San José State University  
English Department  
English 50, Beginnings to the American Experiment, Section 02,  
Fall 2021

Instructor(s): Professor N. Stork  
Office Location: FOB 218 and ZOOM  
Email: Nancy.Stork@sjsu.edu  
Office Hours: T 9 - 10 AM, Thursday 12 noon - 1 pm and by appointment  
Class Days/Time: TR 2:15-3:30 pm  
Classroom: ZOOM link will be sent and posted on CANVAS

Course Description
Exploration of Anglo-Saxon, Medieval, Renaissance, and Early Colonial Writings in Britain and America. Class engages literary texts, literary history, and historical events that shape the literature of the period.

Course Format: Online via ZOOM
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be:

1. Be familiar with earlier stages of the English language  
2. Know the historical context of medieval and Renaissance England and 17th century America as it relates to literary expression  
3. Understand how to do historical research into the history and meanings of a literary text

All readings are available on-line, as indicated in the Schedule of Classes below.

Late Policy:  
Work can be accepted up to one week late with no penalty with documented proof of a serious and compelling emergency.  
Work can also be accepted up to one week late with no documentation for a full grade penalty.  
For anything more than one week late, please see me.
Library Liaison

Peggy Cabrera, peggy.cabrera@sjsu.edu

Course Requirements and Assignments

Please read all assigned readings in advance of class.

Old English Close Reading and Word Study 20%
Malory, Kempe or Julian Prose Analysis 20%
Final Paper 30%
Three Reading quizzes 30%

Grading Information

The normal percentages apply:

97-100%  A+
93-96.99%  A
90-92.99%  A-
87-89.99%  B+
Etc.

Your work will be assessed for completeness, historical accuracy, literary analytical skills and prose style. This means, yes, you will lose points if you have mechanical problems with your prose (comma splices, run-ons, fragments, subject-verb agreement).

Please see me if you have any concerns about this and I will arrange for extra help during office hours or through The Writing Center.

I am always available to read a first draft if you can submit it at least 48 hours before the due date.

Classroom Protocol

Please have your ZOOM video activated for Discussions. If you do not have video access, please let me know in advance of class starting.
## Course Schedule

### Themes: True Gods, False Gods, Folk Religion and Creation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines (If appropriate, add extra column(s) to meet your needs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aug 19</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Aug 26</td>
<td>The Conversion of King Edwin from Bede’s <em>Ecclesiastical History of the English People</em>, Book II: Chapters 9, 12-14 <a href="https://www.gutenberg.org/files/38326/38326-h/38326-h.html">https://www.gutenberg.org/files/38326/38326-h/38326-h.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Aug 31</td>
<td>Anglo-Saxon Charms, Read the first 5 entries on the following website: <a href="http://www2.hawaii.edu/~kjolly/unc.htm">http://www2.hawaii.edu/~kjolly/unc.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sep 7</td>
<td>Read <em>Dream of the Rood</em>: <a href="https://lightspill.com/poetry/oe/rood.html">https://lightspill.com/poetry/oe/rood.html</a></td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Sep 9</td>
<td>Read <em>Beowulf</em>, lines 320-924 <a href="https://heorot.dk/beowulf-rede-text.html">https://heorot.dk/beowulf-rede-text.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sep 14</td>
<td><em>Beowulf</em>, lines 2144-2390 and 2603-2891</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sep 16</td>
<td>Read <em>The Battle of Maldon</em>: <a href="https://lightspill.com/poetry/oe/maldon.html">https://lightspill.com/poetry/oe/maldon.html</a> See also: <a href="https://lrc.la.utexas.edu/eieol/engol/60">https://lrc.la.utexas.edu/eieol/engol/60</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sep 21</td>
<td>Review and First Reading QUIZ (in-class) ZOOM cameras must be turned on for duration of quiz</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>QUIZ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 6    | Sep 23| *Child Ballad 32, King Henry*  
https://www.sacred-texts.com/neu/eng/child/ch032.htm  
*Tam Lin (find the version you like best)*  
https://tam-lin.org/  
You may also be interested in the musical versions of these ballads on youTUBE. Steeleye Span and Fairport Convention |
|      |       | Old English Close Reading and Word Study DUE |
| 6    | Sep 28| Play 1 and 2 of the York Corpus Christi Plays  
https://d.lib.rochester.edu/teams/text/davidson-play-2-the-creation-through-the-fifth-day |
| 7    | Sep 30| Chaucer, *The Friar’s Tale*  
https://sites.fas.harvard.edu/~chaucer/teachslf/frit-par.htm |
https://www.gutenberg.org/files/52958/52958-h/52958-h.htm#CHAPTER_II |
| 8    | Oct 7 | Read The Book of Margery Kempe, Chapters 1-3 (lines 130-300).  
| 8    | Oct 12| Read, Thomas Malory, *Le Morte d’Arthur*  
Book I, Chapters I-VII  
Book III, Chapters I-II  
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</thead>
</table>
| 9    | Oct 14 | Malory  
Book IV, Chapter I  
Book XI, Chapters I-IX  
| 9    | Oct 19 | Malory  
Book XX, Chapters I-X  
Book XXI: Chapters I-V  
| 10   | Oct 21 | Review and QUIZ  
QUIZ |
| 10   | Oct 26 | Workshop on Thomas Malory or Margery Kempe or Julian of Norwich Prose Analysis  
Please bring specific questions about your analysis or the draft of your paper. |
| 11   | Oct 28 | Christopher Marlowe, The Tragical History of Dr. Faustus, A-Text  
https://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.03.0010  
Malory, Kempe or Julian Prose Analysis  
DUE |
| 11   | Nov 2  | Dr. Faustus (continued) |
| 12   | Nov 4  | *Paradise Lost*, Book I  
www.paradiselost.org |
<p>| 12   | Nov 9  | <em>Paradise Lost</em>, Book II and Book IV: lines 1-410 |
| 13   | Nov 11 | No Class - Veteran's Day |</p>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Nov 16</td>
<td><em>Paradise Lost</em>, Book VII (Creation)</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.paradiselost.org">www.paradiselost.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Nov 25</td>
<td>No Class - Thanksgiving</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Nov 30</td>
<td>Edward Taylor, <em>Huswifery, Upon a Wasp Chilled, Infinity, I am the Living Bread (Meditation 8: John 6:51)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Dec 2</td>
<td>Review and Reading QUIZ                                                           QUIZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
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<td>Due on CANVAS at midnight: Friday, Dec 10, 2021. Final Paper DUE</td>
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