

Department of English & Writing Studies

Love in the Middle Ages**English 3316E (001)**

Fall/Winter 2018-19

Instructor: Richard Moll
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661-2111 x85803

Course Location: Physics & Astronomy
Building 150

Office hours: UC 4410, Thurs. 1:30-4:00
(and by appointment, I'm around a lot)

Course Date/Time: Tues. 12:30-2:30,
Thurs. 12:30-1:30 pm

Antirequisites: The former English 3116E.

Prerequisites: At least 60% in 1.0 of English 1020E or English 1022E or English 1024E or English 1035E or English 1036E or English 1042E or both of English 1027F/G and English 1028F/G, or permission of the Department.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Description

Love may seem like a universal emotion, but as Chaucer notes:

Ek for to wynnen love in sondry ages,
In sondry londes, sondry ben usages.

If people express their love differently in different ages and lands, does it follow that they also feel love differently? This course will explore the different expressions and experiences of love in the medieval period. We will focus on the literature of late-medieval England, but we will place the English within a broader European context. We will also look at a variety of manifestations of love: the familial, divine and platonic in addition to the more obvious romantic and erotic. While exploring this most fundamental of emotional states, we will learn to read and enjoy Middle English literature. We will begin with Chaucer's short lyric poems which are relatively easy, and work our way to more challenging genres and dialects of the language.

Objectives:

Upon successful completion of the course students will be able to:

- Read and pronounce Middle English with sufficient competency that they can examine the content, themes, rhetoric and prosody of Middle English literature;
- Describe and explain the literary and aesthetic expectations of a variety of medieval genres, including (but not limited to) romance, fabliaux, hagiography, and dream vision;
- Construct and present a complex argument about one or more Middle English texts which demonstrates mastery of the points above, and is firmly placed within existing theoretical and critical debates about the literature.

Course Materials

Capellanus, Andreas. *The Art of Courtly Love*. Tr. John Jay Parry. New York: Columbia University Press, 1960.

Chaucer, Geoffrey. *The Canterbury Tales: Fifteen Tales and the General Prologue*. Ed. V.A. Kolve and Glending Olson. New York: Norton, 2005.
(CT)

Chaucer, Geoffrey. *Dream Visions and Other Poems*. Ed. Kathryn L. Lynch. New York: Norton, 2007.
(DV)

The Floure and the Leafe, The Assembly of Ladies, The Isle of Ladies. Ed. Derek Pearsall. Kalamazoo, MI: Medieval Institute Publications, 1990.
[This volume, and *Pearl* (below) can be accessed online or purchased for \$14.96 (US) each: <http://d.lib.rochester.edu/teams>, or search TEAMS + title]

Julian of Norwich. *Showings*. Ed. Denise N. Baker. New York: Norton, 2005.

Middle English Lyrics. Eds. Maxwell S. Luria and Richard L. Hoffman. New York: Norton, 1974.
(MEL)

Middle English Romances. Ed. Stephen H.A. Shepherd. New York: Norton, 1995.
(MER)

Pearl. Ed. Sarah Stanbury. Kalamazoo, MI: Medieval Institute Publications, 2001
[See *Floure and Leafe*, above]

****Middle English texts can vary widely between different editions, so please obtain *these editions*****

Methods of Evaluation

Marks Distribution:

Paper 1 (9-10 pages)	17%
Paper 2 outline	5%
Paper 2 (15-17 pages)	27%
Recitation	10%
Translation tests	11% (best 11 of 13)
Participation	5%
Final exam	25%

Papers:

Essays must be presented in MLA style. Essays are due by the end of class on the date assigned. Late essays will lose 3% per day (including weekends). Extensions will only be granted in the case of serious, documented illness or emergency and must be accompanied by documentation processed through Academic Counseling. In other words, I do not (indeed, University policy states that I cannot) grant extensions. If Academic Counseling determines that you should have an extension, I will comply. **Come see me BEFORE you are frantic in the week before a paper is due.**

