

ENG 407 CHAUCER

Syllabus

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COURSE CREDIT:

Three Semester Hours

PREREQUISITES:

ENG 210 or Equivalent

COURSE MATERIALS:

Required Text:

Chaucer, Geoffrey, and Benson, Larry D., ed. (2000). *The Canterbury tales*, Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company.
ISBN: 0395978238

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course concentrates mainly on the *Canterbury Tales*, but covers other major works as time permits. The course will start with a short overview of the history, social structure, and religious concerns of Chaucer's time. The student will read the "General Prologue," the "Knight's Tale," the "Miller's Tale," the "Reeve's Tale," the "Man of law's Tale," the "Franklyn's Tale," the "Merchant's Tale," the "Second Nun's Tale," the "Clerk's Tale," the "Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale," the "Prioresses' Tale," the "Friar's Tale," the "Summoner's Tale," the "Pardoner's Prologue and Tale," the Nun's Priest's Tale," the prologue to the "Parson's Tale," and Chaucer's "Retractions."

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- A. The student will be able to demonstrate familiarity with the Middle English language.
- B. The student will interpret Chaucer's writings by performing close readings.
- C. The student will infer the realism and timelessness in Chaucer's depiction of people and places.

- D. The student will appraise the social, historical, and religious background of Chaucer's time.
- E. The student will evaluate the influence Chaucer exercised on the language, thought, and literature of his time and succeeding times.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

The student will study the required readings and write eleven short reaction papers to selected readings. Each reaction paper is worth up to 50 points; the total will be calculated to reflect 50% of the total grade. The student will take both a proctored midterm and final examination. Each exam will be calculated to reflect 25% of the total grade.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION AND SCALE:

In alignment with ASC academic policies, no D may apply to a major or minor field.

Grade Distribution:

Reaction Papers (11)	50%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	<u>25%</u>
Total Points	100%

Scale:

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

COURSE INSTRUCTIONS

The reaction papers will address specific questions given at the end of each assignment. These reaction papers need to be two to four pages in length, double-spaced, and adhere to MLA guidelines. You may send these papers as attachments as explained in the welcome letter. Contact information can be found at the beginning of this syllabus.

Refer to the Guidelines for Proctored Exams and submit your Exam Request Forms for the proctored midterm and final exams as outlined in the study guide.