

# **Course Syllabus**

**Dr. Dean Bowers**

**ENGL 2323.WB**

**Summer I 2011**

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**NOTE: This syllabus is subject to change during the semester . Please check this syllabus on a regular basis for any updates.**

**For a copy of this syllabus in a document format, look in the Course Information folder in our Blackboard shell. If you are not in this class and want a version of this syllabus in document format, please email me at [dbowers@odessa.edu](mailto:dbowers@odessa.edu).**

**Department** : English & Foreign Languages

**Course Title** : British Literature I

**Section Name** : ENGL\_2322\_WB

**Start Date** : 06/06/2011

**End Date** : 07/07/2011

**Modality** : ONLINE

**Credits** : 3

## **Instructor Information**

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**Name** : Dr. Dean Bowers

**OC Email** : [dbowers@odessa.edu](mailto:dbowers@odessa.edu)

**OC Phone #** : (432) 335-6572

## **Course Description**

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Consists of reading and analyzing significant works of British literature from the Old English period through the Neoclassical period. Requires research paper or several short analytical papers. Required of all English majors.

## **Prerequisites/Corequisites**

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English 1302 must be completed successfully before enrolling in English 2322.

## **Scans**

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## Required Readings/Materials

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a) You must purchase the following *required* readings/materials:

- *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*, The Major Authors, Vol. A, 8th ed., Greenblatt, et al.
- You need dependable access to a computer (see Computer Access section on page 3).
- A computer file storage device, preferably a USB drive

b) You are encouraged to buy the following *optional* books/materials

- Thesaurus and dictionary (recommended)

## Course Objectives

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### Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate the ability to think critically about notable works of British literature from the Middle Ages to the end of the 18th century;
  - Demonstrate the ability to read assigned texts closely, develop interpretational analyses of these texts, and clearly articulate the findings of these critical interpretational analyses;
  - Recognize the major movements and periods of British literature from the Middle Ages through the 18th Century.
  - Discuss the basic and more abstract elements of different genres of literature of this period using the appropriate literary terminology;
  - Recognize recurring cultural and literary themes as they appear in selected works of this period of British literature;
  - Communicate this understanding of British literature using well-organized, lucid prose.
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## Encouragement

My overall philosophy is that you can succeed in this class, and that you can get and will get the grade that you are willing to work for. I will maintain rigorous standards, but I will help you in any way that I can to be successful because I do want all of you to do well. My goal is to help you develop your analytical reading skills, your critical thinking skills, and to continue to develop your ability to clearly articulate your ideas. These are skills that will serve you well in other classes, in job situations, and in your own personal development. I also hope that you enjoy the readings and find some authors and works that you like. I encourage you to talk to me if you have questions, concerns, or problems in the class. Since in summer sessions there are no scheduled office hours, contact me to arrange other meeting times. I can also assist you in arranging the use of other helpful resources. I hope we can have an interesting, productive, and fun semester together.

## Computer Access

You need to have regular access to a computer for this class:

- **Internet** - You need to have dependable access to the internet.
- **Word Processor** - All assignments should be typed, saved to your computer, and then submitted to Blackboard. If you don't have Word, most computers come with Works already loaded. Make sure to save documents in Rich Text Format. Alternative word processors include Google Docs or the free word processor available at [www.openoffice.org](http://www.openoffice.org).
- **Blackboard** - You are responsible for any materials that can be found in our Blackboard course.
- **Odessa College email** - When I send messages and reminders, they will go to this email. You are responsible for any information sent to your OC email.
- **Powerpoint** - You can open Powerpoints in Blackboard. Here is a link for a free Powerpoint Viewer:  
<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?familyid=048dc840-14e1-467d-8dca-19d2a8fd7485&displaylang=en>.
- **Adobe Reader** - If you don't have this already, you can download the reader for free at <http://www.adobe.com/>.

