

Middle English Literature, ENGL 4300

ENGL 4300, Medieval Literature, Spring 2020

Meeting Time: T 6:00-8:40 p.m.

Dr. David Strong, dstrong@uttyler.edu

Office hours: TR 12:20-1:30 p.m. and by appointment.

Required Text: The Norton Chaucer: The Canterbury Tales, ISBN: 978-0-393-63446-4
Norton Critical Edition: Middle English Romances, ISBN: 978-0-393-96607-7

Aim of Course:

The study of medieval British Literature involves a submersion into a world that balances chivalric with religious ideals, individual with communal duties, and spiritual pursuits with socially productive ones. Whether reading a romance, an exemplum, or a fable, the genres distinct to this era reveal heightened awareness of the complexities confronting each individual in his quest to attain personal fulfillment. Sometimes the texts explore in artistic detail the psychological motivations of the texts' characters; at other times, character development is sacrificed in favor of episodic adventure. Despite the style embraced by the respective author, medieval literature invites a post-modern reader into a way of thinking that highlights those very concerns underpinning 21st century pilgrims who seek to perfect their being in mundane confines.

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. read, analyze, and interpret a number of passages in light of the text's dominant themes.
2. demonstrate an awareness of the cultural or historical significance of the texts.
3. explain how literary genres determine a text's construction.
4. synthesize a detailed knowledge of literary works belonging to a specific time period.

To sharpen our minds, we will have a mid-term, a final examination, and a ten-page research paper. Each task counts for thirty percent of the final grade. In addition, one homework analysis task will be assigned; it will be worth ten percent of the final grade. The exam must be taken during the class period of the assigned day. Regular attendance and participation are mandatory. You are allowed three absences; every other absence causes your final grade to be lowered one letter grade.

Please note: a college education is meant to teach students to think outside of their own viewpoints—to expose them to multi-faceted ways of thinking and knowing. That is intellectual growth and exploration. A student will not be excused from class discussion or assignments simply because they do not agree with the text. Topics such as religion, sex, and politics are fundamental in literary studies and, thus, will be examined in detail. Also, if time constraints arise, changes to the assigned readings may be made.

Course Expectations:

Lectures are the intellectual property of the instructor and may not be recorded under any circumstance. No voice recorder, camera or any type of electronic device can be used unless documentation of a disability which requires such a device has been provided. Cell phones must be turned off and put away before class begins. Texting and talking on the phone is prohibited.

According to the university's policies on academic misconduct and non-academic misconduct, you will not engage in any academic misconduct in this course, including, but not limited to, plagiarism, use of unattributed sources, and cheating on exams. Any kind of cheating and/or plagiarism will result in my being turned into the student disciplinary committee and automatically failing the class.

UT Tyler Honor Code

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>.

Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>.

UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors.

Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products. There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free.

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. (For Fall, the Census Date is Sept. 12.) Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date (Sept. 12th) is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.

- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a “W” grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability Services

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible disabilities such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTYLER> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester. Revised 09/16

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

i. "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:

- copying from another student's test paper;
- using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
- possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes". The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
- using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructors has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
- taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
- misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.

ii. "Plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the submission of it as one's own academic work offered for credit.

iii. "Collusion" includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.

iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by SafeAssign™, available on Blackboard.

UT Tyler Resources for Students

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254)

Syllabus—ENGL 4300

1 st week: Jan. 14-16	Introduction; The Second Nun's Prologue & Tale
2 nd week: Jan. 21-23	The Second Nun's Prologue & Tale; The Prioress's Prologue & Tale
3 rd week: Jan. 28-30	Man of Law's Prologue & Tale; <i>Census Date is Monday, January 27.</i>
4 th week: Feb. 4-6	Man of Law's Prologue & Tale; <i>Homework Assignment is due on Tuesday, February 4 at the beginning of class.</i>
5 th week: Feb. 11-13	The Pardoner's Prologue & Tale
6 th week: Feb. 18-20	The Pardoner's Prologue & Tale
7 th week: Feb. 25-27	Mid-Term Exam
8 th week: Mar. 3-5	The Wife of Bath's Prologue & Tale
9 th week: Mar. 9-14	<i>Spring Break</i>
10 th week: Mar. 17-19	The Franklin's Tale
11 th week: Mar. 24-26	The Franklin's Tale
12 th week: Mar. 31-Apr. 2	Sir Launfal; Sir Orfeo
13 th week: Apr. 7-9	Sir Orfeo
14 th week: Apr. 14-16	The Weddyng of Syr Gawen and Dame Ragnell for Helpyng of Kyng Arthoure
15 th week:	

Apr. 21-23

The Weddyng of Syr Gawen and Dame Ragnell for Helpyng of Kyng
Arthoure

16th week:
April 28

Final Exam will be on Tuesday, April 29 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.