



**English 2322.104CL
British Literature I
Fall 2021
Tuesday-Thursday 8-9.20 am**

Instructor Information

Name Gilchrist White (Terry White is Blackboard's listing)
Email gwhite@com.edu
Office Phone 409.933.8316
(Leave a voice mail. Speak clearly and slowly.)

Office Hours and Location

Office Hours MW, 9-11 am; TTh, 9.30-11.30 am; Mon, 1-2 pm; or, by
Appointment
Office Location M-03 (Mezzanine of the Library)

My Teaching Philosophy

Learning is best achieved when students become engaged with the material and discover information on their own. Students also need interaction with other learners through discussions, debates, collaboration, and evaluation. Individual learners also need to reflect on their learning—to evaluate their past experiences and how they relate to their present situation, and to plan for future learning and growth. A teacher's job is to help learners with this on-going process.

This philosophy places students at the center of their own learning and in charge of it.

Required Textbooks

The Norton Anthology of English Literature: The Major Authors. Vol. 1. 10th ed. Gen. ed. Stephen Greenblatt. WW Norton, 2019.

A note about the book: you can use any edition of the *Norton Anthology* or find many of the reading selections online. You must check the reading assignments for the chapters, sections, or specific poems in the Weekly Overviews IF you are NOT using the listed textbook.

Recommended

- Access to a source for grammar and mechanics and for MLA documentation and formatting such as *The Little Seagull Handbook*, or online at [Purdue University OWL](#).
- A college-level dictionary

Other Requirements

You must use Microsoft Office Word for your essays. You may download a free copy of Office 365 through the College web site. There is a link on the Blackboard Home Screen, or Go to COM's Home Page; click on the College Operations tab, scroll down to the Information Technology button, and click on it. At the top of IT's page is a button "Office 365." Click on it and follow the instructions on the page.

BlackBoard

This class has a Blackboard component. You are expected to turn in most major written assignments such as essays through a link in Blackboard. You will also participate in the discussions in BB as well as in class. I will also post the syllabus, assignments, and other course documents in the class so that you will have 24/7 access, and I will keep the grade book up-to-date so you can check your grades.

In the event of school closure due to weather or my unexpected absence, it is your responsibility to log into Blackboard to check for announcements regarding such assignments.

Course Description

A survey of the development of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the late Eighteenth Century. Students will study works of prose, poetry, drama, and fiction in relation to their historical, linguistic, and cultural contexts. Texts will be selected from a diverse group of authors and traditions.

Generally, students will read assigned material and discuss it through Blackboard's Discussions. Students will read others' ideas and comments about the literature and respond to them. Objective quizzes over the historical and literary background are given online. Research and writing are also required.

Since this course is an English class, grammar and mechanics count in your discussion postings and any work you submit to me.

Prerequisite: An earned grade of "C" or better in English 1301

British Literature I is an academic transfer course satisfying COM's Language, Philosophy, and Culture Core Curriculum requirement.

Course Requirements

1. Discussions

A large part of the learning process is done in collaboration with others—discussing the readings, brainstorming ideas about them, and listening to others. In this class, these activities are imperative for richer understanding. (*Online, listening is reading carefully.*)

In this face-2-face class, discussions will be during class AND online in Blackboard. They will be worth 10 points each. Please see the rubric in the Assessments Folder on the Course Menu for the online discussions.

After I close the discussion for postings, you will still be able to read the postings throughout the course.

Each discussion is worth 20 points and they take the place of exams. The discussions are a major portion of your grade. (18 @20 points each = 360 total points)

2. Essays. There will be 2 essays, each worth 100 points. Research will be required for both. Detailed handouts will be provided the week that each is assigned. (100 points each; 200 points total)

Assignments associated with Essay 1: (50 points total)

- Essay 1 Prewriting Assignment. Essay 1 will have a short prewriting assignment to help you understand the literary work, the interpretation, use of the literary work as evidence, and research. Detailed handout will be provided the week Essay 1 is assigned. (25 points)
- Working Bibliography. This assignment is to help you with your research and organization of sources. Detailed handout will be provided. (25 points)

3. Quizzes on Background Material. These multiple choice and True-False quizzes are designed to check your knowledge of the background material to each literary period. There are 3 quizzes worth 15 points each. *They are timed, and you will be **allowed to take each one up to 3 (three times).** The score on the last attempt for each quiz is the one that counts in the grade book.* (2 @ 10 points; 2 @ 15 points; 50 points total)

4. Reflection. This final writing assignment is an opportunity for you to reflect on the readings and other work we have done this semester. A handout will be provided that will give the specific instructions. (100 points)

5. Miscellaneous

- First Email 5 points
- Syllabus Quiz 10 points
- Topics for Essays (each 5 points) 10 points

NOTE: I have done everything I can to include all assignments for the class. There may be other, smaller assignments that I have not listed, but this list should be complete.

