

ENGL 2813 English Survey of Literature I

Fall 2024 ENGL 2813 101 & 150 **PY 209 (center, 2nd floor): 9:30 – 10:50 AM TR**

Course supplemented by D2L. On navigation bar, click on CONTENT. See READ ME FIRST for syllabus.

Dr. Peter Fields, assoc. professor of English

peter.fields@msutexas.edu

Bea Wood 230 in PY (Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences)

Office Hours: MW 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM; TR 11:15 AM – 12:15 AM.

You may call ANY time at 940-397-4246.

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 Objectives

- Write two **Essays**, each comprising three typed, double-spaced description paragraphs—two of which pertain to one work, one to another. Description paragraphs feature a topic idea, description of a scenario or action with lots of specific details (description should be sustained—most of the paragraph), insight, and quote with parenthetical reference. Students use our primary text to answer the prompt question. We use MLA in-body citing.
- Write a typed, double-spaced **Research Project** of six paragraphs: i.e., two paragraphs from the Essays as paragraphs two and three, each representing different works. Paragraph one is a mini-essay anticipating ideas, characters, and scenarios in paragraphs two and three. Paragraph four explains and quotes from a supporting source in the critical edition pertaining to paragraph two; paragraph five does the same for a supporting source in the critical edition pertaining to paragraph three.
- **Paragraph six** of the Research Project is a reflective epilogue/coda we will write in-class as our Final. This epilogue begins by describing a scenario not mentioned in paragraphs two or three.
- Develop and demonstrate a thoughtful appreciation for the diction, syntax, and themes of *Beowulf*, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, Chaucer's *Miller's Tale & Wife of Bath's Prologue*, Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, Milton's *Paradise Lost*, and Julian of Norwich's *Showings*.

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/Grade percentage

- **Essay 1 (30 percent) three description paragraphs**
- **Essay 2 (30 percent) three description paragraphs**
- **Research Project (30 percent) – Pars. 1-5 as submitted document; Par. 6 in class as final.**
- **Attendance (10 percent).**

Attendance Grade (10 %): I take roll right away. If you are late, be sure to tell me you were present before you leave. Here is the percentage grade as per number of missed classes. An absence is excused only if the student can document it (e.g., cell phone picture of paperwork with name and date) to the satisfaction of the instructor.:

One absence: 100 %	Five: 60 %	Nine: 20 %
Two: 90 %	Six: 50 %	Ten: 10 %
Three: 80 %	Seven: 40 %	Over ten: 0 %
Four: 70 %	Eight: 30 %	

Grade values are as follows: 90-100 (A), 80-89 (B), 70-79 (C), 60-69 (D), and below 60 is F.

The **final calculated grade** in D2L is the actual semester grade. It is NOT rounded up: e.g., an 89.9 is a B (not an A); a 79.9 is a C (not a B); a 69.9 is a D (not a C); 59.9 is an F (not a D). The same is true for the Essays and Research Project (in-class paragraph six is graded as part of the Research Project). They are not rounded up.

AVOIDING ACADEMIC DISHONETY: I am all the AI you need for this course.

Do not succumb to temptation by using AI or something you found on the internet. A document which relies on AI or borrows from sources I have not approved is a "0" (an F). Please think of ME (your instructor) as your AI. I am not even remotely all-knowing nor do I possess "machine knowledge." But I do know what you need for this course.

OPTION: GETTING MY INPUT ON YOUR PARAGRAPHS BEFORE YOU SUBMIT FOR GRADE

You have the OPTION in D2L of getting my **preliminary feedback** on your paragraphs as writing-in-progress. In CONTENT click on the relevant GETTING MY INPUT module; then click on the arrow beside the title of the discussion forum; click on VIEW TOPIC; type or copy-and-paste your paragraph into the text box and post to me (don't use the attachment function; I cannot reply to it). I will catch errors of whatever I find in the text box. I will fix punctuation. I can make your paragraph better with subtle, surgical changes in phrasing and/or word choice. If you have misunderstood or overlooked something important, I will tell you.