Recitation:

Memorize, recite and be prepared to translate a short piece of Middle English (about 16 lines). Every student will make an individual appointment with me to do this before Oct. 25th. Unexpected emergencies can be accommodated on Oct. 26th, but no further recitations will be permitted after Oct. 26th. This assignment helps you get used to the strangeness of Middle English and gives me a chance to meet everyone. Use the pronunciation guides in your various texts for guidance. Online recordings are available on the Chaucer metapage: http://academics.vmi.edu/english/audio/audio_index.html (link in WebCT). We will talk about pronunciation in class, but come and see me in advance if you want some help.

Class participation:

Woody Allen might have said that “90% of life is just showing up”, but he never tried to learn Middle English. Being in class is not very useful if we are discussing texts that you haven’t read and with which you can not engage. Students will periodically be responsible for directing small-group discussion and this will weigh heavily as “Class Participation.”

Translation Tests:

You must be able to read Middle English to pass the course, and you must read it well to do well in the course. Translation tests will therefore be a regular part of the course.

The two lowest test scores will be discarded. An excuse for a missed test must meet the same standards as a late paper (i.e. documentation from your dean’s office for *each* missed test).

Tests will be done at random throughout the year.

They will be held at any time within the class time (beginning, middle or end of class).

They will be short (6-8 lines or 15 minutes).

They will be drawn from the readings assigned for that day.

**IF YOU MISS FIVE TESTS (UNEXCUSED)
YOU WILL FAIL THE COURSE.**

Exams:

Exams are scheduled by the University. **DO NOT MAKE TRAVEL PLANS UNTIL YOU KNOW YOUR EXAM SCHEDULE.**

Timetable

Read all assigned texts before class and *bring the book(s) with you*. We WILL be reading and talking about specific passages from the texts. Secondary sources are available from online databases through the Library. Heed the page or line numbers assigned.

Thurs. Sept. 6	Hellos and how are yous
	Romantic / Erotic Love
Tues. Sept. 11	Read: Lyrics, 24, 25, 38, 43 (in <i>Middle English Lyrics</i> , by number) Mannyng, Stephen, “Game and Earnest in Middle English and Provençal Love Lyrics” (in <i>MEL</i> , 266-280).
Thurs. Sept. 13	Read: Lyrics, 44 Andreas Capellanus, <i>The Art of Courtly Love</i> , 1-53
Tues. Sept. 18	Read: Lyrics, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52

- Thurs. Sept. 20 Read: Chaucer, "Merciless Beauty" (DV 217-18)
Capellanus, *Art of Courtly Love*, 142-150
- Tues. Sept. 25 Read: *The Parliament of Fowls*, 1-294 (DV 93-105)
- Thurs. Sept. 27 Read: *The Parliament of Fowls*, 295-699 (DV 105-116)
Spearing, A.C. "'Al This Mene I Be Love.'" *Studies in the Age of Chaucer, Proceedings 2* (1986): 169-77.
- Tues. Oct. 2 Read: Marie de France, *Sir Lanval* (I'll put this in OWL)
Sir Launfal, 1-336 (MER 190-200)
- Thurs. Oct. 4 Read: *Sir Launfal*, 337-828 (MER 200-212)
- Tues. Oct. 9 **Fall Reading Week**
Thurs. Oct. 11 **Fall Reading Week**
- Tues. Oct. 16 Read: *Sir Launfal*, 829-1046 (MER 212-18)
Anderson, Earl R. "The Structure of *Sir Launfal*." *papers on Language and Literature* 13 (1977): 115-24.
- Thurs. Oct. 18 Read: *Sir Landevale*, 1-540 (MER 351-64)
- Tues. Oct. 23 Read: *The Floure and the Leafe*. Complete
- Thurs. Oct. 25 Read: Lyric 59 (Nightingale and Thrush)
Withaus, Carl. "'Wrethen in fere': Narrative Voice, Gender and Chastity in *The Floure and the Leafe*." *Women and Literature* 22.1 (1999): 37-43.
- Last Day for Recitations**
- Tues. Oct. 30 Read: *The Legend of Good Women*, 1-579 (DV 117-37)
- Thurs. Nov. 1 Read: *The Legend of Good Women*, G version of prologue
(i.e. go back and read the footnotes to LGW, 1-579)
- Tues. Nov. 6 Read: LGW, 580-1679 (DV 137-63)
- Thurs. Nov. 8 Read: Caxton, "Pyramus and Thysbe" (in *The Booke of Ovyde*, 4.70-259;
I'll put the Caxton in OWL)
- Tues. Nov. 13 Read: LGW, 1680-2723 (DV 164-89)
Schuurman, Anne. "Pity and Poetics in Chaucer's *Legend of Good Women*." *PMLA* 130.5 (2015): 1302-17.
- Thurs. Nov. 15 Read: Caxton, "Adryane" and "Phylomena" (in *The Booke of Ovyde*,
8.216-336, 6.463-805)

