



<b>Course Title: Chaucer's Canterbury Tales</b>			
<b>Course Number</b>	ENGL 405	<b>SPRING 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>	Please email to arrange meeting.		
<b>Class Dates/Times/Location</b>	Asynchronous online learning + 10:30-11:30 a.m. zoom meetings on Wednesdays		

### 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

### Texts and readings:

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

Note: The bookstore has both hard copies and access to electronic copies. Free shipping is available for hard copies.

### 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 weekly exercises (individual exercises may be substituted if the need arises).

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

Please refer to the directions for individual exercises to see what constitutes 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, you will receive an A for participation (calculated at 87%)

If you satisfactorily complete 5 assignments, you will receive a B+ for participation (calculated at 78%)

If you satisfactorily complete 4 assignments, you will receive a B for participation (calculated at 75%)

If you satisfactorily complete 3 assignments, you will receive a C for participation (calculated at 65%)

If you satisfactorily complete 2 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%).

### 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

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

#### Reaching Me:

Students can expect to receive replies to email enquiries within 24-48 hours during the business week and 48 hours over the weekend. Please note that I do not respond to emails 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. Missed assignments will not be sent over email, nor should email be used to ask questions otherwise answered in class, on lecture recordings, on D2L documents, or on the course outline. 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.

#### Online Classroom Etiquette Notes:

📢 When you join a Zoom class (please arrive five minutes early), please set your audio to mute so that we do not hear feedback or the ambient noise of your virtual classroom. It is courteous not to eat during a zoom meeting (having a drink is fine). If you do need to eat, please turn off your video. If you would like to ask a question in a zoom class, please use the chat function or raise your hand virtually through "Participants". I will try to address questions promptly. When on camera, make sure your camera is at face level and your room is well lit. Here are some Zoom tips and best practices:

<https://blogs.otago.ac.nz/zoom/zoom-etiquette-attendee/>

📢 Even in an online format, we are governed by the university code of conduct. Please be courteous and respectful in online spaces and in discussion boards. Here is a general guide to Netiquette:

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

🚫 Video and/or audio recording of lecture or discussion is prohibited without the permission of the instructor.

🎯 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 <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: [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 by emailing [karen.preddy@ucalgary.ca](mailto:karen.preddy@ucalgary.ca). 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> .

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

**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! Call 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:** <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/ombuds/role>

**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. . 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.