I am the ONLY person who can see your paragraph(s); you are the ONLY person who can see my reply.

Getting my input on your paragraphs as writing-in-progress has to occur in timely fashion.

Getting my input ahead of time on your writing is OPTIONAL. If you prefer to do everything the night before or even the day it is due, you certainly do not have time for my input.

ASSIGNMENTS

- **ESSAY:** An ESSAY is three description paragraphs (two paragraphs for one of our titles, one for another title—e.g., two description paragraphs for BEOWULF and one for SIR GAWAIN)—that address a prompt (see reading schedule below). A description paragraph has four components: topic idea, description of scenario or action, insight, and quote that follows MLA in-body citing standards (quotation marks and parenthetical reference—line numbers for poetry, page number for prose). Most of a description paragraph is descriptive—specific details in your own words.
- **RESEARCH PROJECT:** The two best description paragraphs (from Essays 1 and 2) will become paragraphs two and three of the RESEARCH PROJECT. Paragraphs four and five of the RESEARCH PROJECT explain (and quote from) supporting sources (one supporting source per paragraph). Students choose their supporting sources from the apparatus in our required critical editions. Paragraph length is whatever does justice to the topic (approximately 300 – 400 words).
- **FINAL:** The RESEARCH PROJECT features a paragraph one that previews the important ideas, characters, and scenarios in paragraphs two and three. The RESEARCH PROJECT also features an epilogue/coda, that is, a final paragraph that starts with, and reflects in light of, a scenario with descriptive details from one of our texts but this particular scenario was not mentioned in paragraphs two or three. Reflection should be universal in some sense and inclusive of more than one work. We will write the epilogue—paragraph SIX—in class as our Final. We use MLA in-body citing for all assignments. For the RESEARCH PROJECT we must have an MLA Works Cited with hanging indent.

In CONTENT in D2L: **Instructions for Essays 1 and 2 & Research Project**

This is the module that contains instructions for what you need to do for Essays 1 and 2, and for the Research Project. On the navigation bar, click on CONTENT. All modules are down the left side.

READING & DUE DATES

Week 1 August 26-30

Beowulf: Be familiar with the Race with Breca (lines 491-661), but you cannot use it for a description paragraph because I have already claimed it for a model paragraph.

Read the FIGHT with Grendel and the celebration with Queen Wealhtheow: lines 86-163, 662-1007, 1158-1250.

Week 2 September 2-6

The FIGHT with Grendel's mother: lines 1251-1650; Hrothgar's homily on Pride and Heremod: lines 1651-1798. The FIGHT with the Dragon: lines 2293-2354, 2397-2424, and 2510-2820.

Week 3 September 9-13

Malory's *Le Morte Darthur*. From *The Marriage of King Uther unto King Arthur*: pp. 31-43. Every page is important but students are drawn to the episode of Uther's deception pp. 31-37 and especially the episode of the Sword in the Stone pp. 37-43.

From *Sir Tristram de Lyones* (Selections concerning Lancelot and Elaine of Corbin): see where Dame Elaine of Corbin tricks Lancelot into conceiving by her the son prophesied to exceed his father and achieve the Grail pp. 79-87;
the Holy Grail heals Lancelot after a long period of madness pp. 87-101;
Lancelot cannot accept a happy life with Elaine on the Joyous Isle and calls himself The Knight That Hath Trespassed pp. 101-109.

Week 4 September 16-20

Be familiar with this scenario from *The Noble Tale of the Sankgreal*: Galahad (Lancelot's son by Elaine) takes his rightful seat in the Siege Perilous; the Holy Grail appears to the knights of the round table pp. 110-122. However, you cannot use this scenario for a description paragraph because I have already claimed it for a model paragraph.

