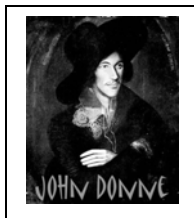


ENGL 2121 Syllabus  
**British Literature**

Fall 2009

Dr. Mark Stevens  
 Office: J-348  
 Office Phone: (678) 915-7380  
 Email: mstevens@spsu.edu



Office Hours:  
 M/W 1:00-2:00  
 T/R 1:30-3:00  
 and by appointment

Date	Topic	Assignment Due
<b>T Aug. 25</b>	History of English	
R 27	Heroes 1	“The Middle Ages” (pages 1-14); <i>Beowulf</i> (35-51, 61-69)
<b>T Sept. 1</b>	Heroes 2	<i>Beowulf</i> (80-83, 86-100), Early Arthurian legends (118-129); <i>Morte Darthur</i> (439)
R 3	Heroes 3	<i>Gawain</i> parts 1-3 (160)
<b>T 8</b>	Heroes 4 Class 1	<i>Gawain</i> part 4 (202), <i>Paradise Lost</i> Bk. 3 (1872 to line 371), Bk. 12 (2049 from line 375); <i>Utopia</i> “Slaves” (569), “To Penshurst” (1434), “Epistle to a Lady” (2610), “Encountering the King” (2819), “A Brief to Free a Slave” (2849), “Elegy in a Country Churchyard” (2867)
R 10	Class 2	<i>Life of Olaudah Equiano</i> (2850), <i>Twelfth Night</i> , Acts 1 and 2 (1077)
T 15	Class 3	<i>Twelfth Night</i> , Acts 3-4 (1108)
R 17	Class 4	<i>Twelfth Night</i> , Act 5 (1129), <i>Beggar’s Opera</i> (2613)
T 22	Exploration 1	“Guiana” (923), “Arctic,” “Globe,” & “Virginias” (928-43), “To the Virginian Voyage” (1000), “Bermudas” (1698), “Letter of Newton” (2156), “Castaway” (2895)
R 24	Exploration 2	<i>Paradise Lost</i> , Books 1 & 2 (1830)
T 29	Exploration 3	<i>Dr. Faustus</i> (1022)
R Oct. 1	<b>Test 1</b>	10 short essay questions—pick any 5
<b>T 6</b>	Government 1	<i>Pastoral Care</i> (109), <i>Utopia</i> (532-35, 543-56, 574-79), “Patriarcha” (1746), <i>Tenure of Kings</i> (1748), New Year’s Gift” (1752), “Character of Cromwell” (1761), “Dorothy Waugh’s Cruel Usage” (1768)
R 8	Government 2	<i>Gulliver’s Travels</i> Part 4 (2418)
T 13	Government 3  War	<i>Areopagitica</i> (1816), <i>Two Treatises</i> (2830), “Liberty of the Press” (2842) “An Horatian Ode” (1712), “Trial of Charles I” (1739), Execution of Charles I” (1741), “On the Late Massacre” (1828), <i>Gulliver’s Travels</i> Part 1 ch. 5 (2347), “Conciliation with the Colonies” (2846) <b>Today is the last day to Withdraw.</b> <b>Turn in your Reading Journal</b>
R 15	Satire 1	“Mac Flecknoe” (2111), <i>Discourse Concerning Satire</i> (2131), <i>Hudibras</i> (2161), “Satire Against Reason” (2173), “Modest Proposal” (2462), <i>Rape of the Lock</i> (2513), <i>Dunciad</i> (2559)

