

ENG 2322

Fall 2025

Dr. Xinyuan Qiu

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Office hours: Monday 12:30-2:30 (by appointment)

## **British Literature I**

### **Description**

This course introduces you to major authors and literary texts written between c. 1000 and 1700. We will read texts written in a variety of genres including epic, romance, allegory, tale, play, autobiography, play, satire, etc. You will be introduced to concepts related to the themes of the texts and discuss the writing style of each genre and author. By comparison and contrast diachronically, you will learn to find connections between different authors and media.

### **Course Learning Objectives**

After taking this course, you will be able to

- Name the major periods and authors between 1000 and 1700
- Comprehend key concepts related to literary genre and writing style
- Draw connections between various periods, genres, and media
- Interpret literature actively and creatively

### **English (Undergraduate) Student Learning Outcomes**

Graduating students will demonstrate that they can

- SLO 1 – Students will be able to construct documents that demonstrate unity, organization, coherence, and development, and are grammatically correct.
- SLO 2 – Students will be able to analyze and interpret literary works by applying principles of critical thinking, literary criticism, or theoretical engagement.

### **Core Curriculum Student Learning Outcomes**

- Personal Responsibility. Students will develop principles of personal responsibility for living in a diverse world; to include intercultural competency, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
- Social Responsibility. Students will develop principles of social responsibility for living in a diverse world, to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

## **Marketable Skills**

- Students will communicate effectively in writing and speaking.
- Students will recognize how social and cultural contexts shape meaning and language.

## **Texts**

Find details in the schedule. All the readings will be posted on Blackboard.

## **Assignments**

Creative project 1-4

- Creative project 1: recitation video
- Creative project 2: illustrating literary texts
- Creative project 3: drama performance
- Creative project 4: text adaptation

Mid-term report (200-250 words)

Final reflections (250 words)

## **Grading**

Attendance: 10%

Participation and Engagement: 25%

Creative project 1: 5%

Creative project 2: 10%

Creative project 3: 10%

Creative project 4: 15%

Mid-term report: 10%

Final reflections: 15%

## **Policies For Attendance and Participation**

### **Attendance**

To engage in this course, you are supposed to attend classes. Attendance will be taken at the start of each class. Though some laxity will be granted during the pandemic, you are supposed to email me beforehand with justifiable reasons if you are going to be absent.

### **Participation**

**Attending and sitting in classes silently will not give you credit for participation.** To obtain credit, you are supposed to engage actively in class and group discussions. There will be sessions that start with a go-round-classroom discussion. This is a good opportunity for you to make contributions.

## AI Policy

All assignments should be fully prepared by the student. Developing strong competencies in the skills associated with this course, from student-based brainstorming to project development, will prepare you for success in your degree pathway and, ultimately, a competitive career. Therefore, **the use of generative AI tools to complete any aspect of assignments for this course is not permitted and will be treated as plagiarism.** If you have questions about what constitutes a violation of this statement, please contact me.

## Modules

1. Epic and Romance: Heroes and Knights
2. Trojan War in British Literature: Chaucer and Shakespeare
3. Chaucer, His Predecessors and Heirs
4. Medieval Women Writers and Visions
5. Tudor and Elizabethan Poetry
6. Renaissance and Restoration Plays
7. Seventeenth-Century Biblically Themed Fiction
8. Eighteenth-Century Poetry and Tales

## Schedule

Week	Date	Module	Class Topics	Readings due
Week 1	Aug 25		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction to the course</li><li>• Syllabus reading</li><li>• Q&amp;A</li><li>• Intro to old, middle, and early modern English</li></ul> <a href="#"><u>What's the Difference between Old English, Middle English and Modern English?</u></a>	
	Aug 27	1	Ancient epic: <i>Beowulf</i>	<i>Beowulf</i> , I-XV, <a href="#"><u>Beowulf, an Anglo-Saxon epic poem</u></a>
	Sep 1		No Class (Labor Day)	Movie: <i>Beowulf</i> (2007)
Week 2	Sep 1			