But the following Grail scenarios are free and clear for your use:

Lancelot confesses his great sin to the hermit pp. 125-132;
Lancelot is driven back by the Grail and lies in a coma for 24 days pp. 140-147;
Galahad (Lancelot's son) sees Christ rise from the Grail pp. 149-154;
Galahad completes the quest of the Grail in Sarras pp. 155-160;

from The Tale of Sir Launcelot & Queen Guinevere:

Meliagaunt's ill-fated challenge of Lancelot pp. 226-236;
Lancelot heals Sir Urry pp. 236-245.

Week 5 September 23-27

From the chapter The Death of Arthur: pp. 246-309:
Agravain & Mordred lay a trap for Lancelot and Queen Guinevere pp. 246-254;
Lancelot rescues Queen Guinevere but kills the brothers of Gawain at the same time pp. 256-282;
Lancelot retreats to Benwick in France; he reluctantly fights Gawain who is mortally wounded pp. 282-294; the death of Gawain and Arthur pp. 294-322.

Week 6 September 30-Oct 4

Essay 1 for BEOWULF & MALORY'S ARTHUR due in DROP BOX before 11:59 PM Monday September 30.

Milton's *Paradise Lost*:

Eternal Providence 1.1-26;

Be familiar with Satan's dialogue with Beelzebub in the lake of fire 1.84-270; also, building Pandemonium 1.242-330. I have claimed both scenarios for model paragraphs; do not use them for your description paragraphs.

You can use this scenario: Satan, Sin, and Death at the gates of hell: 2.629-1055.

Week 7 October 7-11 [Dr. Fields is at Rocky Mountain MLA conference Oct. 9-12.]

Satan observes Adam and Eve; Eve's initial reluctance to accept Adam: 4.288- 538.

The Dream that Satan plants in Eve's sleeping mind: 5.26-135.

Week 8 October 14-18

Adam tells Raphael about the creation of Eve: 8.349-653.

The Fall of Adam and Eve: 9.445-1189.

Week 9 October 21-25

War in Heaven: Michael wounds Satan: 6.245-353

War in Heaven: Satan and rebel angels deploy cannons; God's angels react by throwing mountains at the rebel angels; total destruction of heaven: 6.469-679.

The Son drives the Ezekiel chariot and drives Satan and rebel angels out of heaven: 6.680-912

Punishment of Satan, Sin, and Death: 10.410-640.

Week 10 October 28-November 1

For background, be sure to familiarize yourself with Julian's most important vision: ALL SHALL BE WELL AND ALL MANNER OF THINGS SHALL BE WELL (pp. 39-46, chs. 27-32).

The Vision of the Servant and the Lord: pp. 70-79, ch. 51.

The Vision of the Motherhood of Christ: pp. 90-97, chs. 58-61.

Week 11 November 4-8

I have claimed the Christ-as-our-clothing scenario for a model paragraph (p. 9; ch. 5; p. 11; ch. 6); you cannot use it for a description paragraph.

Christ's bleeding head: pp. 8-14, chs. 4-7.

Face half covered by blood: pp. 17-18, Ch. 10. On p. 17 she goes under the sea.

Providence as the Foreseeing Wisdom of God, pp. 20-21, ch. 11.

The Vision of the Plenteous Bleeding: p. 22, ch. 12.

The Vision of the Sharp Thorns & Julian's feeling of Christ's pain: pp. 26-29, chs. 16-17.

Week 12 November 11-15

Essay 2 for Milton's *Paradise Lost* & Julian's Showings due in DROP BOX before 11:59 PM Monday November 11.

Week 13 November 18-22 The ESSAY

OPTION: GETTING MY INPUT: the RESEARCH PROJECT.

Week 14 November 25-29 – THANKSGIVING – No classes Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

OPTION: GETTING MY INPUT: the RESEARCH PROJECT.