Love and Marriage

- Tues. Nov. 20 Read: *Sir Orfeo*, 1-604 (*MER* 174-190)
- Thurs. Nov. 22 Read: Caxton, "Orpheus" (in *The Booke of Ovyde*, 10.1-98)
- Tues. Nov. 27 Read: Chaucer, *The Book of the Duchess*, 1-758 (*DV* 3-24)
- Thurs. Nov. 29 Read: Caxton, "Ceyx and Alcyone" (in *Booke of Ovyde*, 11.855-1152)
- Tues. Dec. 4 Read: Chaucer, *The Book of the Duchess*, 758-1334 (*DV* 24-37)
Paper 1 Due
- Thurs. Dec. 6 Read: Lyric 26 (a tough one to end on!)

Exam period. We will NOT have a December exam.

Love and Marriage (continued, but with less of the romance)

- Tues. Jan. 8 Read: St. Jerome, *Against Jovinian* (*CT*, 398-410; When you get to the middle of 407, go back and read Theophrastus)
Theophrastus (*CT*, 395-8; read this at Jerome, p. 407)
St. Paul to the Corinthians (*CT*, 417-19)
Chaucer, *The Wife of Bath's Prologue*, 1-856
- Thurs. Jan. 10 Finish: Chaucer *The Wife of Bath's Prologue*
- Tues. Jan. 15 Read: Chaucer *The Wife of Bath's Tale*, 857-1264
- Thurs. Jan. 17 Finish: Chaucer, *The Wife of Bath's Tale*
Lyrics 72 & 73 (in *MEL*)
- Tues. Jan. 22 Read: *The Weddyng of Syr Gawen and Dame Ragnell* (*MER* 243-67)
Davis, Rebecca A. "More Evidence for Intertextuality and Humorous Intent in *The Weddyng of Syr Gawen and Dame Regnell*." *Chaucer Review* 35.4 (2001): 430-9.
- Thurs. Jan. 24 Read: *The Marriage of Sir Gawaine* (*MER* 378-87)
- Tues. Jan. 29 Read: Petrarch, "The Story of Griselda" (Read in THIS order:
CT, 453-4, 443-53, 454-6)
Chaucer, *The Clerk's Prologue*, 1-56 (*CT*, 180-1)
- Thurs. Jan. 31 Read: Chaucer, *The Clerk's Tale*, 57-1212g
- Tues. Feb. 5 Read: Finish up *The Clerk's Tale*
Lyric 62 (*MEL* 63-4)
Normandin, Shawn. "From Error to Anacoluthon: The Moral of the 'Clerk's Tale'." *Notes and Queries* 62(2) (2015): 218-19.
- Thurs. Feb. 7 Read: Chaucer, *The Merchant's Prologue and Tale*, 1213-1576
Lyrics 64 & 71
- Tues. Feb. 12 Read: Chaucer, *The Merchant's Prologue and Tale*, 1577-2440

