



Survey of English Literature I

Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities & Social Sciences

ENGL 2813 X10 (online)

Fall 2026

Contact Information

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Catalog 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.

THECB Core Course Objectives

Critical Thinking

- To assess the student's critical thinking, a Core Objectives rubric will be applied to the Research Project.

Communication

- To assess a student's communication, a Core Objectives rubric will be applied to the Research Project.

Personal Responsibility

- To assess a student's personal responsibility, a Core Objectives rubric will be applied to the Research Project.

Social Responsibility

- To assess a student's social responsibility, a Core Objectives rubric will be applied to the Research Project.

Course Goals

- Read Early English Literature, from Old English beginnings through the 17th and 18th centuries.
- Engage in a writing process of essays and a research project, demonstrating specific knowledge of literary texts and the proficient use of standard written English.
- Demonstrate proficiency in MLA in-body citing and Works Cited

Required Textbook

The Norton Anthology of English Literature. 11th edition. Package 1: Volumes A, B, C. General Editor: Stephen Greenblatt. E-book (IA). IA means Inclusive Access, which means the cost of the book has been added to tuition. In D2L on the navigation bar, click on Content and then, on the left, click on the module **Textbook**. In Textbook, click on the sub-module **Ebook: The Norton Anthology of English Literature: Full ebook link**; then click on the **Contents**. Each title in Contents is a link to a specific story, poem, or discussion. Our pagination follows "Full." (not "portable"). The "Full" volume letter and page number occur precisely where that page begins in the print edition.

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

Tutoring and Academic Support Programs (TASP) provides free drop-in tutoring and homework help for MSU students. Located on the first floor of Moffett Library, TASP's Learning Center provides tutoring support in a number of core courses and subject areas. Remember that you don't need an appointment to utilize these services. Check the [TASP webpage](#) for times.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not produced by the individual to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the [Office of Student Conduct](#).

Essays 1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, and 3a, 3b, and 3c Research Project must be completely written by the student. The penalty for less than complete originality for these assignments—for plagiarism of any part of an essay—is an F (a “0,” no points). The same penalty applies for the use of AI at any point in the writing of Essays 1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 3a, 3b, and 3c Research Project. Use of AI at any stage of these assignments is prohibited.

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. Get started on this [Moffett Library webpage](#) to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

Grading

Table 1: Percentage value for 7 assignments: Essays 1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 3a, 3b, and 3c Research Project.

Assignments (see Course Schedule, pp. 5-8)	Description (see also Course Schedule below, pp. 5-8).	Percent
Essay 1a – pars 2, 3, 4, Works Cited	Compare 2 titles from list by different authors	10%
Essay 1b – add pars 1, 5	Revision of Essay 1a for 1b as per instructor evaluation	20%
Essay 2a – pars 2, 3, 4, Works Cited	Compare 2 titles from list 2 by different authors	10%
Essay 2b – add pars 1, 5	Revision of Essay 2a for 2b as per instructor evaluation	20%
Essay 3a – pars 2, 3, 4, Works Cited	Compare 2 titles from list 3 by different authors	10%
Essay 3b – add pars 1, 5	Revision of 3a for 3b as per instructor evaluation	10%
Essay 3c Research Project – add the 2 research as pars. 5 & 6	Students add two research paragraphs, each citing, and quoting from, the critical apparatus for Volume C.	20%
Total number of assignments: 7	D2L Final Calculated grade is the semester grade	100%

Table 2: Letter grade values. There is no rounding up of any assignment grade and no rounding up of the final calculated grade as computed by D2L: e.g., a 79.9 is a C; an 89.9 is a B; a 69.9 is a D; a 59.9 or lower is an F. The D2L final calculated grade is the semester grade.

Grade	Percent
A	90 to 100
B	80 to 89
C	70 to 79
D	60 to 69
F	Less than 60

Assignments must be in the drop box in order to be graded

Students must submit their writing assignments to their relevant drop boxes before they can be graded; once submitted they can be graded even if early. Getting input from the instructor about your writing-in-progress or a draft (by email or otherwise) does not count as submission for grade.

The module for Notes

In Content in D2L, in the module for Notes, we have four sub-modules of notes—Notes 1a-1b, 2a-2b, and 3a-3b, 3c Research Project—to help students see the connections among our required titles; we are writing three essays in stages, each one of which is a comparison of two titles from the relevant list in our Course Schedule.