**Not having computer access is not an acceptable excuse for failing to complete assignments on time. If you are having difficulties with your own computer, please find an alternative. Also, please let me know immediately if you are having computer issues. One option is the Student Success Center computer lab on the Odessa College campus. Here is a link to their hours of operation: <http://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/hours.htm>.**

## Assistance with Assignments/Tutoring

You are always welcome to call me or email me with questions about your assignments. We can arrange a meeting in my office on campus and help you brainstorm for topics and ideas, help you organize your essay, help you with using quotations, help you edit your essay and/or discuss any other questions. I will also answer these kinds of questions and look at drafts of assignments to provide comments via email. Just please make sure to send me the draft with enough time to send you feedback before it is due.

In addition to my help, any registered Odessa College student can go to the Student Success Center for tutoring and for assistance with different subjects. The Odessa College Student Success Center is located on the first floor of the Learning Resources Center (library). You are welcome to go to the SSC for assistance in this class. The English tutors can help you with the same aspects of the paper as I have listed above. The point to emphasize here is that they will **help** you; **they will not do the assignment for you**. Make sure to take a copy of the assignment instructions with you so that the tutor will understand the assignment.

Odessa College also offers access to Smarthinking, an online student assistance service. You can access Smarthinking from the Student Success Center webpages; the following link will take you to the Smarthinking information on the SSC site: <http://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/tutoring.htm>.

When you go to access Smarthinking, you will be directed to the Student Portal. Your same username and password that you use for your Blackboard and OC email should work for the Portal. If not, call 432-335-6673.

### **Class Behavior**

Even though most of our interactions will be on Blackboard and via email, I will expect for you to be courteous and respectful in our communications.

In Discussion Boards, I expect students to only post material appropriate for a classroom environment and to be respectful and courteous toward their fellow students.

The Discussion Boards are an opportunity to share different points of view, and this will make the interactions more interesting for all of us. If you have a different point of view on a topic than someone else, I encourage you to share your ideas - just do so politely. Offer your ideas up as another possible way of looking at the topic.

If a student submits inappropriate or belligerent posts, replies, or other materials to Blackboard, or if a student interacts with me or another student in an inappropriate or belligerent way, I will contact the Dean of Arts and Sciences, and we will explain to the student why the behavior was inappropriate and discuss how to avoid it in the future. If there is another incident, I will contact the Dean of Arts and Sciences as well as the Vice President of Student Services and discuss further disciplinary measures.

In cases where inappropriate material has been submitted for an assignment, students will receive reduced credit or even no credit (depending on the situation) for the submission in question.

### **Attendance**

Since this is an online class, there is not an official attendance policy. However, in order to do well in this class, you should check Blackboard and your Odessa College email at least twice a day, if not more often.

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## Course Requirements (Assignments and Assessments)

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### Essays (3) 28.5%

Each Essay Assignment will ask the students to write organized, coherent responses to given prompts. Each Essays Assignment will cover the assigned literature from the different historical periods: 1) Middle Ages, 2) the 16th century and the early 17th century, and 3) the Restoration and 18th century.

### Discussion Boards (3) 19.5%

Each discussion board requires that a student post a response to a prompt and then reply to at least two posts by other students. These might cover any of the literature from any of the historical periods: 1) Middle Ages, 2) the 16th century and early 17th century, and 3) the Restoration and the 18th century

### Major Paper 17%

The major paper asks students to find similarities between characters from assigned works of literature from different historical periods.

### Tests (5) 35%

Tests cover the assigned literature from the different historical periods: 1) Middle Ages, 2) the 16th century and early 17th century, and 3) the Restoration and 18th century

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## Topic/Overview:

### Summary of Assignments & Activities

Item(Name)	Type	Description
The Middle Ages	Literary Unit	We will read the following: "Lanval", <i>Beowulf</i> , <i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> , and selections from <i>The Canterbury Tales</i> along with the textbook's historical section on this period.
The 16th Century	Literary Unit	We will read works by William Shakespeare, Christopher Marlowe, and Sir Walter Raleigh, along with the textbook's historical section on this period.
The Early 17th Century	Literary Unit	We will read works by John Donne, Robert Herrick, Andrew Marvell, and Thomas Hobbes along with the textbook's historical section on this period.
The Resoration and the 18th Century	Literary Unit	We will read works by John Dryden, William Hogarth, Alexander Pope, Samuel Johnson, and Jonathan Swift along with the textbook's historical section on this period.

