**Houston Community College Department of English, Central College**

**ENGL 2322 – British Literature: Beginnings to Neoclassical Fall 2013 / CRN 60057**

Fine Arts Center (FAC) - Room 315, Tue/Thu 1:00 – 2:30 PM

3 hour lecture course / 48 hours per semester / 16 weeks

**Professor**: Roger Wood, Ph.D.

**Professor contact information**: 713-718-6247 / roger.wood@hccs.edu

**Office location and hours**: FAC 318 and/or 319, Mon/Wed 1 - 2 PM, Tue/Thu 2:30 - 3:30 PM

**Course description**: ENGL 2322 is a critical study of major British writers and works from the Anglo-Saxon period through the eighteenth century. It is a **Core Curriculum** course.

**Course prerequisites**: Completion of ENGL 1302

**Course goal**: Students read, analyze, discuss, research, and write about the characteristics of the chosen works, with special emphasis on recognizing central forms and themes of literary classics and relating them to contemporary society.

**Student learning outcomes**: The student will be able to (1) explain and illustrate stylistic characteristics of major works of English literature from the early Middle Ages to the mid-18th century, (2) connect those works to human and individual values in historical and social contexts, (3) demonstrate knowledge of those works and writers, (4) analyze critical texts relating to those works and writers, and (5) critique and interpret those works and writers.

**Textbook**: *The Norton Anthology of English Literature,* Vols. A, B, and C (or in a single volume signified with the Roman numeral “I”), 9th edition, 2012.

**Grading scale**: 90 - 100 = A, 80 - 89 = B, 70 - 79 = C, 60 - 69 = D, 0 - 59 = F.

**Grading criteria:** Unless the professor announces otherwise, the overall breakdown of assignments and their corresponding values will be as follows:

Mid-term examination: 20%

Final examination: 20%

Paper 1 (reader response writing): 20%

Paper 2 (research-based writing): 20%

Review quizzes (average score of 4): 10%

Attendance/participation: 10%

**Tutoring**: For free assistance on any of the writing requirements for this course, visit the English Department Writing Lab in FAC 321-B. Check the sign posted on the door there to determine specific hours of operation during the current term. (NOTE: In addition to his scheduled office hours, your professor for this class will normally be available for consultation in the Writing Lab on Mondays and Wednesdays, 8 - 11 AM.)

**Academic honesty**: Students are expected to be familiar with the HCC policy on academic honesty, as detailed in the HCC catalog. Students are responsible for conducting themselves with honor and integrity in fulfilling course requirements. Penalties and/or disciplinary proceedings may be initiated by HCC officials against a student accused of scholastic dishonesty (which includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion). Should you have any questions about proper handling of source material for your writing, consult the MLA guidelines, your professor and/or a tutor (FAC 321-B). Evidence of plagiarism results in a grade of F.

**Attendance**: Your regular attendance and on-time arrival in class are necessary for success. You will earn an attendance grade based on the following scale:

0 absences = 100 (A+); 1 absence = 90 (A -); 2 absences = 85 (B); 3 absences = 75 (C); 4 absences = 70 (C-); 5 absences = 65 (D); 6 absences = 55 (F); 7 + absences = 50 or less (F).

HCC policy establishes that a student may be administratively withdrawn from a course upon missing more than 12.5% of the scheduled sessions (i.e. more than four class sessions).

**Course withdrawal**: If you elect to withdraw formally from any HCC class and thereby receive a “W” on your grade transcript, you must contact a HCC counselor or your professor prior to the withdrawal deadline for the current semester to initiate the process. If you do not do so and simply cease to attend, you will receive an institutionally mandated final grade of “FX.”

**Late papers**: If a paper is not to be submitted on time, you must formally request an extension from the professor. No final drafts of papers may be submitted via email. All final draft submissions must be in hard copy provided directly to the professor. Do not deposit your submission in a faculty mailbox, under an office door, with a secretary or other staff member, etc.

**Classroom decorum**: No cell phones or electronic communications devices may be used in the classroom for extracurricular or personal matters. No disruption (behavioral, electronic, or otherwise) of fellow students or the professor is acceptable. Be courteous and respectful of others.

**Services to students with disabilities**: Any student with a documented disability who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations should contact the Disability Support Services Office at the beginning of each semester. Professors are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office. For more information, contact the disability counselor at Central College (or call 713-718-5165).

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**Course Calendar / 16 weeks**

Reading assignments are identified by author’s name and/or title of the selected literary work(s) for each class session. Page numbers listed for each assignment refer to *The Norton Anthology of English Literature,* 9th ed. Read these pages by class time on the corresponding date. At his discretion, the professor may make changes in this syllabus and assignment calendar during the term.

Week 1

8/27: Introduction to the course.

8/29: Short works of Old English lit. (introductions, Bede selection, and “The Dream of the Rood”). 29-36.

Week 2

9/3: Short works of Old English lit. (introductions, “The Wanderer,” and “The Wife’s Lament”). 117-122.

9/5: *Beowulf* (introduction and approximately the first third of the poem). 36-39, 41-63.

Paper 1 topic options assigned.

Week 3

9/10: *Beowulf*, continued (approximately the next third of the poem). 63-88.

9/12: *Beowulf*, continued (approximately the final third of the poem). 88-108. Review quiz 1.

Week 4

9/17: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight,* introduction and *Fitt i-ii*. 183-209.

9/19: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Fitt iii-iv.* 209-238.

Week 5

9/24: Chaucer (introduction and *General Prologue to Canterbury Tales).* 238-263.

9/26: Chaucer (introduction and *The Miller's Prologue and Tale*). 264-280.

Week 6

10/1: Chaucer (introduction and *The Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale*). 282-310. Review quiz 2.

10/3: Langland (introduction and selections from *Piers Plowman*). 370-380.

Week 7

10/8: Malory (introduction and selections from *Morte Darthur*). 480-500. Paper 1 due.

10/10: Review for mid-term exam.

Week 8

10/15: Mid-term examination.

10/17: Wyatt, Howard, and Sidney (introductions and selected poems). 646-654, 661-663, 1037-1039,

1084-1086.

Week 9

10/22: Shakespeare (introduction and selected sonnets). 1166-1186. Paper 2 (research-based)

topic options assigned.

10/24: Shakespeare (introduction and *King Lear*, Act 1). 1251-1277.

Week 10

10/29: Shakespeare (*King Lear*, Acts 2-3). 1277-1309.

10/31: Shakespeare (*King Lear*, Act 4). 1309-1328.

Week 11

11/5: Shakespeare (*King Lear*, Act 5). 1328-1339. Review quiz 3.

11/7: Donne (introduction and selected poems). 1370-1377,1385-1386, 1393, 1410-1412.

Week 12

11/12: Milton (introduction and *Paradise Lost, Book 1*). 1897-1901, 1943-1964.

11/14: Milton (*Paradise Lost, Book 4*). 2003-2024.

Week 13

11/19: Milton (*Paradise Lost, Book 9*). 2091-2116. Review quiz 4.

11/21: Swift (*Gulliver's Travels,* introductions and chapters 1-6 of *Part 4*). 2464-2466, 2487-2489, 2587-2609.

Week 14

11/26: Swift (*Gulliver's Travels*, chapters 7-12 of *Part 4*). 2609-2633.

11/28: **No class session: HCC holiday.**

Week 15

12/3: Pope (introduction and *The Rape of the Lock*). 2665-2668, 2685-2704. Paper 2 due.

12/5: Review for final exam.

Week 16

12/10: Final examination (1 – 3 PM).