

**FACULTY OF ARTS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**  
**COURSE OUTLINE**

ENGLISH 405.01

Fall 2018

COURSE TITLE: Middle English Literature: *The Canterbury Tales*  
T/R - 15:30 – 16:45, SH 288

Instructor: Dr. J. McKenney

Office: SS1030

Phone: 403-220-6371

E-mail: mckennej@ucalgary.ca

Office hours: Mondays 10-12; Wednesdays 1-2

**Course description:** This course is an introduction to Middle English language and literature with a particular focus on the *Canterbury Tales* by Chaucer. Lectures will include instruction in Middle English language and pronunciation and provide context on the social, historical, artistic and political underpinnings of Chaucer's major work. Class meetings will be conducted as a mixture of lecture, discussion, and reading aloud.

**Course Web Page:**

Desire2 Learn, the University of Calgary's official learning management system, is accessible through the myUofC web portal. The website will have some of our readings, the grade book, and some useful web links. Students are responsible for checking the D2L website regularly for updates.

**Texts and readings:**

Chaucer, Geoffrey. *The Canterbury Tales*, edited by Robert Boenig and Andrew Taylor, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Broadview

Note: This text will be available at the University Bookstore

**Assignments and Evaluation:**

Translation/Vocabulary Test I: 10%

Translation/Vocabulary Test II: 15%

A Pilgrim and Their Tale (Group Project): 30%

Tracking Chaucer's Language (Individual Essay, 2000 words): 35%

Final Test: 10%

Note: **There is no Registrar Scheduled Final Exam in this course.**

### **Qualifying for a Passing Grade:**

Students do not need to pass or complete any particular class component in order to qualify for a passing grade in the class.

### **Submission of Assignments:**

Most assignments for this course will be submitted on the D2L dropbox. All work is due at the specified time on the assignment information sheet. Make sure to keep a copy of all essays in case of submission errors. Please note that emailed assignments will not be accepted.

**Late assignments will be penalized 1/3 of a letter grade for each business day late.** No assignments will be accepted three business days past the due date. If you anticipate a delay in the submission of your assignment, please contact the instructor as soon as possible and, essentially, BEFORE the due date to make alternate arrangements. Extensions without penalty will not be granted after the due date.

**All assignments for this course are subject to an additional oral examination at the instructor's discretion.**

### **Grading system:**

The University of Calgary's four-point Grading System, as described in the Calendar; (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-2.html>) will be used in this course.

A+/A (4.0); A- (3.7); B+ (3.3); B (3.0); B- (2.7); C+ (2.3); C (2.0); C- (1.7); D+ (1.3); D (1.0); F (0)

Please note that, according to the University Calendar (F.1), instructors may use their discretion when rounding upwards or downwards when the average of term work and exams is between two letter grades.

Although the A+ is solely an honorific that entails no additional points in the four-point system, the course instructor will employ this mark to distinguish superlative work that exceeds expectations in style, correctness, intellectual depth and breadth, sophistication, and originality.

The English Department has a standard percentage to letter grade conversion system. Your grade will be calculated using the numerical mid-point of the received letter grade. For more details, see:

<https://english.ucalgary.ca/gradingpolicies>

### **Reaching Me:**

Academics are usually best reached by email. Students can expect to receive replies to email enquiries within 24 hours during the business week and 48 hours over the weekend. Please note that your instructors may not respond to email after 5 p.m. or on the weekend. I also cannot guarantee that you will receive email replies within 48 hours of assignment due dates. Students should remember, also, that email is not a substitute for attending class or using regular office hours. Missed assignments will not be sent over email, nor should email be used to ask questions otherwise answered in class or on the course outline. Students are responsible for gathering their own notes on missed classes. I will not conduct tutorials by email. If you have not received a response to your email within the timelines specified above, consider whether your

message lacks a clear question or the polish and politeness of a professional letter. If it passes muster, please don't be shy about sending it again.

### **Classroom Etiquette Notes:**

☞ We all have busy and social lives. For the duration of class, however, your social and intellectual life should exist solely in the classroom. All electronic devices should be turned to silent as a courtesy both to the instructor and your peers. Laptops may be used to take notes, but students should refrain from playing games, surfing, or updating social media while in class. If you have special circumstances that require you to monitor your phone in silent mode, please notify the instructor and excuse yourself from the classroom when you have to take calls or respond to texts.

☞ This course is scheduled for one hour and fifteen minutes twice a week. Please schedule appointments and work shifts outside of class hours.

