

ENGL 121B: Literature in Historical Perspective

3 credits, 14 weeks, 42 hours

This course introduces students to post-secondary studies in English by exploring developments in language, literature, and culture in and over time. Students will have opportunities to study particular themes and compare different genres in and across a broad array of texts, placed in their historical contexts, which may range from medieval to contemporary times. The course will examine the conditions under which texts were originally produced and may consider the reception and reshaping of texts in history to the present.

Prerequisite: English 30-1 or equivalent

Instructor

Jane Jacques
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Office Hours

Tuesday	10-10:50 2-2:50
Wednesday	3-3:50
Thursday	1-1:50
Friday	1-1:50

Hours of Instruction

Monday	4-4:50
Tuesday	12-12:50
Thursday	2-2:50

Required Resources

Baswell, Christopher and Anne Howland Schotter, eds. *The Longman Anthology of British Literature*, 4th ed. Vol 1 A: The Middle Ages. New York: Longman, 2010. ISBN: 978-0-205-65530-4

Gardner, John. *Grendel*. New York: Vintage, 1971. ISBN: 978-0-67-972311-0

Course pack: available at Keyano Bookstore

Course Outcomes

The student will be able to:

1. write clear, coherent, University-level prose
2. analyze texts by applying basic principles of literary interrogation
3. cite references by using standard MLA style

Evaluation

Assignment	Percentage	Due Date
Essay One	10%	January 29, 2015
Essay Two	15%	March 19
Informal writing	10%	Ongoing
Oral Presentation	10%	March 30-April 2
Forum	10%	Ongoing
Midterm	15%	February 17
Final Examination	30%	TBA

Both essays must be submitted before a student will be allowed to write the final exam. Students who do not complete all the required work will not pass the course.

A grade of C- is required for progression or transfer.

Grading System

Descriptor	Alpha Grade	4.0 Scale	Percent	Rubric for Letter Grades
Excellent	A+	4.0	> 92.9	Work shows in-depth and critical analysis, well developed ideas, creativity, excellent writing, clarity and proper format.
	A	4.0	85 – 92.9	
	A-	3.7	80 – 84.9	
Good	B+	3.3	77 – 79.9	Work is generally of high quality, well developed, well written, has clarity, and uses proper format.
	B	3.0	74 – 76.9	
	B-	2.7	70 – 73.9	
Satisfactory Progression	C+	2.3	67 – 69.9	Work has some developed ideas but needs more attention to clarity, style and formatting.
	C	2.0	64 – 66.9	
	C-	1.7	60 – 63.9	
Poor Minimum Pass	D+	1.3	55 – 59.9	Work is completed in a general way with minimal support, or is poorly written or did not use proper format.
	D	1.0	50 – 54.9	
Failure	F	0.0	< 50	Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete.

Proposed Schedule of Topics

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS	ASSIGNMENTS	OTHER
January 5	Introduction to course			
January 6			Informal in-class writing 1: <i>What do you read and why?</i>	
January 8	Acquiring Language: Reading and Writing Essays about Language	Keller, "The Day Language Came into My Life" (Course pack)	Essay 1 assigned Jan. 8 (due Jan. 29)	
January 12-15		Douglass, "Learning to Read and Write" (12) Malcolm X, "From <i>The Autobiography</i> " (13) (Course pack)	Online forum assigned Jan. 12	
January 19-22		Alexie, "The Joy of Reading and Writing" (19); Sedaris, "Me Talk Pretty One Day" (20); Tan, "Mother Tongue" (22) (Course pack)	Informal in-class writing 2 on Jan. 22: <i>What can block the acquisition of language skills?</i>	
January 26-29	Old Eng. Language & Literature	<i>Beowulf</i> (Longman)	Essay 1 DUE Jan. 29	
February 2-5		<i>Beowulf</i> continued	Informal in-class writing 3 on Feb. 5	
February 9-12		"The Dream of the Rood" (9-10) (Longman) "Anglo-Saxon Riddles" (12) (Longman)	Essay 2 assigned February 12 (due March 19) NOTE: Informal writing will continue unannounced	
February 16				FAMILY DAY: COLLEGE CLOSED
February 17	MIDTERM	50 MINUTES	IN CLASS	
February 19		Film: The Roots of Anglo-Saxon Poetry		
February 23-March 1				READING WEEK: NO CLASSES

