
- Total –100%

Acceptable Submission Format and Process

Formal assignments are to be typed and formatted with all sources documented according to MLA style guidelines. Assignments will be uploaded to the D2L Assignment folder. By enrolling in this class, students expressly grant MSU a “limited right” in all intellectual property created for the purpose of this course. The “limited right” includes but is not limited to the right to reproduce the student’s work 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 has been (or will be) submitted for a grade in another course, unless you obtain both instructors’ explicit written permission in advance.

Mid-Term Progress Report

At mid-term, I’ll share a progress report with advisors, support staff, and you. These do not appear on transcripts or affect GPAs. Students earning Cs or below should visit with me and TASP.

Late Assignment Policy

Late assignments, defined as work not submitted to the designated site within 2 hours after the deadline, may still be accepted for credit if you consult with me within two business days of the deadline, at the discretion of the instructor. If you anticipate you may have difficulty meeting a deadline, request an extension at least 24 hours in advance of the due date. If you have difficulty submitting or are unsure if your submission was successful, email me with your work attached and explain the issue. Daily quizzes and day-writings cannot be “made-up” without advance, 24-hours notification. Check the course schedule and plan accordingly.

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Plagiarism is the use of another’s thoughts, words, ideas, or lines of argument in your own work without appropriate documentation (a parenthetical citation at the end and a listing on the Works Cited page)—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 the Dean of Students. Students have the right to appeal an alleged incident of Academic Dishonesty. Additional

guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in [the Student Handbook](#), under Academic Dishonesty Procedure or through [the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#).

Class Preparation and Participation

Class participation, day-writings, quizzes, homework, and class activities are directly tied to keeping up with the readings, which means we will have daily in- and out-of-class writings, including brief in-class writing prompts, reading quizzes, in-class small group work, and various short homework assignments. These day writings will be graded on a plus/x/check/minus scale: (+) for doing a thorough job (100%); (x) for a good job (85%); (✓) for completing the work in an acceptable fashion (70%); (–) for not completing the work or for obvious lack of course-level effort (0%). On occasion, some assignments might, depending on length, count for more than one daily grade. As your grade is determined by your presence and attention to the daily readings, you cannot make up in-class day-writings without advance, 24-hours' notice. To succeed at your daily writing, you must show that you've closely read, have at least a cursory understanding of the material, and address, to the best of your ability, the writing prompts. I do not expect you to remember exact quotations, but specific examples from your reading always help get the point across. It is also good to try to tie in any relevant terminology or critical concepts from class discussions. As you read, take notes and underline/highlight what you believe are key passages in the text (a memorable scene, crucial lines for understanding the work, a summary of the argument, etc.), or things you have trouble understanding. *Please come to each class with comments and questions.

Tardiness Policy

Your behavior in the college classroom should be no different than what will be expected of you as a working professional. Regularly arriving late to class is disruptive to your instructor and your classmates; as such, it will not be tolerated. Students who arrive after the day-writing and/or quiz assignments have begun will automatically receive a minus.

Electronics Policy

Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. This means that the presence of electronic devices is not to be seen, heard, or implied. Any evidence of possible cheating may result in a 0 on the assignment/exam or an 'F' in the course. Violations to the electronics policy will be dealt with individually and possibly involve the Dean of Students and the English Department Chair. This policy includes the use of any Artificial Intelligence Devices, Programs, Smart devices, and wearing of headphones, headsets, earphones, earbuds, etcetera.

AI Policy Details

AI is new and emerging. How you might use it as a tool in your career field will be determined by your discipline's professional organizations, major professors, credentialing entities, and company policies/regulations. Since writing, analytical, and critical thinking skills are part of the learning outcomes of this course, all writing assignments should be prepared, generated, and written by the student. Developing strong competencies in this area will prepare you for a competitive workplace. We certainly have much to anticipate with regard to how AI impacts our chosen occupations, and professions, and our respective disciplines (business, education, engineering, healthcare, R&D, as examples) are doing dynamic work to determine how AI will be normed for the important work within specific career fields. Prior to using AI-tools for writing, students need to establish fundamentals, a word hoard, scholarly building blocks, and an educated understanding of academic writing to which students might apply AI tools in the future, outside of the purview and intent of our class. Since English 2813 is an interdisciplinary academic reading and writing course, we must focus on learning and developing our

skills as critical readers and writers. This course aims to teach ethical research and writing practices, with a focus on the writing process. In this class, AI-generated submissions are not permitted and will be treated as plagiarism. Quite simply, the use of AI is inappropriate for this course.

All work submitted for this course is subject to be scanned by plagiarism and AI checkers. This policy is designed to create learning potential, a space for honoring you and your authentic creativity, critical thinking, and written expression. Note that there is no uniform policy on AI use at MSU. Make efforts to understand the policy for each course you take.

*In this class we are learning to write and express our own academic stories. We simply cannot use AI to replace ourselves as the storytellers of our own emerging academic lives.