- Thurs. Feb. 14 Read: Finish The Merchant's Prologue and Tale
Schlauch, Margaret. "Chaucer's *Merchant's Tale* and Courtly
Love." *ELH* 4.3 (1937): 201-12.
- Tues. Feb. 19 **Reading week**
Thurs. Feb. 21 **Reading week**
- Tues. Feb. 26 Read: Chaucer, The Franklin's Prologue and Tale, 673-1624
Paper 2 Outline Due
- Thurs. Feb. 28 Finish: Chaucer, The Franklin's Prologue and Tale
Kitteridge, George Lyman. "[The Marriage Group]"
(<http://sites.fas.harvard.edu/~chaucer/canttales/franklin/marriage.html>)
- Love of Family**
- Tues. Mar. 5 Read: *Pearl*, 1-360
- Thurs. Mar. 7 Read: *Pearl*, 361-720
The Parable of the Vineyard (Matt. 20:1-16)
- Tues. Mar. 12 Read: *Pearl*, 721-1212
- Thurs. Mar. 14 Read: *Pearl*, finish up
Bullón- Fernández, María. " 'Bezone þe water': Courtly and Religious
Desire in *Pearl*." *Studies in Philology* 91 (1994): 35-49
- Tues. Mar. 19 Read: *Pearl*, finish up
- Love of God**
- Thurs. Mar. 21 Read: Julian of Norwich, pp. ix-30
- Tues. Mar. 26 Read: Julian of Norwich, pp. 30-125
- Thurs. Mar. 28 Read: Julian of Norwich, finish up
Windeatt, B.A. "The Art of Mystical Loving: Julian of Norwich."
(*Showings*, 196-209).
- Paper 2 Due**
- What Have We Learned?**
- Tues. Apr. 2 Read: *The Parliament of Fowls*
- Thurs. Apr. 4 Read: *The Parliament of Fowls*
- Tues. Apr. 9 Read: Lyrics (TBA)

Exams: We WILL have a final exam. Don't book flights.

Accommodation

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Dean of the student's Faculty of registration, together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. The UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and further information regarding this policy can be found at http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Academic Offences

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage of text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offense Policy in the Academic Calendar).

Plagiarism Checking:

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

All instances of plagiarism will be reported to the Chair of Undergraduate Studies. Proven cases of plagiarism will result in a grade of zero for the assignment. Subsequent offences will result in failure for the course.

Support Services

Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>

Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Student Development Centre <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Information for students:

Departmental and university policies related to course work, grades, plagiarism, appeals, etc. are available on the [English Department website](#).

One gorgeous lyric to get us going:

Troilus's Song

If no love is, O God, what fele I so?
And if love is, what thing and which is he?
If love be good, from whennes* cometh my woo?
If it be wikke, a wonder thynketh me,*
Whan every torment and adversite
That cometh of hym may to me savory thinke,*
For ay* thurst I, the more that ich* it drynke.

*whence
it seems to me*

*seem delicious
always / I*

And if that at myn owen lust* I brenne,*
From whennes* cometh my waillynge and my pleynte?*

If harm agree me*, wherto pleyne* I thenne?
I noot,* ne whi unwery that I feynte.
O quike* deth, O swete harm so queynte,*
How may of the* in me swich quantite,
But if that* I consente that it be?

*desire / burn
whence / complaint
is agreeable to me / complain
I do not know
living / curious
may there be of you
unless*

And if that I consente, I wrongfully
Compleyne, iwis.* Thus possed* to and fro
Al stereless* withinne a boot am I
Amydde the see, bitwixen wyndes two,
That in contrarie stonden* evere mo.
Allas, what is this wondre* maladie?
For hote of cold, for cold of hote I dye.

*indeed / tossed
rudderless*

*stand against one another
wondrous*

Geoffrey Chaucer, *Troilus and Criseyde*, ed. Stephen A. Barney (New York: Norton, 2006), l.400-420