Assessment

Both formal essays and discussions have rubrics that I will use to grade the assignments. The Discussion Rubric is linked in the Assessments Folder on the Course Menu. The Essay Rubrics are links as documents when the assignments are made, and you can also find them in the Assessments Folder.

Grading Formula

A cumulative point system for grading is used in this course. The points listed are the maximum value a student can earn on the different assignments.

Discussions (18 @ 20 points each)	360 points
Essays (2 @ 100 points each)	200 points
Assignments for Essay 1	50 points
Quizzes (2 @ 10 points and 2 @ 15 points)	50 points
Final Reflection	100 points
Miscellaneous	<u>25 points</u>
Total Points	785 points

Grading Scale:*	A = 706 - 785
	B = 628 - 705
	C = 550 - 627
	D = 471 - 549
	F = 470 or less

**I have made every effort to calculate the total number of points correctly for every assignment and for the course. Your grade will be based on the number of points you have earned divided by the total points available.*

NOTE: Almost 1/2 of your grade are the discussions (44%).

Late Work: I do not like to accept late work. However, I understand that occasionally a student may have an unexpected problem getting an assignment in on time – for whatever reason. If you find yourself in that situation, you need to email me ASAP.

Your assignment **must** be turned in within one week of the original due date. I will deduct the equivalent of **one letter grade** from the score as penalty. If you do not get it turned in within the week, the grade will be a "0" (zero).

If you are having trouble with an assignment, let me know BEFORE it is due. I will work with you as much as I can.

Make-up Policy

Generally, any in-class group work cannot be made up. However, most of the assignments will carry over into Blackboard. For example, our class discussions. Any assignments in Blackboard can be completed, but the Late Policy will apply to any work turned in late. (see above).

Extra Credit

The only opportunity for extra credit is to complete the Course Evaluation, available toward the end of the semester. If you complete the evaluation, I will award 5 points to your course point total.

NOTE: As with all course evaluations, I will not see the results until after grades are in and the results are not identified by name so the results are completely anonymous.

Attendance Policy

COM recognizes no excused absences other than those prescribed by law: religious holy days and military service (see the current *Student Handbook*).

In accordance with that policy, I recommend that you miss no more than 4 classes, for whatever reason. Missing classes will affect your grade. Please do not schedule doctor's appointments or other events during class time.

Tardiness Policy

If you must be late, come in and take the nearest vacant seat. See me after class.

Communications Policy

ALL electronic communication with me outside of Blackboard must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means.

If you have questions outside of class, email me through BB Course Messages. If you have computer problems and CANNOT access Blackboard or the Internet, leave a voice mail on my office phone above, and I will call you as soon as I can.

Submission Policy

All essays will be submitted through the Assignment Links that include a SafeAssign component. There will be a link in the Content Folder for the week an essay is due.

Table Mapping SLOs, Core Objectives, and Assignments

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
Identify key ideas, representative authors and works, significant historical or cultural events, and characteristic perspectives or attitudes expressed in the literature of different periods or regions.	Social Responsibility	Quizzes and Discussions
Analyze literary works as expressions of individual or communal values within the social, political, cultural, or religious contexts of different literary periods.	Personal Responsibility and Critical Thinking Skills	Discussions
Write research-based critical papers about the assigned readings in clear and grammatically correct prose, using various critical approaches to literature.	Critical Thinking Skills and Communication Skills (CS1)	Essays

Academic Dishonesty: Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams is an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that exam and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT POLICY STATEMENT: PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty. To plagiarize is to steal the words or ideas of another and pass them off as one’s own. Two forms of plagiarism are common. In the first form, the writer incorporates published or otherwise recorded material without properly acknowledging its sources. In the second form, the writer submits work actually done by someone else. (The student who allows his/her work to be used by others is also guilty.)

Any student who plagiarizes will receive a grade of “0” on his/her plagiarized work and may, as a result, receive a failing grade in the course. Ignorance will not be an acceptable defense: all students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the rules of documentation.

Violation of the Plagiarism Policy may result in a referral to the College of the Mainland Judicial Coordinator or further disciplinary actions as stated in the current Student Handbook.

“Source” may refer to published works (including material available from electronic/computer networks or databases), electronically broadcast programs, films, recordings, interviews, speeches, or lectures.