Modules for Instructions and Models

In Content in D2L, in the module for Instructions, we have sub-modules of instructions specific to each writing assignment. In the module for Models, we have a model for our “A” assignments (1a, 2a, 3a) and a model for our “B” assignments (1b, 2b, 3b) as well as a model for 3c Research Project, which adds two research paragraphs, each one citing and quoting from our series editor, Stephen Greenblatt, from the critical apparatus of our anthology: i.e., from his period introduction for Volume C and a preface for one of the authors cited in Essay 3a. Students are at liberty to exclude the period introduction and just cite and quote from prefaces for two different authors, that is, the two being compared in 3a, if they prefer. But they need to read the period introduction.

Extra Credit

Students may improve the grade of Essays 1b and 2b due to their significant grade value and early placement in the semester. Students must have the instructor’s approval of their plan to improve the essays. Any late penalty is retained. Revision when complete must be submitted to the original assignment’s drop box before 11:59 PM Monday December 7.

Late Work

D2L will accept late work before **11:59 Monday December 7**. If a writing assignment is flagged as late by D2L (even if by less than a minute), it is penalized 10 points out of 100. The same is true for 3c Research Project, but the drop box for all assignments will lock as of 11:59 PM Monday December 7—no further work accepted.

Forgiveness of Late Penalty

Forgiveness of late penalty for a writing assignment would require medical documentation or the equivalent. Otherwise, the late penalty of 10 points applies.

Withdrawal from Course:

- Last Day to drop Summer II course with a grade of “W:” **before 4:00 PM Monday November 23**. Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
- Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact D2Lhelp@msutexas.edu. If that fails, alert your instructor.

Attendance – D2L Course Access

For an online course, attendance is indicated by Course Access (login activity specifically for ENGL 2813 X10) in D2L. Starting on the first day, you need to create login history by reading our current news item in D2L and examining relevant modules in Content in D2L. Students who have login history in Course Access are considered present. Those who have not checked in at all as of our 12th day become HNA (Has Never Attended).

Online Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. ****Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.*** Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. ****Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!*** There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations; however, they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#) or click on D2Lhelp@msutexas.edu

Instructor Contact Policies by Office Phone and Email

Outlook records your phone call to my office as if it were an email. Be sure to tell me the time and number to return your call (let's make it afternoons or evenings please). I make a special point of being in my office 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Email, of course, is a good way to ask a question or alert me to a concern, including something wrong in our D2L. If you want me to look at your writing-in-progress for an assignment, you may copy and paste your work directly into an email, and I will reply at my first opportunity. In order for me to reply directly to your email, please use your campus or preferred email, not D2L.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (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. Two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request.

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 application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (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](#).

Other College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

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 [MSUReady – 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.”](#)

Grade Appeal Process

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

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Schedule: Reading, Assignments, and Due Dates

Week & dates	The page numbers below are for our Norton E-book. In your E-Book, the “Full” volume letter and page number in the margin indicate where the actual page begins in the printed edition.	Essays are not considered submitted-for-grade until they are in the drop box; The Models for “A,” “B,” and “C” refer to stages of an essay, not grades.
Week 1 Aug 24-28	<i>The Norton Anthology of English Literature</i>, 11th ed. E-book. Volume A: The Middle Ages. Do not use either of these titles (below) for 1a-1b; they are excluded because they are the basis of our model: • <i>The Dream of the Rood</i> 33-37. • Wulfstan of York: <i>Wolf’s Sermon to the English</i> 131-135.	In D2L, see the Models for A & B .
Week 2 Aug 31-Sep 4	Choose two titles by DIFFERENT authors from our 1a-1b list which begins below: • <i>Beowulf</i> (Grendel’s Attack & Grendel’s Mother’s Attack) 37-64, 68-83, lines 1-1061, 1158-1904.	In D2L, see Notes for 1a-1b. For 1a-1b, we are EXCLUDING <i>The Dream of the Rood</i> and <i>Wolf’s Sermon to the English</i> because they are the basis of our models.

