

Welcome to ENG2301E, Section 001, the “British Literature Survey”!

This course will provide you with a very broad experience of the literature emanating from Great Britain over the course of some 1500 years. We'll be reading texts from a variety of historical periods and in a very diverse range of genres. The primary functions of the course are two-fold: first, to provide you with exposure to some of the “classic” canonical works of the tradition of English literatures, and second, to provide context, background, and history to the other texts you have studied, or may come to study, in English literature. The history of English literature is itself a narrative, characterized by sweeping change and replete with drama and excitement. You'll be getting a good taste of all of this in this course.

Evaluation

Essay 1 (6-8 pages) – 15%
Annotated Bibliography – 10%
Essay 2 (10-12 pages) – 20%
First Term Test – 10%
Participation – 10%
Exam – 35%

Course Objectives Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Discuss the development of English/British literature and textual traditions across time;
- Recognize literary texts' relationship to that tradition;
- Recognize and discuss formal and rhetorical features of literary texts;
- Engage in close reading of literary texts;
- Become acquainted with some of the major theoretical approaches to English/British literature;
- Sharpen their essay writing skills;
- Learn how to properly and effectively engage in the research of secondary literary criticism, and how to properly and effectively employ such criticism in their literary essays.

For information on Academic Relief, Counselling, and Plagiarism, please see the Department of English Writing Studies' page on [Student Information](#) and [Student Resources](#).

FIRST TERM

Week 1 – 8 September – Introductory Class

Week 2 – 13 - 15 September, 2022

“Caedmon,” “[Caedmon’s Hymn](#)” (Parallel Text)

[Beowulf](#) (Verse Translation)

Week 3 – 20 - 22 September, 2022

“The Gwain Poet,” [Sir Gwain and the Green Knight](#) (Prose Translation)

Week 4 – 27 - 29 September, 2022

Sir Philip Sidney, “[The Defence of Poesy](#)”

George Herbert, “[Easter Wings](#)”

Week 5 – 4 - 6 October, 2022

John Milton, [Paradise Lost](#) (All 12 Books, accessible through the side menu)

Week 6 – 11 - 13 October, 2022

John Milton, [Paradise Lost](#) (All 12 Books)

Week 7 – 18 - 20 October, 2022

Andrew Marvell, “[To His Coy Mistress](#)”

John Dryden, [Macflecknoe](#)

Week 8 – 25 - 27 October, 2022

Aphra Behn, *Oroonoko; Or, The Royal Slave* ([LION](#))

READING WEEK, 31 October-4 November, 2022 (No Classes)

Week 9 – 8 - 10 November, 2022

Anne Finch, Countess Winchilsea, “[A Nocturnal Reverie](#)”

Alexander Pope, “[Windsor Forest](#)”

First Term Essay Due – 10 November

Week 10 – 15 - 17 November, 2022

Alexander Pope, *Rape of the Lock* (All five cantos)

<https://rpo.library.utoronto.ca/content/rape-lock-canto-1>

<https://rpo.library.utoronto.ca/content/rape-lock-canto-2>

<https://rpo.library.utoronto.ca/content/rape-lock-canto-3>

<https://rpo.library.utoronto.ca/content/rape-lock-canto-4>

<https://rpo.library.utoronto.ca/content/rape-lock-canto-5>

Week 11 – 22 - 24 November, 2022

Jonathan Swift, “[The Lady’s Dressing Room](#)”

Week 12 – 29 November - 1 December, 2022

Samuel Johnson, [*Rasselas*](#)

Week 13 – 6 - 8 December, 2022

Sheridan, *The School for Scandal* ([LION](#))

First Term Test – In class, 6 December

SECOND TERM

Week 14 – 10 - 12 January, 2023

Jane Austen, *Northanger Abbey* I

Week 15 – 17 - 19 January, 2023

Jane Austen, *Northanger Abbey* II

Week 16 – 24 - 26 January, 2023

William Wordsworth, “[Observations Prefixed to *Lyrical Ballads*”](#)”

William Wordsworth, “[Lines Composed a Few Miles above Tintern Abbey](#)”

Week 17 – 31 January - 2 February, 2023

Keats, “[Ode to a Nightingale](#)”

Shelley, “[Ozymandias](#)”

Coleridge, “[Kublai Khan](#)”

Week 18 – 7 - 9 February, 2023

Matthew Arnold, "[Dover Beach](#)"

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, "[Locksley Hall](#)"

Week 19 – 14 - 16 February, 2023

Wilfred Owen, "[Dulce et Decorum Est](#)"

T. S. Eliot, "[The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock](#)"

Annotated Bibliography Due 16 February

READING WEEK, 18-26 February, 2023 (No Classes)

Week 20 - 28 February - 1 March, 2023

James Joyce, "[The Dead](#)" (from *The Dubliners*)

Week 21 – 7 - 9 March, 2023

W. H. Auden, "[Spain](#)"

W. H. Auden, "[September 1st, 1939](#)"

Week 22 – 14 - 16 March, 2023

Virginia Woolf, *To the Lighthouse I*

Week 23 – 21 - 23 March, 2023

Virginia Woolf, *To the Lighthouse II*

Second Term Essay Due – 23 March

Week 24 – 28 - 30 March, 2023

Tom Stoppard, *The Real Inspector Hound*

Week 25 – 4 - 6 April, 2023

Philip Larkin, "[Church Going](#)"

Nikita Gill, "Girls of the Wild" (Instagram)

Exam Period