Academic Integrity Advice

To avoid penalties, discussions, or accusations of academic dishonesty, I suggest the following:

Ask for help: As the instructor of this course, I am responsible for teaching you about correct and ethical citation and attribution, and I'm available to assist you. Contact me several days before the assignment is due with a link to the source so that I have time to review the article and meet to discuss your concerns.

Don't use AI: You are not allowed to use artificial intelligence (AI) engines, software, or artwork generating programs to produce content submitted for grading in this class.

Provide instructor access to all sources used in assignments: All sources cited in an assignment should be available to your instructor. Save sources in a readily accessible folder, and share that folder by pasting the URL into the comment box of your D2L submission. A link to an abstract or online database with a paywall won't work: I need to be able to read the entire article, as do you.

Accurately cite sources: When using the ideas of other published and/or unpublished sources, students must use accepted documentation conventions (MLA). All quoted content must be placed in "quotation marks," and for quoted, paraphrased, or summarized content, the correct source must be cited in the body and in a list of references.

Course Policies

Attendance Policy

Because this is a discussion-oriented course and the work we do in class is designed to help you understand the readings and improve your critical reading, thinking and writing skills, you must attend class to do well. By failing to regularly attend class you will not understand the critical terminology and concepts necessary to successfully complete the daily writing assignments. You are in college; come to class. Excessive absences will receive a referral to the MSU Dean of Students.

Class Communication - Email & D2L

Before asking questions via email, check D2L and our course syllabus and schedule. If the answers you seek are not provided, please email me for questions and conversation about class activities, deadlines, and any other course concerns.

Email is the best way to contact me about your own performance or attendance. Allow 2 business days for email responses. All emails you send for academic purposes should be revised and edited,

including a greeting, body paragraph(s), and closing, to meet professional expectations for emails. For all correspondence with your instructors, indicate your full name, course and section number.

University Closure Practices

In the event of university closure for inclement weather conditions or emergency situations, students will be notified through official campus channels (MSU Alert, MSU Safety app, Postmaster emails, and website headers). When any schedule changes occur, I will provide schedule updates and assignment expectations using D2L News announcements and university emails, and I will also update the Live Class Schedule to reflect changes. For this course, unless a change is posted to the course D2L News, assignments due to be uploaded or posted to D2L during the closure will remain due as scheduled. Students who are unable to complete assignments due during a closure (for example, due to a power outage) will not be penalized, but will be expected to notify the professor of their situation.

Learning with Generosity

As a community, we have bountiful experiences and needs. Our differences are strengths, and we should strive to learn from them. To learn in a meaningful environment, we must ardently reject language and behaviors that denigrate others. In this learning space, unprofessional communication, talking over others, verbal altercations, and violence are not tolerated. There is a lot we don't know about each other, and our word choices matter as we collaborate and learn.

Formatting

All written work turned in to me for a grade must follow a specific format. I will only accept double-spaced typed work that uses a 12 pt. Arial or Times New Roman font, and the margins must be standard width and height (1-inch all around). Every assignment must have a title centered above the text, your name, class and section, date, and my name (in that order) in the upper left-hand corner of the first page. Assignments that are longer than one page are expected to have page numbers in the lower right-hand corner, beginning on the second page. Assignments that do not follow these guidelines will lose 5 pts.

Note: You may not submit a paper for a grade in this class that has already 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.

Campus Resources & Policies

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

TASP's Learning Center is located on the first floor of the Moffett Library, and tutors are available for one-on-one sessions Monday-Thursday from 11 AM-7 PM. You don't need an appointment to use these services. Writing tutors will not edit your papers for you, but they will provide support and feedback at every stage of the writing process, from brainstorming to drafting, revising to proofreading. [See TASP's Webpage for more information.](#)

Access to Microsoft 365

All students can download Microsoft Office 365 free of charge using their MSU Texas student email address. To acquire Office 365, [visit MSU's Student Resources.](#)

Important Dates

Deadline to file for graduation: Sept. 21, 2026

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First Day to drop a TSI-required course: Oct. 19, 2026

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" Nov. 23, 2026

University Computer Labs

The University provides four open computer labs with Microsoft Office & internet access.

- Clark Student Center: 24 hours (Mon-Sun)
- Dillard 146: Mon-Thurs 6 AM – 7 PM
- Moffett Library: Mon-Thurs 8AM – 10PM; Fri. 8AM-5PM; Sat 10AM-6PM; Sun 2PM-10PM
- Legacy Hall: 24 hours (Mon-Sun)

Moffett Library

Moffett Library provides resources and services to support student's studies and assignments, including books, peer-reviewed journals, databases, and multimedia materials accessible both on campus and remotely. The library offers media equipment checkout, reservable study rooms, and research assistance from librarians to help students effectively find, evaluate, and use information. Explore resources on [Moffett Library's webpage](#) to learn how to best utilize the library.

Grade Appeal Process

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the [Midwestern State University Catalog](#).

