

NAME: Christopher Matusiak

COURSE NUMBER: ENG202Y5Y

COURSE TITLE: British Literature: Medieval to Romantic

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course surveys major works of English literature written between the medieval and Romantic periods. First term readings of Chaucer, Spenser, Shakespeare, Marlowe, Donne, Wroth, and Milton will enable students to explore the development of English epic, romance, erotic verse, and tragedy. In term two, we will read Behn, Swift, Pope, Wollstonecraft, Wordsworth, the Shelleys, and Byron, while examining the refinement of satire and polemic, the emergence of the novel, and poetry of the self. Themes of the course will include: the changing representation of women and men, heroism and mortality, bodily and spiritual desires, the human relationship with nature, and concepts of beauty and ugliness. We will also devote time to developing strategies for close reading and essay writing.

REQUIRED READING:

Greenblatt, et al, eds. *The Norton Anthology of English Literature: The Major Authors*, 8th ed. Vol. A (The Middle Ages through the Restoration and Eighteenth Century) and Vol. B (The Romantic Period through the Twentieth Century) paperback (Norton, 2006)

Shelley, *Frankenstein* (Oxford World's Classics, 1998)

FIRST THREE TEXTS/AUTHORS TO BE STUDIED:

The Dream of the Rood
Beowulf
Lanval

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION: Lecture / discussion

METHOD OF EVALUATION: Close-reading exercises (3 x 5% = 15%); first-term essay (10%); first-term test (10%), second-term essay (20%); informed participation (10%); final exam (35%)