

SYLLABUS

San José State University
Department of English and Comparative Literature
ENGL 56A: English Lit to the 18th Century, Section 1, Fall 2013

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Office Hours:	Tuesday and Thursday: 8:00-8:30, 16:30-17:00 & by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Tuesday and Thursday: 15:00-16:15
Classroom:	DMH 354
Class Web Page:	mesher.zxq.net/engl56a

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, and so on, may be found on the class web page at mesher.zxq.net/engl56a. Essays for this course will be submitted online on the course Canvas page (sjsu.canvas.com). You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU for any messages that may be sent pertaining to this class.

Course Description

This course surveys English literature from its Anglo-Saxon beginnings through the early eighteenth century—using a reading list of works that are not only important achievements in their own right, but also comprise an introduction to further study of all literature written in English, during this era and later. Lectures and discussions will focus on close readings, analysis and interpretation of the texts, as well as their linguistic, social, political, economic, cultural, religious, and historical background, with special emphasis on the literary and artistic movements and periods from which they come.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

The course goals are: first, to provide students the opportunity to familiarize themselves with great works of English literature and, in so doing, to improve their ability to read, discuss,

analyze, and write about literature, with a focus as much on form as on content; second, to introduce students to the historical and cultural contexts of European and, specifically, British literature during the medieval and early modern periods; third, to give students practice in expressing their own reactions to and interpretations of literary texts, both verbally and, especially, in writing; and last but not least, to give students a chance to read and appreciate some of the greatest works of English literature.

Student Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will demonstrate the ability to:

1. read closely in a variety of forms, styles, structures, and modes, and articulate the value of close reading in the study of literature, in all aspects of coursework but, in particular, in class discussions, in frequent and detailed quizzes, and in essays and examinations;
2. show familiarity with major literary works, genres, periods, and critical approaches to British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the eighteenth century, and to demonstrate that familiarity in class discussions, essays, and examinations;
3. write clearly, effectively, and creatively, and adjust writing style appropriately to the content, the context, and the nature of the subject, as demonstrated in two midterm exams, the essay, and the final examination;
4. develop and carry out research projects, and locate, evaluate, organize, and incorporate information effectively, as demonstrated particularly in the essay;
5. articulate the relations among culture, history, and texts, in class discussions and written assignments; exam questions, in particular, will ask students to place texts in their historical and cultural contexts.

Required Texts/Readings

David Damrosh et al., eds. *The Longman Anthology of British Literature*, Fourth Edition, Volumes 1A, 1B, and 1C, 2009. ISBN: 978-0205693337.

Other Texts: In addition to the *Longman Anthology*, students should have access to a dictionary, thesaurus, and composition handbook (from English 1A or 100W, for example).

Library Liaison

Toby Matoush, toby.matoush@sjsu.edu, 808-2096

Classroom Protocol

Preparation and Participation: Students should come to class having read the day's assignment and prepared to discuss it. Opportunities for such contributions may take the form of small-group or full-class discussions; in either situation, individual students may be called upon by the instructor to answer a question, interpret a passage, or express an opinion.

Quizzes: The best way to measure how carefully you are reading the texts, and how much of that reading you retain (at least for a day or so) is with short quizzes at the beginning of the class period. The quizzes will only cover significant information from that day's reading assignment, though that information may not be the sort readily accessible to you in plot summaries, outlines, or any other manner other than personally experiencing the text yourself. If you read well ahead of the assigned schedule, be sure to review your notes and come to class with a fresh and detailed impression of the works. A pattern of doing poorly on these quizzes should be taken as an indication that you are not doing the reading, or not reading attentively enough, or not reading with the care and analysis necessary to be successful as an English major and devotee of literature.

Written Responses: Students may be asked to write short responses based on an assigned reading not yet discussed in class. Such responses may take the form of a paragraph or a online written chat (in Canvas) with a small group of other students. Class meetings may even be suspended in order to allow time for more complicated online chats. Such activities will be announced, in class and online, at least one class session in advance, and responses will count in the overall participation grade.

Recitations: Students will be asked to recite in class and by heart two passages during the semester – the first from the General Prologue of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, and the second from a sonnet or play by Shakespeare. Memorizing great poetry is one way to ensure your familiarity and continuing enjoyment of it. Successful recitations will count in the overall participation grade.

Essays: Your essay must be double-spaced (and without a cover page); otherwise the essay should follow standard MLA format (except that your name should not appear anywhere), and be submitted online only, through the course Canvas page (at sjsu.canvas.com), by the beginning of class on the days they are due. Essays submitted via Canvas are automatically sent to Turnitin.com, as well, to check for plagiarism. Essays turned in later than the deadline are automatically marked "late" by Canvas; late work will only be accepted by arrangement with the instructor, and students should anticipate a significant delay in the return of any late work. Do not email or leave at my office any work for this class, unless I specifically ask you to do so; and please do not leave email or other messages for me on Canvas. Corrected papers will be returned online (in your Canvas account) in PDF format. Please keep a copy of all work submitted on disk, and retain all graded work returned until the end of the semester; English majors should save the graded copies of their essays in all department classes, since these will be required for the portfolio in their senior seminar. Please note that many people find it harder to proofread work on a computer screen than in printed form and, if that is true in your case, you may want to print out your final draft and make corrections to that, before submitting the finished file online.

