



<b>Course Title: Chaucer's Canterbury Tales</b>			
<b>Course Number</b>	ENGL 405	<b>Fall 2020</b>	
<b>Faculty / Department</b>	<b>Faculty of Arts/Department of English</b>		
<b>Instructor Name</b>	Dr. J. McKenney	<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:mckennej@ucalgary.ca">mckennej@ucalgary.ca</a>
<b>Instructor Email Policy</b>	24-48 hour reply during weekdays; no replies after 5 pm or on weekends/holidays		
<b>Office Location</b>	N/A	<b>Telephone No:</b>	Please email
<b>Office Hours</b>	Thursdays 11-12 or by appointment. Please email to arrange meeting		
<b>Class Dates/Times/Location</b>	Asynchronous online learning + Wednesday zoom meetings 2-3		

**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. This online course will include recorded mini lectures, online activities, and a one-hour weekly discussion and pronunciation practice conducted through Zoom.

**Prerequisites:** 12 units of courses labeled English at the 300-level or above

**Course Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Read, understand, and pronounce Middle English
2. Recognize how Chaucer's work reflects and sometimes resists cultural, political, social, and religious forces in medieval England
3. Appreciate the artistic and intellectual influence of *The Canterbury Tales* including contemporary adaptations of the work.
4. Gain a competency of how to research, write, and formulate essays in the broader field of medieval studies

**Texts and readings:**

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

Agbabi, Patience. *Telling Tales*, Canongate

Note: The bookstore has both hard copies and access to electronic copies for the Broadview *Canterbury Tales*. Agbabi's *Telling Tales* is only available in hard copy.

**Learning Technology and Requirements:**

The course D2L site will be the organizational hub for this course. You are responsible for checking the site regularly for announcements and any changes to the schedule.

As per the University's policy, in order to ensure that students can engage successfully in the learning experiences of online or hybrid courses, students will need to have reliable access to the following:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam/Camera (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Stable internet connection

### **Assignments and Evaluation:**

Participation Activities: 30% (See Description Below)

Mini Essays: 1 @ 10%; 3 @ 20% (70% total)

**Participation:** Your participation grade for this course will be calculated on the basis of your satisfactory completion of the following exercises (individual exercises may be substituted if the need arises).

1. Forum introduction
2. Pronunciation Exercise
3. Pilgrim worksheet
4. Discussion Questions (1 question and 2 replies)
5. Chaucer Meme
6. Exit Test or Survey

Please refer to the directions for individual exercises to see what constitutes satisfactory or exemplary (satisfactory +) completion for each individual assignment. Completed assignments that only partially satisfy the criteria may result in a partial grade deduction in your final calculated participation grade (e.g. a B may become a B-). Exemplary work may result in a partial grade raise for the participation component (e.g. B becomes a B+).

If you satisfactorily complete all 6 assignments, and you receive a satisfactory (+) designation on 3 assignments, you will receive an A for participation (calculated at 87%)

If you satisfactorily complete 6 assignments, you will receive a B+ for participation (calculated at 78%)

If you satisfactorily complete 5 assignments, you will receive a B for participation (calculated at 75%)

If you satisfactorily complete 4 assignments, you will receive a C for participation (calculated at 65%)

If you satisfactorily complete 3 assignments, you will receive a D for participation (calculated at 52%)

If you complete zero to two assignments, you will receive an F for participation (calculated at 40%)

There will be no make up participation assignments and all are due by the date specified in the assignment sheet. Some of these are fixed dates and some will be due by the end of the course lecture period.

**Mini-Essays:** Over the course of the term, you will write four essays of no more than 750 words each (3000 words total). The first essay, which is weighted at 10%, will be on an assigned topic relating to the “General Prologue.” Please refer to your feedback on this lower-weighted essay as I will expect you to

incorporate and address any critiques from this first sample of writing into the final three essays which will be due at the end of term. The remaining essay topics will be selected from a series of possible prompts. Students must write on at least four distinct tales over the course of the semester. All essays must conform to MLA standards of presentation and citation; failure to adhere to English “house style” will likely result in grade deductions. Please refer to Owl Purdue or the MLA Style Centre for MLA standards:

[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/mla\\_style/mla\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/mla\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_and_style_guide.html)

<https://style.mla.org/>

### How to Succeed in this Course:

This course will consist of asynchronous lectures and one hour of synchronous discussion and pronunciation practice per week. Even though you can listen to lectures on your schedule, this should be done in a timely manner, and within the week prescribed. The knowledge and experience you will gain in reading Chaucer is cumulative, and you will not be able to learn the language and understand the connection of tales by listening to materials out of sequence or all at once. You will succeed in this class by keeping pace with the recommended schedule and attending (or listening to) all zoom sessions. It is also highly recommended that you complete participation exercises in a timely manner and on a weekly basis. You do not want your work to snowball at the end of the course. You **must** also make sure to check in with D2L frequently to ensure that you are accessing all course materials and updates. It is your responsibility to follow all postings and make full use of the various functionalities in D2L, including the discussion board.

### Notes:

- There is no registrar-scheduled examination for this course.
- There are no extra-credit or make-up assignments for this course.
- There are no particular assignments that students must complete in order to qualify for a passing grade in this class.
- Late assignments may be penalized one third of a letter grade for each business day late (e.g. A+ becomes an A). Late assignments may not be accepted after three days without previous permission of the instructor.
- All assignments must be uploaded to the appropriate D2L Dropbox. No email submissions will be accepted.

