

Course title and number **ENGL 317, Section 500: Early British Drama**

Enrollment **35 Students**

Course Description: An advanced literature course that explores the history and development of drama in England from the medieval period through the seventeenth century. We will focus on representations of devils, monsters, and the monstrous “Other” in early British Drama, attending closely to the texts’ historical, cultural, religious, economic, and political environments. We will examine the relationship between text and stage performance, focusing on performance spaces, costuming, props, stage directions, as well as audience reception and participation. Class activities will involve lecture, discussion, individual and group work.

Learning Outcomes and Course Objectives: At the end of the semester the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of early British dramatic works.
2. Understand these works as expressions of individual and human values within their historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to early British drama by analyzing the authors’ rhetorical and literary techniques.
4. Apply these methods and techniques to the production of original student writing.
5. Articulate individual, scholarly, critical responses to these works by reviewing relevant scholarship in the area on essays and exams.
6. Develop a thesis or argument by collecting evidence through textual analysis as well as scholarly citation.
7. Recognize the intercultural elements in early British drama throughout its history down to the present.

Grading (1,000 points total available)

Grading Scale

900-1000 points A
800-899 points B
700-799 points C
600-699 points D
599 points and below F

Grading:

Major Grade Categories/Assignments	Percentage of Grade
Consistent Participation in Teamwork Activities and Group Projects; Individual Participation in Daily Assignments	10%
Quizzes (12 total, 10 counted, 20 points each; unannounced)	20%
Group Forum Short Writing Assignments	10%
Essay 1	20%
Research Project Thesis, Outline, and Annotated Bibliography	10%
Research Project	30%
Total	100%

Texts:

- Christina M. Fitzgerald et al., eds., *The Broadview Anthology of Medieval Drama*, Toronto: Broadview Press, (2013). ISBN: 9781554810567. REQUIRED.
- Scoville, Chester N., ed. *The Digby Mary Magdalene*, Toronto: Broadview, (2018). ISBN-13: 9781554814237. REQUIRED.
- Marlowe, Christopher. *Dr. Faustus*, Hackett Publishing, (2005). ISBN-13: 9780872207295. REQUIRED
- van den Vondel, Joost. *Lucifer*, Absolute Classics, (1990). ISBN-13: 9780948230370. REQUIRED.
- Selections on eCampus Course Platform access via HOWDY and/or via email. Any additional reading materials (articles, book chapters, notes, etc.) not listed in the reading schedule below will be provided by the instructor in eCampus.
- Purdue OWL <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

Spring 2019 English 317 Course Schedule:

Dates	Readings and Assignments
Week 1	Introductions
	Miracle Play Genre
	“An Introduction to Medieval English Theater” by Alexandra F. Johnston
	<i>The Digby Play of Mary Magdalene</i> lines 1- 276

	ESSAY 1 ASSIGNED
Week 2	<i>The Digby Play of Mary Magdalene</i> lines 277- 1,209 “As Above So Below: Staging the <i>Digby Mary Magdalene</i> ” by Matthew Davis
	<i>The Digby Play of Mary Magdalene</i> lines 1,210 – 2,143 (Scoville)
Week 3	Mystery Cycle Play Genre “The Theatricality of Medieval English Plays” by Meg Twycross <i>Ordo Paginarum</i> <i>Records of Early English Drama (REED)</i> https://ereed.library.utoronto.ca/
	<i>Creation and Fall of Lucifer</i> in The Chester Cycle
Week 4	<i>Play of Adam and Eve (and Cain and Abel)</i> in The Chester Cycle
	<i>Play of Noah’s Flood</i> in The Chester Cycle
Week 5	<i>Joseph’s Troubles about Mary</i> in York Corpus Christi
	<i>Herod the Great</i> in the Towneley Cycle “Anti-Semitism and the English Mystery Plays” by Stephen Spector
Week 6	<i>The Woman taken in Adultery and the Raising of Lazarus</i> in the York Corpus Christi Cycle
	<i>Parliament of Hell; Temptation</i> in the N-Town Cycle, play 23 (eCampus)
Week 7	WRITING WORKSHOP
	ROUGH DRAFT AND GROUP PEER REVIEW (Failure to participate in Peer-Review will result in a significant drop in Paper 1’s final grade)
Week 8	<i>The Last Supper; Conspiracy with Judas</i> in the N-Town Cycle
	ESSAY 1 DUE <i>The Crucifixion</i> in the York Corpus Christi Cycle
	ESSAY 2 ASSIGNED
Week 9	BREAK
Week 10	<i>The Harrowing</i> in York Corpus Christi
	<i>The Last Judgment</i> in York Corpus Christi and The Mercer’s Indenture
Week 11	<i>The Judgment</i> in the Towneley Cycle “‘With what body shall they come?’: Black and White Souls in the English Mystery Plays” by Meg Twycross
	<i>The Judgment</i> in the Towneley Cycle (<i>Broadview</i> , pp. 187-205)
Week 12	Early Modern Devils: Morality Play Genre, Text and Context Marlowe, <i>Doctor Faustus</i> (Act I)

	<p>Morality play genre introduction</p> <p>WORKING THESIS, OUTLINE, AND ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE</p>
	<p>Marlowe, <i>Doctor Faustus</i> (Acts 2-3)</p> <p>“As an Angel of Light: Satanic Rhetoric in Early Modern Literature and Theology” by David Parry</p>
Week 13	<p>Marlowe, <i>Doctor Faustus</i> (Acts 4-5)</p>
	<p>Joost van den Vondel, <i>Lucifer</i> (Act 1)</p> <p>“The Religio-philosophical Orientations of Vondel's ‘Lucifer’, Milton's ‘Paradise Lost’ and Grotius' ‘Adamus Exul’” by Hugo Bekker</p>
Week 14	<p>Joost van den Vondel, <i>Lucifer</i> (Acts 2-3)</p>
	<p>Joost van den Vondel, <i>Lucifer</i> (Acts 4-5)</p>
Week 15	<p>WRITING WORKSHOP</p>
	<p>ROUGH DRAFT AND GROUP PEER REVIEW (Failure to participate in Peer-Review will result in a significant drop in Paper 2's final grade)</p>
Week 16	<p>FINAL PROJECT DUE (NO LATER THAN 12 PM TO LAAH 443)</p>