Classroom conduct: Please do not occupy yourself with non-course-related materials during class, and refrain from conversations or inappropriate comments while the instructor or classmates are speaking. Turn off phones, music players, and other likely distractions while in class. Laptops, tablet, phones, and other electronic devices may be used only for note-taking

and other course-related activities; otherwise they must be turned off. Since images on a screen, whether moving or still, are particularly visible and distracting to those around you, please do not access them during class and be sure your screen saver is off. Permission of the instructor (and, possibly, other students) is needed to make sound or video recordings during class.

Assignments and Grading Policy

1. Class participation, recitations, quizzes, responses, and timely completion of work: 25%
2. One essay (1500 words total): 25%
3. Two midterm exam: 15% each
4. Final exam: 20%

Grading will be on a 100-point scale for each assignment. For the final mark, 100-97 will be an A+, 96-94 an A, 93-90 an A-, 89-87 a B+, 86-84 a B, 83-80 a B-, 79-77 a C+, 76-74 a C, 73-70 a C-, 69-67 a D+, 64-67 a D, 60-64 a D-, and below 60 an F.

University Policies

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes. **This semester, the last day to drop courses without an entry on your permanent record is September 4th. The last day to add courses or register late is September 11th.**

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at www.sjsu.edu/advising/.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course; such permission must be obtained in writing prior to the recording, and such permission may be limited to specific class sessions or parts of sessions. In addition, in classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests must be obtained in advance as well. Further, materials you receive in this course are the intellectual property of the instructor, and may not be publicly shared or uploaded without prior written permission.

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires

you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Please be aware that [Presidential Directive 97-03](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC: www.sjsu.edu/aec) to establish a record of your disability.

In 2013, the Disability Resource Center changed its name to be known as the Accessible Education Center, to incorporate a philosophy of accessible education for students with disabilities. The new name change reflects the broad scope of attention and support to SJSU students with disabilities and the University's continued advocacy and commitment to increasing accessibility and inclusivity on campus.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the [Academic Success Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/) at www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/ located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other

related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit [Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) at peerconnections.sjsu.edu for more information.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to scan this code.)



SJSU Counseling Services

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit [Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at www.sjsu.edu/counseling.

Engl 56A: English Lit to the 18th Century, Fall 2012, Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to modification. If you miss class, please check for changes to the greensheet on the class web page at mesher.zxq.net/engl56a

8/22	Thursday	Introduction; "Middle Ages" (A7-32).
8/27	Tuesday	<i>Dream of the Rood</i> (A148-52); <i>The Wanderer</i> (A172-75); Riddles (A178-81).
8/29	Thursday	<i>Beowulf</i> (A32-78).
9/3	Tuesday	<i>Beowulf</i> (A79-107). Last day to drop.
9/5	Thursday	No class. Arthurian Myth (A163-64); Marie de France (A200-19); "Cuckoo Song" (A551)
9/10	Tuesday	Chaucer (A312-17); <i>Canterbury Tales: General Prologue</i> (A318-57). Last day to add.
9/12	Thursday	Chaucer, <i>Canterbury Tales: The Miller's Tale</i> (A358-74)
9/17	Tuesday	Margery Kempe (A529-39); Christine de Pizan (A613-20); Mary Astell (C2283-93)
9/19	Thursday	Geoffrey Chaucer, <i>Canterbury Tales: The Wife of Bath's Tale</i> (A375-403)
9/24	Tuesday	Geoffrey Chaucer, <i>Canterbury Tales: The Nun's Priest's Tale</i> (A420-35)
9/26	Thursday	<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> (A219-47)
10/1	Tuesday	<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> (A247-77)
10/3	Thursday	<i>The Second Play of the Shepherds</i> (A501-21)
10/8	Tuesday	First Midterm
10/10	Thursday	Midterm review. "Early Modern Period" (B623-49); Wyatt (B667-670); Spenser (B824-839)
10/15	Tuesday	Spenser (B839-851); Sidney (B1004-12, B1019-24)
10/17	Thursday	Marlowe, <i>Dr. Faustus</i> (B1110-29)
10/22	Tuesday	Marlowe, <i>Dr. Faustus</i> (B1130-60)
10/24	Thursday	Shakespeare (B1199-1203), <i>Twelfth Night</i> (B1215-58)
10/29	Tuesday	Shakespeare, <i>Twelfth Night</i> (B1258-72), Sonnets (B1204 [18], B1205 [30], 1207 [55, 60], B1210 [106], B1213 [128, 130])
10/31	Thursday	Sidney (B680 [1], B681 [7], B684-5 [39], B686 [63], B696 [106]); Marlowe and Raleigh (Web); Donne (B1586-96, B1607-09); Herrick (B1622); Herbert (B1627-9); Marvell (B1659-61); Philips (1671-2).
11/5	Tuesday	Second midterm; essay assigned.
11/7	Thursday	Midterm review. Milton (B1698-701), <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 1 (B1726-47)
11/12	Tuesday	Milton, <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 9 (B1886-913)
11/14	Thursday	"Restoration and 18 th Century" (C1981-2009); Pepys (C2010-25), Swift (C2346-52, 2431-7); Montagu (C2551-4)
11/19	Tuesday	Aphra Behn, <i>Oroonoko</i> (C2137-2178); essay due.
11/21	Thursday	John Gay, <i>The Beggar's Opera</i> (C2555-603)
11/26	Tuesday	Alexander Pope, <i>The Rape of the Lock</i> (C2470-91)
11/28	Thursday	No class (Thanksgiving)
12/3	Tuesday	Eliza Haywood, "Fantomina" (C2796-813)
12/5	Thursday	William Hogarth, <i>A Rake's Progress</i> (C2603-12); Gray (C2670-3)
12/16	Monday	Final Exam, 2:45-5:00, Monday, December 16