

Instructor: Chester N. Scoville

Course Number: ENG330H5S

Course Title: Early Drama

Course Description: Many standard theatre histories jump from the classical drama of Greece to the Elizabethan theatre of Shakespeare as if nothing happened during the intervening centuries. Yet the drama of the Middle Ages is the true ancestor of modern theatrical traditions, and is some of the most powerful and vibrant theatre ever created. This course will examine the plays of the Middle Ages and early Modern periods, paying attention to their history, development, social context, and theatrical practises, as well as to their importance as literary and dramatic texts. Prior knowledge of Middle English is helpful but not required.

Required Reading: All readings will be taken from *Medieval Drama*, ed. David Bevington, available from the UTM bookstore.

First three authors/texts to be studied: *Quem quaeritas*, *The Play of Adam*, *The Play of Daniel*

Method of Instruction: Lecture, discussion

Method of Evaluation: Two essays, mid-term test