☞ Video and/or audio recording of lecture or discussion is prohibited without the permission of the instructor. Visual material from lecture will not be posted or otherwise distributed.

☞ My goal is to create an intellectually stimulating classroom where all people feel respected and safe to test new ideas. If, at any time, you have concerns about the classroom environment please make an appointment with the instructor. **Students who have preferred names or forms of address (including non-gendered pronouns) are welcome to bring this to the attention of the instructor.**

### **Plagiarism:**

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possible suspension or expulsion from the university. Please refer to the following information and make sure you are familiar with the statement below on plagiarism.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>

### **Scribe and Muse Club for English Students:**

The Scribe and Muse Reading and Writing Club (SMRWC) fosters and champions reading and writing through community service, leadership, and engagement. We strive to enhance the academic and social experience of undergraduate students by promoting academic excellence and interaction between students, faculty, and the community, through social, cultural, and academic events

<http://english.ucalgary.ca/scribe-and-muse-english-club>.

Our email address is [smecuofc@gmail.com](mailto:smecuofc@gmail.com).

### **English Department Website:**

For more information about courses, programs, policies, events and contacts in the Department of English, please go to our website at <http://english.ucalgary.ca>. Please note that the course outlines posted on the English Department website constitute the official course outline for purposes of appeals. Students should verify any hard copies against this posted version. For courses which employ numerical grades, the official departmental percentage to letter grade conversion scale is also posted on the department website.

**Writing support:**

The Student Success Centre offers both online and workshop writing support for U of C students.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>

**Library and Research Support:**

Melanie Boyd, Librarian for English, offers research support to students, including strategies for finding articles, books, and other library materials. Contact: [maboym@ucalgary.ca](mailto:maboym@ucalgary.ca).

Find The English Pages research guide here:

[https://library.ucalgary.ca/sb.php?subject\\_id=52619](https://library.ucalgary.ca/sb.php?subject_id=52619)

Follow the Department of English on Facebook & Twitter:

**Academic regulations and schedules:**

Consult the Calendar for course information, university and faculty regulations, dates, deadlines and schedules, student, faculty and university rights and responsibilities. The homepage for the University Calendar is <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/index.htm>

**Grade appeals:**

Consult the following University Calendar link and request advice from the English Department office, SS 1152. Please note that “mere dissatisfaction with a decision is not sufficient grounds for the appeal of a grade or other academic decision.”

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i.html>

**Deferral of term work and final examinations:**

Should you require an extension for completion of term papers or assignments beyond the deadline of five days after the end of lectures, an Application of Deferment of Term Work form must be completed. The University also has regulations governing the deferral of final examinations. See Calendar:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html>

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html>

**Student Accommodations:****ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

The student accommodation policy can be found at: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy).

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities [ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](http://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy).

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available

at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

**Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points:**

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

**“Safewalk” Program:**

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night: call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk/>

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:**

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Arts Students' Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

### **Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:**

[arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

**Contact for Students Ombudsman's Office:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

### **Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI):**

"At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses ([www.ucalgary.ca/usri](http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri)). Your responses make a difference - please participate in USRI Surveys."

### **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is an extremely serious offence. Please read the following information carefully. The penalty routinely recommended by the English Department for documented plagiarism is failure of the course in which the offence occurred; academic probation is also routinely applied at the Faculty level. Suspension or expulsion can result from severe or repeated plagiarism.

The University Calendar states:

1. Plagiarism - Essentially plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:
  - (a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
  - (b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
  - (c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,
  - (d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted.

Plagiarism occurs when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement, or when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. Citing your sources in a bibliography is not enough, because a bibliography does not establish which parts of a student's work are taken from other sources. MLA (Modern Language Association) documentation or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose. Advice on adequate documentation can be found at the following web sites:

<http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/>

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

## **DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH STATEMENT ON PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT**

According to the University Calendar, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/j.html>

“The University of Calgary community has undertaken to be guided by the following statements of purpose and values: to promote free inquiry and debate, to act as a community of scholars, ..., to respect, appreciate, and encourage diversity, [and] to display care and concern for community”. The Department of English, like the university as a whole, is committed to a “positive and productive learning and working environment.” This environment is characterized by appreciation and encouragement of diversity and respect for the dignity of all persons: students, support staff, and faculty. The department will not tolerate unacceptable behaviour, such as threatening gestures, threatening or abusive verbal or written communication (including e-mails), or any conduct that “seriously disrupts the lawful education and related activities of students and/or university staff”. Any cases of such misconduct should be reported immediately to the department Head, who, depending on the nature and severity of the incident, may then take further appropriate action.