American Public University System

The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

School of Arts and Humanities

LIT210
English Literature: Beowulf to 18th Century
Credit Hours: Three
Length of Course: 8 Weeks
Prerequisite(s): ENGL101

Table of Contents

Instructor Information

Course Description (Catalog)

In this course, students will study selected texts in English literature from the start of written literature in the Anglo-Saxon period through the 18th century. The course will include prose, fiction and nonfiction, drama, essays and poetry, with a focus on the historical and cultural contexts and issues relevant to the time.

Course Scope

This course, LIT210 English Literature: *Beowulf* to Eighteenth Century provides the student the opportunity to study, analyze, and evaluate a wide range of British writings from *Beowulf* to the

eighteenth century, or from the Anglo-Saxon to Neoclassical Period. The student will practice writing skills while learning many traditional literary styles and periods. Throughout the course, students will review literary styles, conventions, and examples of verse and prose writings. Students also will demonstrate knowledge of this literature via forum postings and essays. The writing process figures in the class as learners complete writing assignments analyzing literary works. The final project will further demonstrate the student's ability to synthesize class-related information, ideas and analysis.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course,

1. Students will explore the similarities and differences between two texts, then write a compare and contrast essay.
2. Students will compose an essay in which they recognize examples of religious themes in selected works.
3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of literary genre by rewriting a text in a modern version to include appropriate literary devices.
4. Students will discuss Anglo-Saxon, Elizabethan, Jacobean, and Neoclassical authors and works.
5. Students will discuss cultural environment surrounding texts.
6. Students will discuss the use of literary elements, styles, and movements in readings.

Course Delivery Method

This course delivered via distance learning will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course materials and access to an online learning management system will be made available to each student. Online assignments are due by Sunday evening of the week as noted and include Forum questions (accomplished in groups through a threaded forum), examination, and individual assignments submitted for review by the Faculty Member). Assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

Course Resources

Required Readings

We are using e-texts for this course, which means you will not have a hard copy of the book. To access the e-texts please go to "Lessons" on the course menu. You will see all of the reading materials arranged by week.

Additional Resources

Many of the readings for the course can be found in recent editions of the *Norton Anthology of English Literature*, along with editor introductions and other supplementary materials. Though we are not working directly with the Norton anthology, earlier editions (eighth edition or previous) are inexpensive, easily purchased used, and offer the comfort of hard copy as well as supplemental material.

Web Sites

In addition to the required content readings, the following public domain web sites offer useful information about literary discussion and paper composition. Please abide by the university's academic honesty policy when using Internet sources as well. Note web site addresses are subject to change.

Site Name	Web Site URL/Address
Purdue Online Writing Lab (Writing in Literature)	http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/4/17/
Gale/Cengage Glossary of Literary Terms	http://www.gale.cengage.com/free_resources/glossary/
Diana Hacker's Research and Documentation Text	http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/resdoc5e/

Evaluation Procedures

Your final grade will be based on the following:

Grade Instruments	Points Possible	% of Final Grade

Essay One (Week 3)	100	20%
Essay Two (Week 6)	100	20%
Final Project (Week 8)	100	25%
Discussion Forums (9 Total)	900	35%

Rubrics for individual assignments can be found in the "Resources" section of the online classroom.

Grading Scale

Please see the Student Handbook **to reference the University's** grading scale**.**

Course Outline

Week	Topic	Learning Objectives	Readings	Assignment
1	The Anglo-Saxon Period	4, 5, 6	Week 1 Lecture The Norton Anthology of English Literature – Norton Topics Online: Linguistic and Literary Contexts of *Beowulf* "Caedmon's Hymn" "The Dream of the Rood" *Beowulf*	Forum 1
2	The Middle Ages I: Chaucer' Canterbury Tales	4, 5, 6	Week 2 Lecture "The General Prologue" "The Knight's Tale" (Summary) "The Miller's Prologue" and "Tale" "The Wife of Bath's Prologue" and "Tale"	Forum 2

3	The Middle Ages II: Malory, Spenser & Elizabeth I	1, 4, 5, 6,	Week 3 Lecture Malory's *Morte Darthur* (Books 20 and 21) Edmund Spenser, *Faerie Queen* (Book 1) Elizabeth I (selected speeches and poems)	Forum 3 Essay 1
4	Experiments and Explorations: The Metaphysical Poets	4, 5, 6	Week 4 Lecture Selected poems by: George Herbert, John Donne, Robert Herrick, and Andrew Marvell	Forum 4
5	God and Man: Milton and Bunyan	4, 5, 6	Week 5 Lecture John Milton, *Paradise Lost* (Books 1 and 9) John Bunyan, *Pilgrim's Progress* (1-99)	Forum 5
6	Looking Abroad: Aphra Behn and the Colonial Enterprise	2, 4, 5, 6	Week 6 Lecture Aphra Behn, *Oroonoko*	Forum 6 Essay 2
7	Revolution and Rights: Johnson, Burke, and Equiano	4, 5, 6	Week 15 Lecture Edmund Burke, "Speech on Conciliation with America" Samuel Johnson, "Taxation No Tyranny" Olaudah Equiano, *Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano ...*	Forum 7
8	Final Project	3, 4, 5, 6		Forum 8 Final Project

Policies

Please see the Student Handbook to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

> Drop/Withdrawal Policy
> Plagiarism Policy
> Extension Process and Policy
> Disability Accommodations

Writing Expectations

There are two main types of writing in this course: Forum and Essay/Project. The forums are a discussion space, and therefore writing standards are more relaxed. Spelling and grammar will not be graded, and a conversational tone is expected, but clarity of expression is still a priority. Essays are formal writing assignments, and should be written in a formal style, as thesis-driven arguments based on close readings of assigned texts. Final projects may allow some leeway in style, depending on the project, but they also are formal assignments, and presentation is important.

Citation and Reference Style

Attention Please: Students will follow MLA style as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University. Assignments completed in a narrative essay or composition format must follow the citation style cited in the MLA Style Manual. See the APUS MLA Style Guide here.

Late Assignments

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

Netiquette

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and "flaming." Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper "Netiquette" must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Sakai classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.
- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and _especially_ satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add "emoticons" to help alert your readers: ;-), :), ☺

Disclaimer Statement
Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to librarian@apus.edu.

- **_Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:_** The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- **_Electronic Books:_** You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- **_Electronic Journals:_** The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- **_Tutor_.com**: AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutor.com connects you with a professional tutor online

24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.

There is a Library Guide for this course here.

The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. The following are specially tailored for academic research at APUS:

- Program Portals contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name, or navigate by school.
- Course Lib-Guides narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., SOCI111), or class name.

Turnitin.com

All essay and written projects for this course will be submitted to Turnitin.com. This tool is integrated into the classroom.

Selected Bibliography

See classroom for additional resources.