



**English 2322.001IN & 300IN
British Literature I
Fall 2023
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 am
Office Location Online in TEAMS (see the link in Course documents in Content in D2L Brightspace)

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

You can use either edition of the *Norton Anthology (print or online)* listed below. I will be using the Print edition for reading assignments. If you use the online version, you will need to search for specific readings. NOTE: several of the reading assignments in the print edition are not in the online edition; however, you should be able to find them online or in a print edition in the COM library.

PRINT Edition

The Norton Anthology of English Literature: Major Authors. Volume 1. 10th Edition. Gen. Ed. Stephen Greenblatt. Norton, 2019.

ONLINE Edition

The Norton Anthology of English Literature: Core Selections Ebook. 10th edition. Gen. Ed. Stephen Greenblatt. Norton, 2022.

To purchase the Core Selections, 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 at the Norton website for \$25.00 for 4-year access. The Core Selections covers both English 2322 and 2323 (British literature 1 and 2).

If you want to skip the book, you can find most 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 Norton print edition. The COM library also has textbooks on reserve for reading in the library.

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. Reading quizzes over selected literary works and 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. (17 @20 points each = 340 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 Course Documents Folder in Content.

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. The Friday deadline is flexible; that is, if you cannot get your post in on time, be sure it and your replies are posted by the Sunday Night deadline.

2. Essays. There will be 2 required essays. Both essays will require research. Detailed handouts will be provided the week that each assigned. (2 @100 points; 200 points total)

- These are traditional essays on a literary work we are reading in this class. Each essay will be an argument or position essay – you should have experience with this type of assignment from English 1301 or 1302. The difference is that your topic will come from a literary work instead of social issues, defined problems, or other topics from English 1301 or 1302.
- For Essay 1, you will compile a short list of sources that you plan to use in your essay. A detailed handout will be provided. 50 points

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. These multiple choice and True-False quizzes are designed to check your knowledge of background material and selected literary works. *The quizzes are timed, and you will be **allowed to take each one up to 3 (three times). The score on the highest attempt for each quiz is the one that counts** in the grade book.*

- Background Material. 4 quizzes. 2 @ 14 points; 2 @ 15 points; 58 points total
- Selected Literary Works. Points vary: 82 points total
- Syllabus Quiz. Like the other quizzes, it is timed, but you are only allowed **one** attempt. It will be 10 True/False Questions, and you can have your syllabus handy to check your responses. 10 points

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)

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 the assignments listed above 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 Course Documents Folder 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 17 @ 20 points each	340 points
Writing Assignments	
Essays, 2 @ 100 points each	200 points
Topics, 2 @ 5 points each	10 points
Essay 1 Sources	50 points
Quizzes	
Background Material, points vary	58 points
Literary Works, points vary	82 points
Syllabus Quiz	10 points
Final Reflection	<u>100 points</u>
Total Points	850 points

Grading Scale:*

A = 765 - 850
B = 680 - 764
C = 595 - 679
D = 510 - 594
F = 509 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 (40%).

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 (use my COM email).

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. *I receive a list of students who submitted an evaluation the day after the evaluation closes.*

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.

Communicating with your instructor

ALL electronic communication with the instructor 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, email me through COM email. If you have computer problems and CANNOT access D2L or the Internet, leave a message with the Administrative Assistant, Kerry Kloesel (409-933-8212), and I will call you as soon as I can.

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

Core Objectives for this course:

- Communication: to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- Critical Thinking: to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- Social Responsibility: to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
- Personal Responsibility: to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making

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 dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty such as cheating on exams or sharing papers with other students is an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that exam or paper, 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 due August 30
- Discussions

Medieval Literature

Weeks 2-3: *Beowulf*

- Quiz #1: The Middle Ages due September 10
- Reading quiz: *Beowulf* due September 17
- Discussions

Week 4: Medieval Romances

- Marie de France and Thomas of England
- Begin *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*
- Reading quiz: Marie de France, *Lanval* due September 24
- Discussion

Week 5: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*

- Reading quiz: *Sir Gawain* due October 1
- Discussion

Renaissance Literature (16th century)

Week 6: 16th Century Poetry and Prose

- Elizabeth I, selected poems and speeches
- Edmund Spenser, selected poems from *Amoretti* and *Epithalamium*
- Sir Philip Sidney, selected poems from *Astrophil and Stella*
- Mary Sidney Herbert, "Psalm 52"
- William Shakespeare, selected sonnets
- Reading quiz: Queen Elizabeth I due October 8
- Discussion

Weeks 7-8: Shakespeare's *Othello*

- Discussions
- Essay 1 Sources due October 15
- Quiz #2: The 16th Century due October 15
- Reading Quiz: *Othello* due October 22

Early 17th Century Literature

Week 9: Early 17th Century Poetry

- John Donne, selected poems
- Aemilia Lanyer, *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum*, "Eve's Apology in Defense of Women"
- Ben Jonson, selected poems
- Mary Wroth, selections from *Pamphilia and Amphilanthus*
- Andrew Marvell, selected poems
- Discussions
- Essay 1 due October 16

Weeks 10-11: Milton

- John Milton, short poems and *Paradise Lost*, selected books
- Quiz #3: The 17th Century due November 5
- Reading quizzes: Milton 1 due November 5
 - Milton 2 due November 12
- Discussions

Restoration and 18th Century Literature

Weeks 12-13: Jonathan Swift,

- *Gulliver's Travels*, selections from the novel
- Discussion
- Reading Quiz: Swift due November 27

Thanksgiving Break falls during Week 13

Week 14: 18th Century letters and art

- Lady Mary Montagu, selected letters
- William Hogarth, *Marriage A-La-Mode*
- Discussion
- Course evaluation open weeks 14 and 15
- Essay 2 due December 3
- Quiz #4: The Restoration and 18th Century due December 3

Week 15: Samuel Johnson

- Johnson, selected prose
- Discussion

Week 16: Last Week

- Course Reflection due December 12 at NOON

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://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2023-2024_v2.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 careers. 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 Kimberly Lachney at 409-933-8919 or klachney@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 11. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 28. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is December 7.

FN Grading

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 should be documented for submission of an FN grade.

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 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 at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.