
Course Title: English 330: Arthurian Literature**Enrollment:** 42 Students

Course Description: Introduction to the legend of King Arthur and Arthurian literature from the Middle Ages to the present. Students will be asked to consider how narratives about Arthur have shifted over time and how these stories both reflect and shape beliefs and anxieties about the social and historical moments in which they were created. Students will read versions of the legend written in English, French, Latin, and Welsh from the sixth century on, including works by Marie de France, Chrétien de Troyes, the *Gawain*-poet, Sir Thomas Malory, and Alfred Lord Tennyson. The class will also examine modern adaptations and appropriations of the King Arthur legend in film, television, music, art, games, and in online formats. All texts for the course will be in translation except for those written in Middle English. Class activities will include lecture, discussion, 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 Arthurian works.
2. Understand these works as expressions of individual and human values within their historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to Arthurian literature 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 Arthurian literature throughout its history down to the present.

Grading (1,000 points 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	5%
Quizzes (7 total, 5 counted, 40 points each; unannounced)	20%
Group Forum Short Writing Assignments	15%
Essay 1	20%
Research Paper Thesis, Outline, and Annotated Bibliography	10%
Research Paper	30%
Total	100%

Texts:

- *The Romance of Arthur: An Anthology of Medieval Texts in Translation*, Routledge; 3rd edition (7 Dec. 2012), by Norris J. Lacy (Editor), James J. Wilhelm (Editor), ISBN-13: 978-0415782890. (Required)
- *Malory: The Morte Darthur*, Northwestern University Press, 1968, By Sir Thomas Malory (Editor) D. S. Brewer, ISBN 13: 978-0810100312. (Required)
- *Idylls of the King*, Dover Publications; (September 16, 2004), by Alfred Lord Tennyson (Author), W. J. Rolfe (Editor), ISBN-13: 978-0486437958. (Required)\

English 330 Course Schedule:

Topic	Dates	Readings and Assignments
Early Arthur: The Latin Chronicles, Welsh Literature, and the Galfridian Tradition	Week 1	Introductions
		Arthur in the Latin Chronicles (Wilhelm)
		Arthur in the Latin Chronicles, cont. (Wilhelm)
		ESSAY 1 ASSIGNED
	Week 2	Arthur in the Early Welsh Literature (Wilhelm)
		<i>The Mabinogian: Culhwych and Olwen</i> (Wilhelm)
	Geoffrey of Monmouth (Wilhelm and eCampus)	

King Arthur: The Romance Tradition and Medieval Quests	Week 3	Selected Lyrics (Wilhelm); Models of Kingship (clip)
		Wace, <i>Roman de Brut</i> (Wilhelm); “Astronomy Translated: Caput Draconis and the Pendragon Star in Geoffrey of Monmouth, Wace, and Laȝamon” (Bryan--eCampus)
		Layamon, <i>Brut</i> (Wilhelm)
	Week 4	Chrétien de Troyes: <i>Lancelot, or the Knight of the Cart</i> (Wilhelm)
		Chrétien de Troyes: <i>Lancelot, or the Knight of the Cart</i> (Wilhelm)
		Chrétien de Troyes: <i>Perceval or the Story of the Grail</i> (Wilhelm and eCampus)
	Week 5	Wolfram von Eschenbach, <i>Parzival</i> (eCampus)
		<i>The Quest for the Holy Grail</i> (Wilhelm)
		Marie de France: <i>Chevrefueil</i> and <i>Lanval</i> (Wilhelm)
	Week 6	<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> , Part I (Wilhelm)
		<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> , Part II (Wilhelm)
		<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> , Part III (Wilhelm)
	Week 7	<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> , Part IV (Wilhelm)
	Malory and his Influences	
		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		“Intro King Arthur's Death: The Middle English Stanzaic Morte Arthur and Alliterative Morte Arthure” (Larry D. Benson--eCampus); <i>The Alliterative Morte Arthure</i> , excerpts (Wilhelm)
		ESSAY 1 DUE <i>The Alliterative Morte Arthure</i> , excerpts (Wilhelm)
		<i>The Stanzaic Morte Arthur</i> , excerpts (Benson-- eCampus)