## Grading Policy

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### Assignments

- ◆ Assignments are due by the end of the day on the dates designated on the class schedule and in the Assignments section. If you have questions about any assignment, please contact me as soon as possible.
- ◆ I would like all assignments submitted in Rich Text Format.
- ◆ You are responsible for any materials in the Course Materials folders: readings, linked web pages, videos, Tegrity sessions, supplemental documents.
- ◆ On papers, tests, and discussion boards/replies, keep your discussion focused **ONLY** on the material that has been designated on the assignment instructions.
- ◆ Late assignments will lose 10 points. I will accept late assignments for 48 hours after the due date/time. After that, I will not accept them.
- ◆ If an assignment does not meet the word minimum, it will lose 10 points (or be subject to the penalty described on the assignment instructions).
- ◆ If you have a legitimate, documented reason why you need more time on an assignment, please contact me.

### Plagiarism

Simply put, plagiarism is turning in work that you claim to be your own, but that is not yours; in other words, parts of it or all of it comes from another source.

Plagiarism occurs if you do any of the following without giving proper credit to the real author of the material: directly quote from another author's material, paraphrase from another author's material, or even borrow an idea from another author's material.

- **If you are caught plagiarizing material on any assignment (tests, essays, discussion board posts and replies), you will receive a zero on the assignment in question.**
- **If you are caught plagiarizing material a second time, you will receive an F for the course. I will also contact the Vice President of Student Services.**

**You can do the work; plagiarism is not worth it. If you have questions, please contact me.**

## Ineligible Materials for Assignments

Please **do not use** material (quoted, paraphrased, or otherwise borrowed) from interpretational resources (such as Spark Notes, Cliffs Notes, etc.) or from essay sites (such as 123HelpMe, etc.) as the basis of your discussions in essays, discussion posts, and replies. While proving plagiarism can be difficult, it is not so difficult to tell when a student has relied on a supplemental website for assistance instead of on the actual assigned text. While this kind of laziness may not always qualify as plagiarism, it does demonstrate that you are not meeting the class requirements, and your grade will reflect that.

- **If your discussion relies on these kinds of websites, the highest grade you will be able to get on that assignment will be a 65 (D).**
- **If your discussion focus on works other than those designated for the assignment, the highest possible grade you can get on that particular assignment will be a 75 (C).**
- **As the policy above states, if it can be proven that you have plagiarized from any source, you will incur the stated failing grades.**

Percentage %	Grade
100-90	A
89-80	B
79-70	C
69-60	D
59 or below	F

## Withdrawing from Class

June 29 (Wed.) is the last day you will be automatically be given a W when you withdraw from a class. After that, you will receive the grade you currently have in this class, taking into account grades from all assignments for the semester, including incomplete ones.

## Special Needs

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Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns. You may also call the Office of Disability services at 432-335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations.

## Learning Resource Center (Library)

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The Library, known as the [Learning Resources Center](#), provides research assistance via the [LRC's catalog \(print books, videos, e-books\)](#) and [databases \(journal and magazine articles\)](#). [Research guides](#) covering specific subject areas, [tutorials](#), and the "[Ask a Librarian](#)" service provide additional help.

## Student E-mail

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Please access your [Odessa College Student E-mail](#), by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>. **All correspondence will be conducted using your Odessa College email.**

## Student Portal

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Please access your [Odessa College Student E-mail](#), by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>. **All correspondence will be conducted using your Odessa College email.**

## Technical Support

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For Blackboard username and password help and for help accessing your online course availability and student email account contact the Student Success Center at 432-335-6878 or online at [https://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/helpdesk\\_form.htm](https://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/helpdesk_form.htm).

## Important School Policies

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For information regarding student support services, academic dishonesty, disciplinary actions, special accommodations, or student's and instructors' right to academic freedom can be found in the [Odessa College Student Handbook](#).