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from MSU may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees, and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. However, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans, and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. For information about refunds, refer to [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make an application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

Campus Carry

For information on the University's Campus Carry policies, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Student Emergency Support & Resources

Your well-being and success at MSU are of the utmost importance. The [Student Emergency Support & Resources page](#) features campus and community resources available for students experiencing emergency or extenuating circumstances. Contact student.affairs@msutexas.edu (940-397-7500) for more information.

Emergency Aid Resources for Basic Needs

Unexpected life circumstances can affect anyone. If you are experiencing challenges meeting basic needs—such as housing, utilities, food, transportation, healthcare, technology, textbooks or other life necessities, resources may be available to help. Visit the [Student Emergency Support and Resources webpage](#) to learn more, and explore emergency support opportunities through MSU and how to access them. For additional information, please contact the Office of Student Affairs: Clark Student Center #108, (940) 397-7500, student.affairs@mstuexas.edu.

Recording Classes

****Recording classes is generally prohibited without the professor's explicit permission.*** Such recordings, when permitted, are for personal use only and may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published without the professor's prior consent. Some faculty may not permit recordings of their classes. When it is feasible and appropriate, students may record classes to accommodate disabilities under the Americans With Disabilities Act, with prior approval of Disability Support Services. Such recordings may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [Spreddy – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “Run. Hide. Fight.” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department's webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

Tobacco Policy

Midwestern State University seeks to provide a safe, healthy, pleasant environment for its faculty, staff, and students. To this end, the use of tobacco products, including smoke and smokeless tobacco, and the advertising, sale, free distribution, and discarding of tobacco products shall be prohibited in all indoor and outdoor facilities and in all university vehicles. The policy extends to faculty, staff, students, vendors, guests, and visitors.

Overview Schedule

***Note:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor. Check D2L for updates.

Weeks	Topics/Activities/Assignments	Deadlines: Submit on D2L by 11:59 PM
Week 1: 8/24-8/28	Course Introduction, Introduction to the Middle Ages and Old English Reading: Bede, <i>Caedmon's Hymn</i>	n/a
2: 8/31-9/4	Epics and Comitatus Reading: <i>Beowulf</i> (Intro and text, Vol. A).	n/a
3: 9/8-9/11	Epics and Comitatus Reading: <i>Beowulf</i> (Intro and text, Vol. A).	n/a
4: 9/14-9/18	Elegiac Tone and Medieval Romance Reading: "The Dream of the Rood"; "The Wanderer"; <i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i>	n/a
5: 9/21-9/25	Medieval Romance and Intro to Chaucer Reading: Sir Thomas Mallory, <i>Le Morte Darthur</i> (Death of Arthur)	n/a
6: 9/28-10/2	Introduce Travel Log Assignment Reading: Geoffrey Chaucer, <i>The Canterbury Tales</i> ("General Prologue" and "The Nun's Priest's Tale")	n/a
7: 10/5-10/9	The Tudor Age and Early Renaissance Poetry Reading: Sir Thomas Wyatt ("Whoso List to Hunt" and selected poetry, p. 111); Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey; Queen Elizabeth I (selected speeches and poems). Midterm: In Class on 10/8	n/a
8: 10/12-10/16	Royalty, Elizabethan Sonnets, and Drama Roots Reading: Selections from Lady Jane Grey, Mary I (Tudor), and Mary, Queen of Scots; Sir Philip Sidney (selections from <i>Astrophil and Stella</i>); Edmund Spenser (selections from <i>Amoretti</i>).	10/15: Travel Log Due

Weeks	Topics/Activities/Assignments	Deadlines: Submit on D2L by 11:59 PM
9: 10/19-10/23	Elizabethan Times and Shakespeare. Reading: William Shakespeare, Selected Sonnets; <i>The Tempest</i>	n/a
10: 10/26-10/30	Elizabethan Times and Shakespeare. Reading: William Shakespeare, Selected Sonnets; <i>The Tempest</i>	n/a
11: 11/2-11/6	Milton and the Epic Tradition John Milton, <i>Paradise Lost</i> (Selections from Books I, II, and IX)	n/a
12: 11/9-11/13	Restoration of the monarchy, the rise of the public sphere, mock-heroic form, and allegory Reading: John Dryden, <i>MacFlecknoe</i> ; John Bunyan, <i>The Pilgrim's Progress</i> (selections).	n/a
13: 11/16-11/20	The August Age, Satire, Misanthropy, and Travel Tales Reading: Jonathan Swift, <i>Gulliver's Travels</i> (Book 4). Introduce Final Research Paper	n/a
14: 11/23-11/24	Class will meet on Tuesday. Neoclassicism, Heroic Couplets, and Literary Criticism Reading: Alexander Pope: <i>An Essay on Criticism</i> And Final Research Paper Workshop Last day for "W" Drop (11/23) Thanksgiving Holiday 11/25-11/29	n/a
15: 11/30-12/4	Literature of Sensibility and Lexicography Reading: Samuel Johnson (selections from <i>The Rambler</i> and Preface to <i>A Dictionary of the English Language</i>).	12/3: Final Research Paper Due