

**FACULTY OF ARTS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

**ENGLISH 519.47**

**Winter 2019**

**Instructor:** J. Jenkins  
**Office:** SS 1152A  
**Phone:** 220-6572  
**E-mail:** jenkinsj@ucalgary.ca  
**Class Time:** Wednesday 9:30 – 12:15, SS 1015  
**Office hours:** Wednesday 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm; or by appointment

**Medieval Drama and Performance**

**Course description:**

This course will consider dramatic literature and questions of performance in the English Middle Ages, drawing on surviving dramatic texts, as well as records of, or references to, dramatic activity. Though a distressingly small number of Middle English play-scripts survive, the extant evidence nevertheless tells us that the medieval English theatre cut across, and frequently combined, many genres, including liturgical and biblical narrative, farce or fabliaux, saints' legends and miracle stories, and moral and political allegory. In this course, we will read both explicitly dramatic Middle English works *and* texts that challenge the categories of 'dramatic' and 'non-dramatic'. Through supplementary readings from both medieval records (accessible through the work of REED primarily) and contemporary critical work, we will be attentive to the ways questions of audience, venue and occasion complicate and enrich our understanding of medieval performance and performance texts. As part of our critical approach to the texts we discuss, students will have the opportunity to test ideas discussed in class in a series of informal performance workshops; in these workshops, supported by readings and discussions of practice-based research, students will work together in small groups, with presentations on the performances in the last quarter of the term. Other assignments will include the seminar papers, responses and final research essay.

**Texts and readings:**

- Fitzgerald, Christine M. and John T. Sebastian, eds. *The Broadview Anthology of Medieval Drama*. Broadview, 2012.
- Fitzgerald, Christine M., ed. *The York Corpus Christi Play: Selected Pageants*. Broadview, 2018.
- Beadle, Richard and Alan J. Fletcher, eds. *The Cambridge Companion to Medieval English Theatre*. Second Edition. Cambridge UP, 2008. [ONLINE resource TDFL]

**Assignments and Evaluation:**

Material Performing Environment Assignment	15%
Critical Review (1000 words)	20%
Performance Workshop Report	15%
Essay Proposal and Preliminary Bibliography	10%
Research Essay (2500-3000 words, approx 12 d.s. pages)	40%

**Please note the following class requirements and information:**

- **There will be no final exam in this class.**
- Students must submit a final research paper in order to pass the course.
- Please make all efforts to take assignments directly to the instructor. If it is not possible to do so, take your assignment to SS1152 and put it in the dropbox, where your assignment will be date-stamped and placed in the instructor's mailbox. Please keep a copy of your assignment in case of loss by any cause. Assignments **cannot be returned** by staff in the Department office.
- Do not submit an assignment electronically (i.e. via email) without making prior arrangements with me.

**Material Performing Environment Assignment (4 – 5 d.s. pp plus bibliography; 15%):** This short assignment is due at the beginning of class on Wednesday, 30 January 2019. With this assignment, students are expected to research and present information on a material feature of the medieval performing environment. Please choose from the list of material and/or physical elements below; though you are welcome to work collaboratively as you research and/or discuss the topics, each student is required to submit an individual assignment. If any students choose to submit work that has been written collaboratively, please indicate clearly who contributed, how the work was shared, and how the writing was divided. Short discussions of the assignments will be scheduled for the class on 6 February, 2019. Students will have the opportunity to briefly report (no more than 5 minutes) on the information they discovered in their research. The oral report will not be graded, but will contribute to the overall discussion in the class. Please include a full bibliography in MLA style.

You are welcome to research in both traditional and non-traditional sources, but do not make use of unreliable sources such as Wikipedia. I encourage you to contact Melanie Boyd, the subject librarian for English [maboyd@ucalgary.ca] if you need advice finding sources. Our library has extensive print and online resources that support research on topics in the medieval period; as well, of course, you can find a vast number of internet resources. I encourage you to look at the websites of medieval performance groups such as the PLS at U of Toronto (Poculi Ludique Societas), or EDOX (Early Drama at Oxford), or the website for the York Mystery Plays as produced by the city of York [<http://www.yorkmysteryplays.co.uk>], or REED (Records of Early English Drama). You might also look at living history groups, such as the Society for Creative Anachronism [[www.sca.org](http://www.sca.org)] for information about the material history of the period.

**Topics for the Material Performing Environment Assignment (for each of the following topics, please think specifically about late medieval England, i.e., 1200-1550):**

- Medieval costumes
- Medieval props
- Medieval staging
- Mumming and/or puppetry in medieval performance
- Pageant wagons
- Special Effects (such as pyrotechnics) in medieval performance
- Medieval performers (gender? Class? Status?)
- Audiences of medieval performance
- Records of medieval performance (what / where are they? What do they tell us?)

**Late assignment policy:**

Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the day assigned. Extensions must be negotiated with me before the due date; all late work (i.e. work handed in late without an extension, or work handed in after the extended deadline) will be penalised one letter grade (for example, from B+ to C+) and will receive reduced written comments. Late work will not be accepted later than one week past the deadline without documented medical reasons.

**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 <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html>

**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>

Other student resources:

**SU Wellness Centre:** <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>

**Campus Mental Health Strategy:** <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>

**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/n-1.html>.

## **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.