Week 15 December 2-6. The ESSAY

OPTION: GETTING MY INPUT: the RESEARCH PROJECT:

Finals Week: 8:00 – 10:00 AM In-class Final - TUESDAY DECEMBER 10

We will write PARAGRAPH SIX of our RESEARCH PROJECT in class as our Final Exam—just this paragraph.

RESEARCH PROJECT: Pars. 1-5 are due in the drop box before 11:59 PM Tuesday December 10. The Essay is penalized 10 points even if it is less than a minute late. The drop box for the Essay will close and lock permanently two hours after the due date.

Late Work – Must be in the drop box no later than 11:59 PM Tuesday December 10. The late penalty is 10 points out of 100. The drop boxes will be locked as of 2:00 AM December 11.

Students with disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guarantees reasonable accommodation. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Support Services in Room 168 of the Clark Student Center, 397-4140.

ENGL 2813 RUBRIC FOR THE RESEARCH PROJECT

Adapted from the *Critical Thinking, Written Communication, Ethical Decision-Making, and Civic Engagement Value Rubrics* published by Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU).

CRITERION*	EXCELLENT	GOOD	SATISFACTORY	POOR	FAILING
<p>Context (<i>Social responsibility</i>) 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?</p> <p>(<i>Personal Responsibility</i>) Does the essay name and evaluate how social, cultural, and/or political ideologies informed authors' ethical perspectives as expressed through published writings?</p>					
<p>Content Development (<i>Critical Thinking Skills</i>) Does the essay present a clear position and provide a thorough analysis of the issue/problem?</p>					
<p>Genre and Disciplinary Conventions (<i>Communication Skills</i>)</p> <p>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?</p> <p>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?</p>					
<p>Sources and Evidence (<i>Communication Skills</i>) Does the essay provide specific examples and/or explanation?</p>					
<p>Control of Syntax and Mechanics (<i>Communication Skills</i>) Is it stylistically appropriate for an academic reader? Does the essay demonstrate proficiency in standard written English?</p>					

QUICK REFERENCE

Week or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 1 8/26 to 8/30	<i>Beowulf</i> : Fight with Grendel Fight with Grendel's mother	
Week 2 9/2 to 9/6	<i>Beowulf</i> : Fight with the Dragon	
Week 3 9/9 to 9/13	Malory's <i>Le Morte Darthur</i> : The Sword in the Stone	
Week 4 9/16 to 9/20	Malory: Lancelot, Guinevere, & Elaine	
Week 5 9/23 to 9/26	Malory: Grail Quest & Death of Arthur	
Week 6 9/30 to 10/04	ESSAY 1: Three Description paragraphs for Beowulf & Malory	Due Monday September 30
Week 7 10/7 to 10/11	<i>Milton's Paradise Lost</i> Satan at the Gates of Hell	
Week 8 10/14 to 10/18	Milton: Adam, Eve, Satan	
Week 9 10/21 to 10/25	Milton: War in Heaven	
Week 10 10/28 to 11/1	Julian of Norwich's <i>Showings</i> : Motherhood of Jesus & Homely Love	
Week 11 11/4 to 11/8	Motherhood of Jesus & Homely Love	
Week 12 11/11 to 11/15	ESSAY 2: Three Description Paragraphs for Milton & Julian	Due Monday November 11
Week 13 11/18 to 11/22	RESEARCH PROJECT: Supporting Paragraphs from supporting sources in our critical editions.	
Week 14 11/25 to 11/29	RESEARCH PROJECT: Supporting Paragraphs from supporting sources in our critical editions.	
Week 15 12/2 to 12/6	RESEARCH PROJECT: Supporting Paragraphs from supporting sources in our critical editions.	
Finals Week 12/9-12/13	RESEARCH PROJECT: Pars. 1-5 due in drop box. We will write PAR SIX in class as our FINAL 8:00 to 10:00 AM same day, Tuesday December 10.	RESEARCH PROJECT due Tuesday Dec 10; we will write par. 6 in class as Final at 8:00 AM on Dec 10.