	Sep 3		<i>Beowulf</i>	<i>Beowulf</i> , XVI – XXXV
Week 3	Sep 8		<i>Beowulf</i> <i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i>	<i>Beowulf</i> , XXVI – XLIII  Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Part One <a href="#">Sir Gawain and the Green knight : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive</a>
	Sep 10		<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i>	<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> , Part Two
Week 4	Sep 15		<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i>	Ditto, Parts Three and Four
	Sep 17	2	Medieval Literature, book history, and reading	Movie: <i>The Name of the Rose</i> (1986)
Week 5	Sep 22		Trojan War in Chaucer	Chaucer, <i>Troilus and Criseyde</i> , Book I <a href="#">Chaucer, Geoffrey (c.1343–1400) - Troilus and Criseyde: Book I modernised.</a>
	Sep 24		Trojan War in Shakespeare	Shakespeare, <i>Troilus and Cressida</i> Watch the play by RSC: <a href="#">Troilus And Cressida 2018 : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive</a>
Week 6	Sep 29	3	<i>The Canterbury Tales</i>	The General Prologue <a href="#">general_prologue_canterbury.pdf</a>  The Wife of Bath <a href="#">The Wife Of Bath's Tale--annotated modern English translation : Geoffrey Chaucer, Gerard NeCastro : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive</a>
	Oct 1		Brit Lit Conversation and Teatime 1: reading literature aloud	<a href="#">1.1 General Prologue   Harvard's Geoffrey Chaucer Website</a>  Reading the General Prologue in middle English: <a href="#">The Canterbury Tales Prologue in Middle English</a>
	<b>Oct 5</b>		<b>Creative project 1 due</b>	
Week 7	Oct 6		Chaucer and His Victorian Heir	The Knight's Tale (on Blackboard)  The Franklin's Tale (on Blackboard)  Illustrations in William Morris's Kelmscott Chaucer: <a href="#">Kelmscott-Chaucer-CB-for-web.pdf</a>

	Oct 8		Chaucer and His Medieval Predecessor	The Clerk's Tale (on Blackboard)  Marie de France <a href="#">The Lais of Marie de France   Judy Shoaf</a> - Prologue - Le Fresne
Week 8	Oct 13	4	Julian of Norwich	Julian of Norwich revelations 1-3 <a href="#">Julian Of Norwich: Revelations Of Divine Love (1395) : Julian Of Norwich (1343 – After 1416) : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive</a>
	Oct 15		Margery Kempe	The Book of Margery Kempe, pp. 1-34 <a href="#">The Book Of Margery Kempe : R.w.chambers : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive</a>
<b>Oct 19</b>			<b>Mid-term report due</b>	
Week 9	Oct 20	5	Magery Kempe and Manuscript History	The Book of Margery Kempe, pp. 35-68, 194-211
	Oct 22		Poetry: Imagery, Rhythm, and Music	Sir Philip Sidney, Astrophil and Stella, Sonnets, 1, 2, 6, 8, 10 - <a href="#">Sidney, Philip (1554–1586) - Astrophil and Stella: Sonnets 1-27</a> - Audiobook: <a href="#">Astrophil and Stella : Sir Philip Sidney : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive</a>  John Donne, "The Flea" <a href="#">The Flea   The Poetry Foundation</a>
Week 10	Oct 27			Edmund Spenser, The Faerie Queene: Book I, Canto I <a href="#">from The Faerie Queene: Book I, Canto I   The Poetry Foundation</a>
	Oct 29			Aemilia Lanyer - "The Description of Cookeham," <a href="#">The Description of Cooke-ham   The Poetry Foundation</a> - Salve deus rex Judaeorum, "To The Queenes Majestie," pp.1-8 <a href="#">Salve deus rex Judaeorum. Containing, ... 1611 : Lanyer, AEmilia, Mrs. : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive</a>
Week 11	Nov 3		Brit Lit Conversation and	

			Teatime 2: reading literature creatively	
	Nov 5	6	Plays and Performance	Mary Wroth, <i>Love's Victory</i> Watch the Play: <a href="#">Love's Victory – a film for Valentine's Day - Lancaster University</a>
	Nov 9			Creative project 2 due
Week 12	Nov 10			Margaret Cavendish, <a href="#">The Convent of Pleasure</a> .
	Nov 12			William Wycherley, <i>The Country Wife</i> <a href="#">Literature in Context</a>
Week 13	Nov 17	7	Brit Lit Conversation and Teatime 2: reading, adapting, and performing	
	Nov 19			Allegories
Week 14	Nov 24			John Bunyan, <i>The Pilgrim's Progress</i> , pp. 1-58 <a href="#">The pilgrim's progress : Bunyan, John : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive</a>
	Nov 26			No class (Thanksgiving)
Nov 30			Creative project 3 due	
Week 15	Dec 1	8	Eighteenth-Century Literature and Human Trafficking	Aphra Behn, <i>Oroonoko</i> <a href="#">Behn_Oroonoko.pdf</a>
	Dec 3			Phillis Wheatley <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“On Being Brought from Africa to America,” <a href="#">On Being Brought from Africa to America   The Poetry Foundation</a></li><li>“A Hymn to the Evening,” <a href="#">A Hymn to the Evening   The Poetry Foundation</a></li></ul> Alexander Pope, “The Rape of the Lock” <a href="#">The Rape of the Lock and other poems, by Pope</a>
Dec 12			Creative Project 4 due	
Dec 14			Final reflections due	