### Grading:

In this course, all essays and projects will be marked on the University of Calgary’s four-point Grading System, as described in the Calendar:

Undergraduate: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html>

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)

When necessary, quizzes and other numerically based assessments will be converted to a letter grade on the basis of the following Department of English percentage to letter grade conversion scale.

90 + %	A+	4.0	67 – 69 %	C+	2.3
85 – 89 %	A	4.0	64 – 66 %	C	2.0
80 – 84 %	A–	3.7	60 – 63 %	C–	1.7

77 – 79 %	B+	3.3	55 – 59 %	D+	1.3
74 – 76 %	B	3.0	50 – 54 %	D	1.0
70 – 73 %	B–	2.7	0 – 49 %	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 4-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.

Calculation note: Letter grades are calculated in D2L at the midpoint of the percentage scale above (e.g. an A is calculated at 87%). Split grades calculated at the numerical threshold of the higher grade (e.g. A-/B+ = 80%).

Please refer to the chart below for an explanation of the university grading system.

### F.1.1 Undergraduate Grading System

Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
A	4.00	Excellent performance
A-	3.70	Approaching excellent performance
B+	3.30	Exceeding good performance
B	3.00	Good performance
B-	2.70	Approaching good performance
C+	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	2.00	Satisfactory performance
C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance.
D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	1.00	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject. The Faculty of Law utilizes a "D" grade that does not carry weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable.
F	0.00	Failure. Did not meet course requirements. Several Faculties utilize an F grade that does not carry weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable.
I	0.00	Incomplete. Sufficient work has not been submitted for evaluation, unable to adequately assess. May also be used when a final exam is not submitted.
CR		Completed Requirements. Carries no weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable

### Academic Honesty:

All assignments completed for this course must be solely the work of the student; specifically, the ideas, the research, the writing, and the editing **must be the work only of the student**. There are no collaborative assignments in this course and no outside assistance is permitted. All published or on-line sources consulted must be documented fully in the Works Cited section of each assignment.

By submitting an assignment on D2L you are deemed to have read and complied with this statement of Academic Honesty, as well as with all the University's policies on academic integrity and plagiarism. Please see the below information for additional details of what constitutes academic misconduct and plagiarism. Please also the review the information about plagiarism included on the course syllabus posted on D2L.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>

c) **Academic Misconduct** means any Student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a Student's Academic Activities and includes:

- i. Cheating
- ii. Fabrication
- iii. Falsification
- iv. Plagiarism
- v. Unauthorized Assistance
- vi. failure to comply with an Instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of Students completing academic assessments in their courses
- vii. failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

**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>

**Code of Conduct:**

Students, employees, and academic staff are also expected to demonstrate behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. As members of the University community, students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar, the Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures, which can be found at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

**Course Materials and Intellectual Property:**

Please note that all lecture materials, whether on Yuja, Zoom, or Powerpoints is the intellectual property of the instructor and circulation of these materials beyond D2L and the virtual classroom is prohibited without the permission of the instructor.

**University Zoom Policies:**

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the **Code of Conduct**). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g **Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy**). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an

exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/> .

The instructors may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purposes.

**Classroom Environment:** My goal is to create an intellectually stimulating classroom where all people feel respected and safe to test new ideas. The expectation is for students to interact collegially, with kindness, and in the spirit of mutual curiosity. That said, I will put a pause on conversation if, at any time, the discussion is becoming uncivil, offensive, harmful, or substantively off topic. If you have concerns about the classroom environment please make an appointment with the course 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(s).**

**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 <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/english>. 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: [maboyd@ucalgary.ca](mailto:maboyd@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.

### **\*RESEARCH ETHICS (if applicable)**

If a student is interested in undertaking an assignment that will involve collecting information from members of the public, they should speak with the course instructor and consult the CFREB Ethics (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/cfreb>) before beginning the assignment.

### **\*INSTRUCTOR'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **\*FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

### **\*COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.

### **\*MEDIA RECORDING (if applicable)**

Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students: [https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP\\_FINAL.pdf](https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf)

#### **\*Media recording for lesson capture**

The instructor may use media recordings to capture the delivery of a lecture. These recordings are intended to be used for lecture capture only and will not be used for any other purpose. Although the recording device will be fixed on the Instructor, in the event that incidental student participation is recorded, the instructor will ensure that any identifiable content (video or audio) is masked, or will seek consent to include the identifiable student content to making the content available on University approved platforms.

#### **\*Media recording for self-assessment of teaching practices**

The instructor may use media recordings as a tool for self-assessment of their teaching practices. Although the recording device will be fixed on the instructor, it is possible that student participation in the course may be inadvertently captured. These recordings will be used for instructor self-assessment only and will not be used for any other purpose.

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### **\*Media recording for the assessment of student learning**

The instructor may use media recordings as part of the assessment of students. This may include but is not limited to classroom discussions, presentations, clinical practice, or skills testing that occur during the course. These recordings will be used for student assessment purposes only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

### **SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY**

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

### **\*OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

### **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://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>.

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

According to the University Calendar; <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2.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.