T	20	Satire 2	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i> Part 2 (2365)
R	22	Art	"To His Booke" (708), Sonnet 75 (906), "Answers to Charges" (967), Sonnet 1 (975), Sonnet 6 (1000), Sonnets 18 & 55 (1063), "To Donne" (1429), "To Shakespeare" (1444), "Of Masques" (1560), "Music's Duel" (1640), "Hasty Resolution" (1774), "On Shakespeare" (1797), "Epigram" (2120), "Alexander's Feast" (2120), "Pleasures of Imagination" (2488), <i>Essay on Criticism</i> part 1 (2497), "Shakespeare's Excellence" (2756)
T	27	Gender 1	"Wife of Bath's Tale" (275), <i>Margery Kempe</i> 1.11 & 1.76 (385), "King's Mistress" (590), "Eve's Apology" (1317), "Duties of a Wife" (1538), <i>Arraignment of Lewd Women</i> (1544), <i>Muzzle for Melastomus</i> (1546), <i>True Relation</i> (1777)
R	29	Gender 2	"Deb Willet Affair" (2138), <i>Reflections Upon Marriage</i> (2285), <i>Roxana</i> (2289), "Introduction" (2295), "Epistle from Ms. Yonge" (2587), "Essay on Woman" (2608), rest of Burney's <i>Journal and Letters</i> (2811)
<b>T Nov.</b>	<b>3</b>	Lust	"Miller's Tale" (241), "Hero & Leander" (1004), Sonnet 129 (1074), "Garden in Her Face" (1230), "Flea" (1263), "Elegy 19" (1283), "Vine" (1655), "Upon the Nipples" (1661), "Coy Mistress" (1703), "Imperfect Enjoyment" (2169), "The Disappointment" (2180)
R Nov.	5	Love 1	<i>Book of Common Prayer</i> (632), "On Monsieur's Departure" (695), <i>Amoretti</i> 37, 64, 67 (904), <i>Epithalamion</i> (907), Sonnets 81, 91 (987), "Passionate Shepherd" (1022), Sonnets 29, 73, 97, 116 (1065), "Sun Rising" (1266), "Valediction" (1275); "Methought I Saw" (1829);
T	10	Love 2	"Whoso List" (595), "They Flee" (599), "O Happy Dames" (613), "Nymph's Reply" (917), Sonnets 31, 52, & 53 (980), Sonnets 130 & 138 (1074), "Song" (1264), "Indifferent" (1267), "Apparition" (1274), "Funeral" (1279), "Giles & Joan" (1429), <i>Marriage à la Mode</i> (2087), "Better Answer" (2300), "Lord Randall" & "Barbara Allan" (2899)
R	12	<b>Test 2</b>	10 short essay questions—pick any 5
T	17	Faith 1	"Cædmon's Hymn" (24), "Dream of the Rood" (27), rest of <i>Margery Kempe</i> (384), <i>Piers Plowman</i> Passus 5 & 18 (340), English Bible (618), "Hymn to God in Sickness" (1301), "When I Consider" (1828), <i>Pilgrim's Progress</i> (2143)
R	19	Faith 2 Lit History	<i>Utopia</i> "Religions" (579) Holy Sonnets 10 & 14 (1296), "The Altar" & "Easter Wings" (1607 & 1609), "My Cat Jeoffry" (2875) Restoration & 18 <sup>th</sup> Century (2057)
T	24	Despair	<i>King Lear</i> , Act 1 (1139)
<b>T Dec.</b>	<b>1</b>	Despair	<i>King Lear</i> , Acts 2 & 3 (1164)
R Dec.	3	Despair	<i>King Lear</i> , Acts 4 & 5 (1195)
T Dec.	8	Lit History	16 <sup>th</sup> Century (485) & Early 17 <sup>th</sup> Century (1235)
R Dec.	10	Death	"Wanderer" (111), "History of the World" (926), "Litany in Time of Plague" (1232), "On My First Daughter" (1428), "On My First Son" (1430), "Epitaph on S. P." (1433), "On the Death" (1695) "Meditation 17" (1305), "Donne on His Deathbed" (1309), "Death" (1624), "Lycidas" (1806), Johnson & Death (2797 & 2806+), "Three Ravens" (2902) <b>Turn in your Reading Journal</b>
TBA		Final Exam	Cumulative Final 16 short essay questions, pick 8: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 interpretation of a not-yet-read work</li> <li>• 6 questions from old tests (pick 3)</li> <li>• 8 questions from recently read literature (pick 4)</li> </ul>



## About Stevens' ENGL 2121

--The **Prerequisite** for ENGL 2121 is ENGL 1102.