## **ADA Statement**

SRSU Accessibility Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mrs. Mary Schwartz Grisham, LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Director or Ronnie Harris, LPC, Counselor, at 432-837-8203 or email [mschwartz@sulross.edu](mailto:mschwartz@sulross.edu) or [ronnie.harris@sulross.edu](mailto:ronnie.harris@sulross.edu). Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall, room 112, and our mailing address is P.O. Box C122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

## **Student Responsibilities**

All full-time and part-time students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Student Handbook and the Undergraduate & Graduate Catalog and for abiding by the University rules and regulations. Additionally, students are responsible for **checking their Sul Ross email as an official form of communication from the university**. Every student is expected to obey all federal, state and local laws and is expected to familiarize him/herself with the requirements of such laws.

## **SRSU Distance Education Statement**

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website.

Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires a secure login. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

## **Academic Integrity**

Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. Students should submit work that is their own and avoid the temptation to engage in behaviors that violate academic integrity, such as turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor; turning in another person's work as one's own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden. Students should also avoid using open AI sources unless permission is expressly given for an

assignment or course. Violations of academic integrity can result in failing assignments, failing a class, and/or more serious university consequences. These behaviors also erode the value of college degrees and higher education overall.

### **Classroom Climate of Respect**

Importantly, this class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against another on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or sexual preference. Still, we will not be silenced by the difficulty of fruitfully discussing politically sensitive issues.

### **Supportive Statement**

I aim to create a learning environment for my students that supports various perspectives and experiences. I understand that the recent pandemic, economic disparity, and health concerns, or even unexpected life events may impact the conditions necessary for you to succeed. My commitment is to be there for you and help you meet the learning objectives of this course. I do this to demonstrate my commitment to you and to the mission of Sul Ross State University to create a supportive environment and care for the whole student as part of the Sul Ross Familia. If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by your experiences outside of class, please don't hesitate to come and talk with me. I want to be a resource for you.

### **Helpful Resources on Campus**

#### **Libraries**

The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library and Archives of the Big Bend in Alpine offer FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, [library.sulross.edu/](http://library.sulross.edu/). Off-campus access requires logging in with your LobolD and password. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email ([srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu)), or by phone (432-837-8123).

No matter where you are based, public libraries and many academic and special libraries welcome the general public into their spaces for study. SRSU TexShare Cardholders can access additional services and resources at various libraries across Texas. Learn more about the TexShare program by visiting [library.sulross.edu/find-and-borrow/texshare/](http://library.sulross.edu/find-and-borrow/texshare/) or ask a librarian by emailing [srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu).

Mike Fernandez, SRSU Librarian, is based in Eagle Pass (Building D-129) to offer specialized library services to students, faculty, and staff. Utilize free services such as InterLibrary Loan (ILL), ScanIt, and Direct Mail to get materials delivered to you at home or via email.



Contact:

- [srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu)
- [srsuarchives@sulross.edu](mailto:srsuarchives@sulross.edu)
- Eagle Pass (D-129) Front Desk: 830-758-5035

### **Counseling**

Sul Ross has partnered with TimelyCare where all SR students will have access to nine free counseling sessions. You can learn more about this 24/7/365 support by visiting [Timelycare/SRSU](#). The SR Counseling and Accessibility Services office will continue to offer in-person counseling in Ferguson Hall room 112 (Alpine campus), and telehealth Zoom sessions for remote students and RGC students.

### **Tutoring Center**

The Lobo Den Tutoring Center offers FREE tutoring support to help you excel in your courses. Whether you need assistance in Writing, Math, Science, or other subjects, we're here to help!

Important Information:

- Drop-in and Scheduled Appointments: Flexible options to fit your needs.
- Hours of Operation: Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM.
- Workshops: Attend our regularly hosted academic workshops on STEM topics and professional development, often in collaboration with specialized faculty.
- Location: BWML Room 128.
- Contact Us: For more information or to book an appointment, email [tutoring@sulross.edu](mailto:tutoring@sulross.edu) or call (432) 837-8726.

Looking for additional support?

- Tutor.com offers FREE 24/7 online tutoring in over 200 subjects, including specialized support for ESL and ELL learners with native Spanish-speaking tutors.
- Access Tutor.com via Blackboard: Log in to your Blackboard account to get started anytime, anywhere.

Take advantage of these valuable resources to boost your confidence and performance in your classes. We look forward to helping you succeed!