		ESSAY 2 ASSIGNED
	Week 9	Cushing Library Visit: Manuscript Production and Early Print (Pressroom Evans Annex 603)
		Sir Thomas Malory: <i>Le Morte Darthur Book I</i> (eCampus); “What is Adaptation?” (Sanders--eCampus)
		Sir Thomas Malory: <i>Le Morte Darthur: Lancelot and Guinevere XVIII-XIX</i> (eCampus); “Guinevere’s Politics” (Hodges--eCampus)
	Week 10	Sir Thomas Malory: <i>Le Morte Darthur: Lancelot and Guinevere XVIII-XIX</i> (eCampus)
		Sir Thomas Malory: <i>Le Morte Darthur: Death of Arthur XX-XXI</i> (eCampus); <i>Malory’s Anatomy of Chivalry: Mordred</i> (Rovang--eCampus)
King Arthur, Victorian Medievalism, and Tennyson		Alfred Lord Tennyson: <i>Idylls of the King</i> “The Coming of Arthur” (Dover); “Malory into Tennyson” (Alexander--eCampus)
	Week 11	Alfred Lord Tennyson: <i>Idylls of the King</i> “The Coming of Arthur” (Dover); “Tennyson’s King Arthur” (Machann--eCampus)
		Alfred Lord Tennyson: <i>Idylls of the King</i> “The Holy Grail” (Dover) WORKING THESIS, OUTLINE, AND ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE
		Alfred Lord Tennyson: <i>Idylls of the King</i> “Guinevere” (Dover); “Listening to Guinevere” (Ahern--eCampus)
King Arthur in Popular Culture	Week 12	Documentaries, Board Games, Video Games, TV (Merlin, Fate/Zero), Art, Music, and Film. “The Real King Arthur: Why are We So Obsessed with Solving the Mystery?” (Russell--eCampus) “Beginning to Theorize Adaptation” (Hutcheon--eCampus)
		Arthur in Film and Television: <i>King Arthur</i> (Dir. Antoine Fuqua);

		<p>“Arthur and the Sarmatian Connection” (Littleton and Malcor--eCampus)</p> <p>Find 1-2 movie reviews</p> <p><u>Or</u></p> <p><i>King Arthur: Legend of the Sword</i> (dir. Guy Ritchie);</p> <p>“Mockney Arfur: Class and Reviewer Reception of Guy Ritchie’s <i>King Arthur: Legend of the Sword</i>” (Taylor--eCampus)</p> <p>Find 1-2 movie reviews</p>
		<p><i>Fate/Zero</i> (Gen Urobuchi)</p> <p>Find one article and one review</p> <p><u>Or</u></p> <p><i>Merlin</i> (BBC)</p> <p>Find one article and one review</p>
Week 13		Appropriations of the Arthur legend: propaganda, advertising, images and text
		Appropriations of the Arthur legend, continued
		<p>Using DH tools to analyze movie and television scripts and advertising text using <i>Voyant</i> and Sentiment Analysis tools (meet in computer lab LAAH 530)</p> <p>Read the following before class:</p> <p>Seven ways humanists are using computers to understand texts, Ted Underwood, 4 June 2015, http://tedunderwood.com/2015/06/04/seven-ways-humanists-are-using-computers-to-understand-text</p> <p>About <i>Voyant</i>, Stéfan Sinclair and Geoffrey Rockwell, 2016,</p>

		https://voyant-tools.org/docs/#!/guide/about
		Demo exercises
Week 14		Using DH tools continued (in computer lab)
		Using DH tools continued (in computer lab)
		Short write reflection exercise
		WRITING WORKSHOP
Week 15		ROUGH DRAFT AND GROUP PEER REVIEW (Failure to participate in Peer-Review will result in a significant drop in Paper 2's final grade)
		FINAL PAPER DUE (NO LATER THAN 5 PM TO LAAH 443)