Week & dates	The page numbers below are for our Norton E-book. In your E-Book, the “Full” volume letter and page number in the margin indicate where the actual page begins in the printed edition.	Essays are not considered submitted-for-grade until they are in the drop box; The Models for “A,” “B,” and “C” refer to stages of an essay, not grades.
Week 3 Sep 7-11 Labor Day is Sep 7.	Labor Day Holiday is Monday September 7. Our 1a-1b list concludes: • <i>Judith</i> 110-118. • <i>The Wanderer</i> 121-124. • <i>The Wife’s Lament</i> 126-128. • <i>Lanval: A Lay</i> by Marie de France 171-184.	For Essay 1a due Friday September 11. • Compare 2 titles from 1a-1b list in regard to where they converge and are most similar. • Write paragraphs 2, 3, and 4. • Provide Works Cited (MLA cross reference—we don’t repeat publishing information for every citation). See these sub-modules in D2L for Essay 1a: • Instructions for 1a. • Model for “A” Essays. • Notes for 1a-1b. OR Prosopopoeia: For 1a, tell story of the fight with Grendel’s mother from her point of view. See instructions for Prosopopoeia 1a.
Week 4 Sep 14-18	We are working on 1a.	In D2L, see Notes for 2a-2b.
Week 5 Sep 21-25	We are working on 2b.	For Essay 1b due Friday September 25. • Add pars. 1 & 5. • Revise pars. 2, 3, 4, and Works Cited as per evaluation of 1a. See these sub-modules in D2L for Essay 1b: • Instructions for Essay 1b. • Model for “B” Essays. • Notes for 1a-1b. OR Prosopopoeia: For 1b, tell the story of the death of Holofernes from his point of view. OR tell the story of Lanval from Queen Guinevere’s point of view (first-person singular). See instructions for Prosopopoeia 1b.
Week 6 Sep 28-Oct 2	We are comparing Malory and Milton for 2a-2b. Our 2a-2b list begins below. Volume A: The Middle Ages: Sir Thomas Malory, <i>Morte Darthur</i> (The Death of Arthur): 603-622. • The Conspiracy against Lancelot and Guinevere 603-609 • War Between Arthur and Lancelot 609-613. • The Death of Arthur 613-617. • The Deaths of Lancelot and Guinevere 618-622.	In D2L, see Notes for 2a-2b.

Week & dates	The page numbers below are for our Norton E-book. In your E-Book, the “Full” volume letter and page number in the margin indicate where the actual page begins in the printed edition.	Essays are not considered submitted-for-grade until they are in the drop box; The Models for “A,” “B,” and “C” refer to stages of an essay, not grades.
Week 7 Oct 5-9	For Milton, our 2a-2b list switches to Volume B: The 16th and Early 17th Century: John Milton, <i>Paradise Lost</i> 1427-1661. - Book 1: Satan’s boast and Pandemonium 1429-1448. - Book 6: Raphael describes the War in Heaven 1529-1548. - Book 8: Adam Tells Raphael of Eve’s Creation 1563-1576. - Book 9: The Fall of Adam and Eve 1577-1602. - Book 10: Punishment of Adam, Eve, and Satan 1602-1677.	For Essay 2a due Friday October 9: - Compare 2 titles from the list for 2a, 2b. - Write paragraphs 2, 3, 4, and Works Cited (MLA cross reference technique—we don’t repeat publishing information in every citation). See these sub-modules in D2L for Essay 2a: - Instructions for Essay 2a. - Model for “A” Essays. - Notes for 2a-2b.
Week 8 Oct 12-16	We are working on Essay 2b.	In D2L, see Notes for 2a-2b.
Week 9 Oct 19-23	We are working on Essay 2b.	For Essay 2b due Friday October 23. - Revise pars. 2, 3, 4, and Works Cited as per instructor’s evaluation of 2a. - Add paragraphs 1 and 5. See these sub-modules in D2L: - Instructions for Essay 2b. - Model for “B” Essays. - Notes for 2a-2b.
Week 10 Oct 26-30	Here begins our list for 3a-3b; choose two titles by different authors. Volume C: The Restoration and the 18th Century: Alexander Pope, <i>An Essay on Man</i> 566-573. Johnathan Swift, <i>Gulliver’s Travels</i>, Parts 1, 2: <i>A Voyage to Lilliput</i> 382-421. <i>A Voyage to Brobdingnag</i> 421-464. Eliza Haywood: <i>Fantomina: or, Love in a Maze</i>. 649-668	In D2L, see Notes for 3a-3b.