1. You must document when you quote directly from another source.
2. You must document when you paraphrase words from another source.
3. You must document when you summarize ideas from another source.
4. You must document when you use facts (statistics in a chart or graph, for example) or visual material from another source.

Links to Resources about Avoiding Plagiarism

[Purdue University OWL](#)
[The Tutoring Center at COM](#)

Student Concerns

If you have questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using my contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact the Department Chair, Brian Anderson at 409.933.8186 or banderson@com.edu.

General Course Outline

(Refer to the Weekly Overviews and Content Folders for specific assignments, subject to change)

Week 1: Introduction to course; storytelling; readings: The Middle Ages; begin *Beowulf*; discussion

Week 2: Readings: *Beowulf*; discussion; Quiz 1: The Middle Ages assigned

Week 3: Readings: Women in the Middle Ages; Marie de France, Thomas of England; discussion

Week 4: Readings: Chaucer; discussion; Quiz 1 due

Week 5: Readings: selections from Chaucer; discussions

Week 6: Readings: selections from 16th century poetry; discussion; Quiz 2: The 16th Century assigned; Prewriting for Essay 1 due

Week 7: Readings: Shakespeare, *Othello*; discussion

Week 8: Readings: *Othello*; discussion; Working Bib for Essay 1 due; Quiz 2 due

Week 9: Readings: selections from 17th century poetry; discussion; Quiz 3: The 17th Century assigned

Week 10: Readings: selections from 17th century poetry and prose; discussion; Essay 1 due

Week 11: Readings: selections from Milton's poetry and *Paradise Lost*; discussion

Week 12: Readings: selections from Milton's *Paradise Lost*; discussion; Quiz 3 due

Week 13: Readings: The Restoration and 18th Century; Aphra Behn; discussion; Quiz 4: The 18th Century assigned; discussions

Week 14: Course evaluation begins; discussions

Week 15: Readings: Lady Mary Montagu and Hogarth, *Marriage A-La-Mode*; discussion; Essay 2 due; Course Evaluation completed

Week 16: Quiz 4 due; Final Reflection due

Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process

Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook. https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf. *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.*

Academic Success & Support Services

College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college career. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement

Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact Holly Bankston at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

Counseling Statement

Any student that is needing counseling services is requested to please contact Holly Bankston in the student success center at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. Counseling services are available on campus in the student center for free and students can also email counseling@com.edu to setup their appointment. Appointments are strongly encouraged; however, some concerns may be addressed on a walk-in basis.

Textbook Purchasing Statement

A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy

Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a "W" grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are only permitted to withdraw six times during their college career by State law. The last day to withdraw for this class is November 19.

If a student simply stops attending class or participating online and does not officially withdraw, it will result in a grade of "F".

Fn Grade

The Fn grade is issued in cases of failure due to a lack of attendance, as determined by the instructor. The FN grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the Fn grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance will be submitted for an Fn grade (for an online class, the last date an assignment is submitted will be considered the last date of attendance.)

Early Alert Program

The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

COVID-19 Statement

All students, faculty, and staff are expected to familiarize themselves with materials and information contained on the College of the Mainland's Coronavirus Information site at www.com.edu/coronavirus. In compliance with Governor Abbott's May 18 Executive Order, face coverings/masks will no longer be required on COM campus. Protocols and college signage are being updated. We will no longer enforce any COM protocol that requires face coverings. We continue to encourage all members of the COM community to distance when possible, use hygiene measures, and get vaccinated to protect against COVID-19. Please visit com.edu/coronavirus for future updates.

Technology Outage Policy

Campus-Wide

Students are responsible for completing all course work by the due dates stated in the assignment schedule. Occasionally the College may experience emergency campus-wide technology outages. Should this occur during a Quiz or submission of an Assignment, you will need to notify the instructor. You will need the Quiz to be reset or for the instructor to extend assignment due date. The assignment due date will be extended or the quiz will be reset after the campus-wide outage is confirmed by Informational Technology.

An Announcement will be sent to all students relaying the information about the new due date for the assignment or quiz. In case of a personal technology issue or if you have questions about an assignment or need clarification of requirements, you are expected to contact the instructor using Course Email. The College has a number of [computer labs](#) so access to requisite technology needed to complete assignments should not be an issue.

Personal Technology Outage

You should have a back-up plan in case you experience problems with your computer or internet service. If you experience technology problems, it is your responsibility to turn your work in on time. If you experience Internet problems, fill out a support ticket before you contact your instructor. The link can be found under the Resources Menu, "COM, Course and Technical Links" on the left side bar of the course; click on the link and submit a support ticket.