



**English 2322.001IN & 300IN
British Literature I
Fall 2022
Online**

Instructor Information

Name Dr. Gilchrist White
Email gwhite@com.edu
Office Phone 409.933.8214 (Humanities Office; the Administrative Assistant can get a message to me.)

Office Hours and Location

Office Hours Wed, 9-10; or, by Appointment
Office Location LRC, Suite B (Humanities Suite).

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: Core Selections Ebook. 10th edition. Gen. Ed. Stephen Greenblatt.

To purchase the ebook, go to [The Norton Anthology of English Literature, Core Selections](#).

This link will take you to the log in page where you can enter the code you bought at the COM Bookstore, OR purchase the ebook for \$25.00 for 4-year access. The Core Selections covers both English 2322 and 2323 (British literature 1 and 2).

[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](#)

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.

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 Discussions in Desire to Learn Brightspace (D2L). Students will post their own ideas and read others' ideas and comments about the literature and respond to them. Objective quizzes over the historical and literary background are given. 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. Discussion Topics. 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 and more enjoyment of the literature. (*Online, listening is reading carefully.*)

Because we do not meet in a traditional classroom, we cannot enjoy the benefits of classroom interaction. Our online discussions replace this important part of the classroom experience.

Each week you will join discussions in D2L's Discussion board. You will be given questions about that week's readings to respond to in depth. You may always post a topic/question on the reading/writing if you want to. The idea is to start or join a discussion on the week's topics.

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)

Replies to Postings:

- Your responses must be more than "I agree with you," if you want to receive full credit for your responses. Your replies should have some substance: if you agree with a posting, why? If you disagree, why?
- When you respond to others, observe the rules of Netiquette—we don't have the advantage of body language and tone of voice to moderate our words. Since our replies can happen at the click of a button and cannot be retracted, be polite even as you disagree with someone.
- Be aware of your audience and purpose. (remember English 1301?)

Refer to the rubric posted in the Start Here Folder (week 1).

Note: For each discussion, your response to the question(s) will be due Friday night and your replies to other posts will be due Sunday night.

2. Writing Assignments. There will be 2 required writing assignments: an essay and an annotated bibliography. Both assignments will require research. Detailed handouts will be provided the week that each assigned. (2 @100 points; 200 points total)

- Essay. This assignment is a traditional essay on a literary work we are reading in this class.
- Annotated Bibliography. This assignment is similar to a works cited page, but you will summarize each article as part of the assignment.

Topics for essays – email the topic by the due date (see the assignment or weekly overviews for due dates) and earn 5 points for each topic (2 @ 5 points; 10 points total)

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 4 quizzes. *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 in the Start Here folder (week 1) in Content. The Essay Rubrics are linked as documents when the assignments are made.

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 (15 @ 20 points each)	300 points
Writing Assignments (2 @ 100 points each)	200 points
Quizzes (2 @ 10 points and 2 @ 15 points)	50 points
Final Reflection	100 points
Miscellaneous	<u>25 points</u>
Total Points	675 points

Grading Scale:*	A = 607 - 675
	B = 540 - 606
	C = 472 - 539
	D = 405 - 471
	F = 404 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 discussion posts (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 or message me in D2L ASAP.

If I agree to accept your late assignment, you will have **2 (two) weeks** to submit it, and I will deduct the equivalent of **one letter grade** from the score as penalty. *After 2 (two) weeks, the assignment earns a "0" – unless you and I have agreed on different terms.*

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

There is no make-up in an online class. You either do your assignments and discussions, or not; you can't make them up.

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

In an online class, "attending" means logging in at least 2-3 times per week—at your convenience—and participating actively in the class. Failure to actively participate in the class WILL affect your course grade. A suggested amount of time is 6-9 hours per week spent in reading, reflecting, writing, and participating in discussion forums.

If something happens and you know you will be unable to log in and participate for a short period of time, notify me and keep me informed of your situation.

Communications Policy

Email me from our D2L class unless you are having problems accessing it or use COM email. I am listed as Gilchrist White. In your email, *send me a phone number where I can call and leave a message if necessary*. I will call you as soon as I can. We can also use D2L's messages.

ALL electronic communication with me outside of D2L 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 computer problems and CANNOT access D2L or the Internet, leave a voice mail with the Humanities Administrative Assistant. I will call you as soon as I can.

I try to answer emails within 24 hours, and I generally post grades once a week.

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.

Plagiarism is a common 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.)

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 in Content for specific assignments and due dates.

This schedule is subject to change.

Week 1: Introduction to course; Storytelling

- Syllabus Quiz
- Discussions

Weeks 2-5: The Middle Ages

- *Beowulf*
- Geoffrey Chaucer: *The Canterbury Tales*, "General Prologue" and "The Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale"
- Quiz #1: The Middle Ages due September 11
- Discussions

Weeks 6-8: The 16th Century

- Sir Thomas Wyatt the Elder
- Elizabeth I, speeches
- Sir Philip Sidney, selected poems from *Astrophil and Stella*
- Mary Sidney Herbert, "Psalm 52"
- William Shakespeare, selected sonnets and *Othello*
- Quiz #2: The 16th Century due October 9
- Discussions

Weeks 9-11: The Early 17th Century

- John Donne, selected poems
- Aemilia Lanyer, *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum*, "Eve's Apology in Defense of Women"
- Ben Jonson, selected poems
- Andrew Marvell, selected poems
- John Milton, *Paradise Lost*, selected books
- Quiz #3: The 17th Century due October 30
- Essay 1 due October 16
- Discussions

Weeks 12-16: The Restoration and 18th Century

- Aphra Behn, *Oroonoko*
- Jonathan Swift, *Gulliver's Travels*, Book 4
- Alexander Pope, *The Rape of the Lock* (mock epic)
- Course evaluation open weeks 14 and 15
- Annotated Bibliography due November 28
- Quiz #4: The Restoration and 18th Century
- Course Reflection due December 6
- Discussions

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 Michelle Brezina at 409-933-8124 or mvaldes1@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

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 permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1st 8-week session is October 5. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 18. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is December 1.

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.

Resources to Help with Stress

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please visit the Community Resource Center in the Student Center or click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office in the Student Center or at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.