### --Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate an ability to compare and contrast diverse literary texts, authors, and/or genres within early British literature.
- Analyze themes and ideas pertinent to early British literature
- Comprehend how historical time or literary movements shape our understanding of literature.
- Read a work of literature out loud with some dramatic touches
- And I hope that you'll occasionally enjoy the depth and beauty of the language and ideas, and maybe even feel joy, sorrow, and excitement.

--**Textbooks** are *The Norton Anthology English Literature*, 8<sup>th</sup> ed, volumes A, B, & C (or volume 1)

--**Grades** are determined by adding

- your two **test grades** (100 pts. each)
- your quiz grade (100 points)
- your **oral presentation** (50 points)
- your **final** (160 pts.)
- and then factoring in your reading journal and attendance.

I divide your point total by 510 to find your grade percentage:

**A=457+, B=406+, C=355+, D=304+.**

--**Attendance** is required. More than 4 absences will cause one point to be subtracted from your final 100-point class grade for each additional absence. Missing more than half a class counts as an absence. Three lates count as an absence. Call me early if you are faced with an insurmountable attendance problem.

--**A Reading Journal** will be maintained throughout the semester. In this journal, you will record your understanding of and reaction to each work of literature we read. You can be wildly wrong. I'll check a couple of rows every day, so get it done.

- For each short work or each section of a longer work, write the **theme** in one complete sentence. (The theme is the **topic** that the work was about and a **statement** about that topic.)
- For each day's reading, write an additional one-paragraph **commentary** of at least one hundred words on a topic provided during the previous class.

I'll evaluate it in the middle of the semester and at the end.

Journals will be graded:

- ✓+ (3 or fewer incomplete—a must for a semester grade of A)
- ✓ (4-10 incomplete—a must for a semester grade of B)
- ✓- (more than 10 incomplete—if you get this, the highest semester grade would be a C)

--**An Oral Presentation** will be given by each student in the class on a short reading (between 12 lines and a couple of pages) from British literature that is not on our syllabus and that has not been covered by another student this semester. The reading doesn't have to be from our anthology. Students will read and discuss their selection and will write up a one- to two-page explanation. To do your explanation, answer the "Questions to Ask to See if You Understand a Work" below. Also, you must come see me in my office (J-348) at least one day before you give your presentation to practice it.

--**Quizzes** are frequently given on the readings. I'll drop your worst three quizzes. You might be able to make up a quiz if you contact me ahead of time, but usually a missed quiz will just be a zero.

--**Plagiarism** and other forms of academic dishonesty will result in failure of the course. Take care that your test answers and journal entries are all your own work. See the SPSU Catalog.

--**Students with Disabilities** who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the counselor working with disabilities at (770) 528-7226 as soon as possible so they can get the help they need.

## Questions to Ask to See if You Understand a Work

1. Is the work basically happy or sad? (tone)
2. Are there any characters? If so, what are they like? (characterization)
3. Is the narration in first (I), second (you), or third (he/she/they) person? What can we tell about the narrator? (narration)
4. When and where does the work seem to take place? Use your imagination if time and place are not clear. (setting)
5. What picture-words does the author use? (imagery—especially important in poems)
6. What idea or thing is the work about, and what point is the author making about it? (theme)

## Stevens' Tips for Reading Poetry

1. Read the poem out loud slowly; if the poem is short, read it over and over again.
2. Read by punctuation, not by line ending.
3. Look up any word you don't know.
4. Read the footnotes if they're present
5. Ponder over any line that doesn't make sense.
6. Write a one-sentence summary.