



Instructor: Cary Dipietro

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Course Number: ENG202Y5Y

Course Title: British Literature: Medieval
to Romantic

Course description: In this course, we will survey a thousand years of British literature in order to develop an understanding of its intellectual and social history, and the development of its literary forms. Students will acquire a rich understanding of the historical character of writing in different periods, from the medieval, including the Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Norman traditions, through the Renaissance or early modern period and Restoration, to the long eighteenth century and the Romantics in the early nineteenth. We will also consider the three major genres, poetry, drama and prose narrative, but will be able to compare and contextualize the development of literary forms across different periods. While the emphasis of the course will be on reading widely and developing a foundation of knowledge for the further study of English literature, this course will also help students to develop skills of analytical close-reading and essay writing.

Required Reading: All course readings will be taken from the *Broadview Anthology of English Literature, Concise Edition, Volume A* (ISBN 978-1-55481-048-2) and *The Broadview Anthology of British Literature, Volume 4: The Age of Romanticism* (978-1-55111-404-0). Among the writers we will study are Marie de France, Geoffrey Chaucer,

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Margery Kempe, Thomas Wyatt, William Shakespeare, Edmund Spenser, Philip Sidney, Elizabeth I, Christopher Marlowe, Ben Jonson, John Donne, George Herbert, John Milton, William Wycherley, Alexander Pope, Samuel Johnson, William Blake, William Wordsworth, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, John Keats and Mary Shelley.

First Three Texts/Authors to be Studied: *Beowulf*; *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*; Chaucer, selections from *The Canterbury Tales*.

Method of Instruction: Lecture and tutorial discussion.

Method of Evaluation: Tutorial participation, essays, mid-term and final exam.