San José State University  
English Department  
English 297, Fall 2019

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Nancy Stork
Office Location: Faculty Offices Building
Phone Number: 408-924-4477
Email: Nancy.Stork@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday, 3:00 – 5:00 pm and by appointment
Class Days/Time: Thursday, 7:00-8:30 pm
Classroom: BBC 221

Course Description (Required)

Workshop in writing and preparing for the two-part comprehensive masters examination. Required of all M.A. students and repeatable for credit.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this GE course, students will have:

1. Created a reading list for the M.A. Comprehensive Exam
2. Analyzed and written responses to sample questions from previous Comprehensive Exams
3. Read Beowulf and Sir Gawain and the Green Knight in facing-page translation

Textbooks


Course Requirements and Assignments (Required)

Read Beowulf and Sir Gawain and the Green Knight in facing-page editions.
Prepare an individualized reading list for the Master’s exam.
Participate in class discussions.
THREE TIMED ESSAYS: Your choice from these topics: Beowulf, Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, or 3 questions (including poetry analysis) from a previous MA Exam
Determination of Grades

This course is graded C/NC. Completion of all readings and three written assignments will lead to a grade of Credit.

University Policies (Required)

Per University Policy S16-9 (http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf), relevant information to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. is available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ Syllabus Information web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/” Make sure to review these university policies and resources with students.

Course Schedule


Aug 29  Look at Part One Questions on Part One exam. Begin Beowulf

Sep 5   Beowulf. Take home timed essay on Beowulf

Sep 12  Look at Part Two Questions on previous Part One exam. SGGK

Sep 19  SGGK Take home timed essay on SGGK

Sep 26  Visit by Professor Allison Johnson – American Literature

Oct 3   Visit by Prof. Revathi Krishnaswamy – Modern Literature and strategies for Part Two.

Oct 10  No Class

Prepare First Response to question of your choice (please submit to me via email by Oct 15)

Oct 17  Sample Essays. Discussion of Exam questions

Oct 24  Second Response DUE. Further discussion of strategies for writing

Oct 31  Poetry Review and Analysis.

Nov 7   Review (topics of your choice) Poetry Analysis essay DUE

Nov 14  Review (topics of your choice)

November 16 FIRST PART OF MA EXAM

Nov 21  Review (topics of your choice)

November 23 SECOND PART OF MA EXAM

Dec 5   No Class – I am available for conferences during office hours or by appointment