Week & dates	The page numbers below are for our Norton E-book. In your E-Book, the “Full” volume letter and page number in the margin indicate where the actual page begins in the printed edition.	Essays are not considered submitted-for-grade until they are in the drop box; The Models for “A,” “B,” and “C” refer to stages of an essay, not grades.
Week 11 Nov 2-6	We are working on Essay 3a.	For Essay 3a due Friday November 6. • Compare 2 titles from the list for 3a, 3b, and 3c Research Paper. • Write paragraphs 2, 3, 4, and Works Cite (MLA cross reference technique—we don’t repeat publishing information in every citation). See these sub-modules in D2L for Essay 3a: • Instructions for Essay 3a. • Model Essay for “A” Essays. • Notes for 2a-2b.
Week 12 Nov 9-13	We are working on Essay 3b	In D2L see Notes 3a-3b
Week 13 Nov 16-20	We are working on Essay 3b.	For Essay 3b due Friday November 20. • Revise paragraphs 2, 3, 4, and Works Cited as per evaluation of 3a. • Add paragraphs 1 and 5. See these sub-modules in D2L: • Instructions for Essay 3b. • Model for “B” Essays. • Notes for 3a-3b.
Week 14 Nov 23-27	Essay 3c Research Project does NOT authorize use of any database or source outside of our anthology. The first Research paragraph cites and quotes from the introduction to Volume C (Noggle and smith). The second Research paragraph cites and quotes from one of these biographical prefaces. This research paragraph can cite <i>both</i> biographical and title preface (as in the case of Swift and <i>Gulliver’s Travels</i>: • Jonathan Swift 362-364. • Preface for <i>Gulliver’s Travels</i> 377-378. • Alexander Pope 517-521. • Preface for <i>An Essay on Man</i> 566. • Eliza Haywood 649-650.	For 3c Research Project, we are not going outside of our anthology’s critical apparatus. The first Research Paragraph will cite the period introduction for Volume C by editors James Noggle and Courtney Weiss Smith: “The Restoration and the Eighteenth Century, 1660-1785” 3-29. We need one quote from the introduction. And the second Research Paragraph will cite one of the biographical prefaces (on the left) for a specific author; the second research paragraph can also (in addition to the biographical preface) cite the preface for a specific title. We need one quote. The editors are still Noggle and Smith.

Week & dates	The page numbers below are for our Norton E-book. In your E-Book, the “Full” volume letter and page number in the margin indicate where the actual page begins in the printed edition.	Essays are not considered submitted-for-grade until they are in the drop box; The Models for “A,” “B,” and “C” refer to stages of an essay, not grades.
Week 15 Nov 30- Dec 4	Essay 3c adds two research paragraphs, the first of which is based on, and quotes once from, the volume C era introduction and the second of which cites a biographical preface (which can also cite the relevant title preface as well).	For Essay 3c Research Project due Friday December 4: Essay 3c Research Project needs two Research Paragraphs that become paragraphs 5 and 6; paragraph 5 of 3b becomes paragraph 7. See these sub-modules in D2L: • Instructions for 3c Research Project. • Model for 3c Research Project. • Notes for 3c Research Project.
Week 16 Finals Week	We do not have a Final Exam.	We do not have a Final Exam.

THECB Core Objectives Rubric for 3c Research Project

CRITERION*	EXCELLENT	GOOD	SATISFACTORY	POOR	FAILING
Context (Social responsibility) Does the essay establish connections between contemporary society and early literary traditions? Does the essay discuss how the primary texts demonstrate not just the respective aesthetic concerns of the author(s), but civic and social engagement as well? (Personal Responsibility) Does the essay name and evaluate how social, cultural, and/or political ideologies informed authors’ ethical perspectives as expressed through published writings?	-	-	-	-	-
Content Development (Critical Thinking Skills) Does the essay present a clear position and provide a thorough analysis of the issue/problem?	-	-	-	-	-

<i>Genre and Disciplinary Conventions</i> (Communication Skills) Structure Does the essay assert a position with a thesis statement placed at the end of the introduction? Does the essay provide body paragraphs that focus on one idea and support it with several examples and details? Does the essay present an organized discussion? Documentation: Does the essay follow MLA for in-text citations and the Works Cited page? Does the essay use sources in ethical and contextually appropriate ways?					
<i>Sources and Evidence</i> (Communication Skills) Does the essay provide specific examples and/or explanation?					
<i>Control of Syntax and Mechanics</i> (Communication Skills) Is it stylistically appropriate for an academic reader? Does the essay demonstrate proficiency in standard written English?					