March 2-5		<i>Grendel</i> by John Gardner	Oral presentations assigned March 2 (due March 30-April 2)	
March 9-12	Middle English Language and Literature	"Sir Gawain and the Green Knight" (Longman) Malory, "The Poisoned Apple" (Longman) Scenes from <i>Monty Python and the Holy Grail</i> (Longman)		
March 16-19		Chaucer, "The General Prologue" (Longman)	Essay 2 DUE March 19	
March 23-26		Chaucer, "The Miller's Tale" (Longman)		
March 30-April 2	ORAL PRESENTATIONS			
April 6	EASTER	MONDAY	NO	CLASSES
April 7-15	The Changing English Language	Readings TBA		
April 16	Last Class: Course Review			
April 20-29	FINAL EXAMS			

Please Note:

Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change. It is your responsibility as a student to contact the Office of the Registrar to complete the forms for Withdrawal or Change of Registration, and any other forms. Please refer to the list of important dates as noted in the Academic Schedule in the Keyano College Credit Calendar.

Performance Requirements

Throughout the course, you will complete a total of twelve informal writing assignments. Informal writing may involve responding to questions in paragraph form in class; researching and writing responses to questions outside class; or writing a personal or creative response to an assigned reading. I will grade the informal writing on a scale of 5, and at the end of the term, I will drop your two lowest grades. If you contact me in advance of an absence, you may be allowed to submit the informal writing.

Essays must be submitted on the due date, which is always a Thursday. Essays handed in on Friday will be graded without additional comments and will also lose 10% up to 3 p.m., when they will be REFUSED. NO essays will be accepted after 3 p.m. on Friday. Extensions will NOT be granted except under circumstances of bereavement or documented illness. Computer or printer failure is seldom an acceptable reason for granting an extension, and a conflict of deadlines is NEVER an acceptable reason. Essays must be typed in 12-pt Times New Roman, double spaced, and submitted with proper MLA

documentation. Do NOT submit essays to me by e-mail or through Moodle. It is always preferable to hand an essay to me directly. Be sure to keep a copy of any essay that you hand in.

Student Attendance

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a student's learning experience. Second, attending class is a good way to keep informed of matters relating the administration of the course (e.g., the timing of assignments and exams). Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning and performance in this course.

It is the responsibility of each student to be prepared for all classes. Students who miss classes are responsible for the material covered in those classes and for ensuring that they are prepared for the next class, including the completion of any assignments and / or notes that may be due.

Academic Misconduct

Students are considered to be responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as one's own
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations (cheating)
- Collusion or the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications
- The willful distortion of results or data
- Substitution in an examination by another person
- Handing in the same unchanged work as submitted for another assignment

Penalties for academic offences range from a verbal reprimand to dismissal from the College, and in certain circumstances may involve legal action.

Specialized Supports

Counselling and Disability Services

Counselling Services provides a wide range of specialized counselling services to prospective and registered students, including personal, career and academic counselling.

SKILL Centre

The SKILL Centre is a learning space in the Clearwater Campus at Keyano College where students can gather to share ideas, collaborate on projects and get new perspectives on learning from our tutorial staff.

The SKILL Centre, through a variety of delivery methods, provides assistance in skill development to Keyano students. Assistance is provided by instructors, staff and student tutors. Individuals wishing to improve their mathematics, writing, grammar, study, or other skills, can take advantage of this unique service.

Authorization

This course outline has been reviewed and approved by the Program Chair.

Jane Jacques, Instructor

Louis Dingley, Chair

Date Authorized

Guy Harmer, Dean

Date Authorized

Signed copies to be delivered to:

Instructor

Registrar's Office