

Fall/Winter 2020-2021

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| AP/EN 2280 6.0A (Y) | Medieval Literature |
| Course Director: | Heather Campbell 730 Atkinson College x-22144 hcampbel@yorku.ca |
| Time: | N/A |
| Delivery Format: | Remote – (asynchronous delivery) – There is no set course meeting time. Students may engage with course content/materials 24/7. |
| Description: | Thanks to George R.R. Martin's <i>Game of Thrones</i> and carefully researched TV shows such as <i>Vikings</i> , the European Middle Ages may seem to be a less distant and exotic place than they might have done. In this course, we will come to understand this fascinating period through its extraordinarily rich and varied literature. In the first term, we will read works from the Anglo-Saxon period, the several centuries before the Norman Invasion of 1066: elegies, love poetry, charms and riddles, the great epic poem <i>Beowulf</i> and the brief epic <i>The Battle of Maldon</i> , as well as sermons, political and historical writing and personal reflections. We will read these texts in translation, but students will have a chance to experience the beauty and intricacy of Old English. In the second term, we will read texts from the Middle English period, including the Arthurian romances of the Gawain-poet and Sir Thomas Malory, dream visions, legends and saints' lives, autobiography, plays and other entertainments, and some of the lively stories from Chaucer's <i>Canterbury Tales</i> . Middle English is much more familiar to us than Old English, so we will read most of these in the original, with parallel texts available for the more difficult ones |
| Category: | C |
| Historical Requirement: | N/A |
| Requirements: | 2 fall term essays, c.1000 words each, 20% Winter term essay, c.2000 words, 20% Reading and language exercises, 15% Mid-term test, 10% Active participation, 10% Final Exam, 25% |
| Reading List: | <i>The Broadview Anthology of British Literature, third edition, Volume 1: The Medieval Period</i> . Broadview Press. <i>The Distaff Chronicles</i> . Broadview Press. |
| Open To: | Year 2, 3 |