

English 303: Sixteenth-Century Literature

Mondays/Wednesdays 6:00-9:30 PM

Instructor: Scott Trudell
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Office hours: Wednesdays 3-5, and by appointment
Murray Hall 027

Texts:

- *The Longman Anthology of British Literature*, Volume 1B: The Early Modern Period, Third Edition (ISBN: 0321333926)
- William Shakespeare, *Hamlet* (Signet Classics, ISBN: 0451526929)
- Edmund Spenser, *Edmund Spenser's Poetry* (Norton, ISBN: 0393962997)
- suggested (not required): Richard Hakluyt, *Voyages and Discoveries*, ed. Jack Beeching (Penguin, ISBN: 0140430733)

Course requirements:

- Attendance at every class meeting
- Active participation in class discussion
- One-page papers due each Monday
- Unannounced reading quizzes and a final open-book exam

Policies:

- Because our class meets only twelve times in total, your grade will suffer if you miss any class without a note from a doctor or a dean.
- You are responsible for properly citing all quotes and ideas that are not your own. Papers should be written according to MLA specifications, available at the following website:
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/>
- You are required to know and follow the University's code on plagiarism.

Each Monday you will submit a paper that must fit on one page. You can use 1.5 or single spacing if you wish, but please keep the type at 11 pt. or 12 pt. I encourage you to discuss the readings for that day, but you are also free to discuss previous readings.

Your most important goal in the weekly papers is to engage closely and thoughtfully with the readings. **I expect your papers to have an argument**, but I do not expect the argument to be flawless. When I grade them, I will reward ambitious and thought-provoking ideas.

Your papers should help prepare you to participate actively in class, to explore the readings in greater depth, and to maintain a dialogue with me about your ideas. Be sure to base your argument on textual evidence, and to consider that evidence carefully.

Please note that I will lower the grade on your papers if you turn them in on Wednesday, and I will not accept them after that.

Also: You have the option of substituting one paper for a creative response. You might choose (for example) to compare a sixteenth-century writer to your favorite contemporary writer or musician, to write a poem in the style of a sixteenth-century poet, or to adapt a scene with a character missing. If you write a creative response, please include one paragraph describing what you learned from the exercise.

Your final grade will break down as follows: Weekly papers (45%), Unannounced reading quizzes (10%), Class participation (10%), Final exam (35%).

Notice the emphasis on your thorough preparation for each class meeting.

The unannounced quizzes are intended to test how closely you read the material for that day. The final exam will be open-book, and the best way to prepare for it will be to keep up with the reading throughout the course. The reading load is heavy, so make sure to set aside enough time to read the texts closely and write your papers!

Monday, July 7

- Introduction: History and Form
- William Shakespeare: *Hamlet*

Wednesday, July 9

- Continued discussion of *Hamlet*
- John Skelton: "Lullay," "Manerly Margery Mylk and Ale" (689 ff.)
- Thomas Wyatt: "My mother's maids," (handout); "Whoso list to hunt," "They flee from me," "My lute, awake!" "Forget not yet," "Blame not my lute," "Stand whoso list" (695 ff.)
- Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey: "Th'Assyrians' king," "So Cruel Prison," "London, Hast Thou Accused Me" (706 ff.)
- "The Early Modern Period" (667-87)
- Get to know the anthology: bring a snippet to read in class (up to four lines, or two sentences).

Monday, July 14

- **Paper due**
- Thomas More: *Utopia* (714-85)
- George Orwell: from *1984* (785-89)

Wednesday, July 16

- The readings for today from Hakluyt's *Voyages and Discoveries* will be available on e-reserve, so please print them out if you have not purchased the book.
- Richard Hakluyt: "The Epistle Dedicatory in the second volume of the Second Edition, 1599," "The Epistle Dedicatory in the third volume of the second edition, 1600" (36-40 in Hakluyt)
- *The famous voyage of Sir Francis Drake* (171-88 in Hakluyt)
- Walter Raleigh: *The truth of the fight about the Isles of Azores* (355-60 in Hakluyt)
- Raleigh: *The discovery of the large, rich, and beautiful Empire of Guiana* (386-410 in Hakluyt)
- Queen Elizabeth: "To the English troops at Tilbury" (1124)

- Raleigh: from "The 21st and Last Book of the Ocean to Cynthia" (1234-38)

Monday, July 21

- **Paper due**
- Thomas Wyatt: "The long love," "Whoso list to hunt," Petrarch's Sonnet 190, "My galley," (698)
- Henry Howard: "Love that doth reign," "The Soote Season," "Alas, so all things now" (706 ff.)
- Philip Sidney: *Astrophil and Stella* (1036ff.): 1, 3, 7, 14, 24, 39, 45, 52, 70, 74, Fourth song, Eighth song, 106, 108
- Shakespeare: Sonnets (1276-88)
- Edmund Spenser: *Amoretti* (980-83)

Wednesday, July 23

- Philip Sidney: The Apology for Poetry (993-1027)
- Stephen Gosson: from *The School of Abuse* (1028-29)

Monday, July 28

- **Paper due**
- Mary Sidney: "Even now that care," "To thee pure sprite" (1067 ff.); Psalm 51 (handout)
- Wyatt: Prologue to the Penitential Psalms and Psalm 51 (handout)
- Isabella Whitney: "The Admonition by the Author," "A Careful Complaint by the Unfortunate Author," "The Manner of Her Will" (1054 ff.)
- Marlowe: "The Passionate Shepherd to His Love" (1158)
- Raleigh: "The Nymph's Reply to the Shepherd" (1158-59)
- Spenser: "October," from *The Shepheardes Calender* (Norton: 524-29)

Wednesday, July 30

- Spenser: *The Faerie Queene*: "A Letter of the Authors" (Norton: 1-4), Book III, proem and canto 1 (Norton: 231-49)

Monday, August 4

- **Paper due**
- Spenser: *The Faerie Queene*: Book III, cantos 2-5 (Norton: 249-305)

Wednesday, August 6

- Spenser: *The Faerie Queene*: Book III, cantos 6-8 (Norton: 306-347)

Monday, August 11

- **Paper due**
- Spenser: *The Faerie Queene*: Book III, cantos 9-12 (Norton: 347-400)

Wednesday, August 13

- Conclusions and review
- **Final open-book exam (bring all of your texts to class)**