

## ***Fall/Winter 2019-2020***

### **AP/EN 2250 6.0A (Y)**

### ***Introduction to British Literature***

**Course Director:**

Bernice Neal and Tina Choi

**Delivery Format:**

Lecture

**Time:**

Lecture: Tuesdays 12:30-2:30pm  
Tutorials: Tuesdays 2:30-3:30pm, 3:30-4:30pm

**Description:**

In this course we trace the history of British literature from its origins in Old English and medieval tales of murder and sexual misadventure, through an early modern culture of public performance and private devotion, to Romantic expressions of revolutionary fervor and a Victorian preoccupation with illegitimacy, criminality, and policing. We'll consider the development of multiple genres (fiction, drama, poetry, nonfiction prose) amid the changing political and social contexts within Britain, and investigate the historical emergence of contemporary discourses of race, nation, gender, and social class over the centuries.

This course provides an overview of major literary and historical themes in British writing. Students will learn to read, think, and write critically about a range of genres, develop an awareness of major trends and themes in literary history, and be introduced to representative authors from over six centuries. Their work in this course will provide a solid foundation for further literary study, including more advanced courses in British, Canadian, American, or diasporic literatures.

**Category:**

C

**Historical Requirement:**

Period I ( 3 credits)  
Period II (3 credits)

**Requirements:**

Course Assignments (Tentative):  
Essay 1, fall term (1000 words), 15%  
Essay 2, fall term (1500 words), 20%  
Midterm in-class test, 10%  
Essay 3, winter term (2200 words), 30%  
Final in-class test, 10%  
Active, informed participation in tutorial discussions and activities. 15%

**Reading List:**

Marie de France, *Lanval*, *Chevrefoil*  
Chaucer, *The Canterbury Tales*  
*The Wakefield Second Shepherds' Play*  
Selected poetry, including Sidney, Spenser, Shakespeare, Wroth, Milton, Herbert, Donne  
Webster, *The Duchess of Malfi*  
Congreve, *The Way of the World*  
Austen, *Persuasion*  
Collins, *The Moonstone*  
Selvon, *The Lonely Londoners*  
+ additional selected excerpts, poems, and other short works

**Open To:**

Open to all years