

Mgr Izabela Krystek ikrystek@amu.edu.pl ;

duty hours: Thur: 6:15 PM – 7:00 PM; Fr 4:30PM – 5:15 PM.

Reading Literary Texts: British Literature (from 800 to 1800)

British Literature Workshop UAM Kalisz 2019/2020 & 2021/2022

Year 1 (spring term), Year 2 (autumn term)

YEAR 1

1. Introduction to the course.

Old English poetry [7th-10th century]:

2. Anglo-Saxon cultural traits and **epic**: *Beowulf* (fragment): the epic, the portrait of a Germanic hero; heroic values;

Middle English poetry and drama [12th-15th century]:

3. Geoffrey Chaucer: *The Canterbury Tales*: “The Prologue”: the birth of the modern English language and literature, satire, panorama of late medieval English society and literary kinds and themes/ tropes

4. English Medieval Drama and its staging conventions: *Everyman* (morality play and allegory) and miracle and *The Chester Cycle* (mystery plays and the birth of the English theatre)

Renaissance [16th/17th century]:

5. The Elizabethan theatre, William Shakespeare’s drama, staging conventions, the concept of tragedy and comedy

6. William Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*: the concept of tragedy, tragic hero, revenge tragedy and *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*: the concept of comedy

7. Elizabethan poetry: *Sonnets* 18, 130; vs. Petrarchan sonnet tradition (Edmund Spenser; Sir Philip Sidney); Metaphysical poetry and metaphysical conceit: John Donne “The Good Morrow” “Holy Sonnet 10”

The Age of Reason/Enlightenment/the 18th century

8. The beginnings of the novel: the conventions of an early realist novel; Daniel Defoe: *Robinson Crusoe*, Jonathan Swift *Gulliver’ Travels*

9. The key ideas and literary themes in Pre- Romanticism [end of 18th century] and Romanticism [the beginning of the 19th century]. Historical background. Key English Romantic poets and their poetry characteristic traits.

10. The poetry of William Blake- from *The Songs of Innocence* (“The chimney sweeper”);

The poetry of William Wordsworth from *Lyrical Ballads* (“She Dwelt Among the Untrodden Ways”) and from *The Prelude* (Book 1, lines 357-400);

The poetry of Percy Bysshe Shelley: “Ode to the West Wind”

Victorian Literature [19th century]:

11. Emily Brontë *Wuthering Heights*

12. TEST

Course Requirements:

The course ends in the exam, covering the whole material covered over the following 2 semester of the 1st and 2nd year. The exam will take place next year in February.

To pass the semester you have to:

- read the assigned texts – both the literary text and the assigned literary criticism concerning it,
- bring the course book to the class and copies of the literary texts that are not included in the coursebook
- discuss the works and actively participate in class discussions (you are expected to read about the social and historical background of every literary period in the history of English literature).
- pass all **quizzes** at the beginning of each class; If you fail or miss a test or a quiz you will have to re-take it at the appointed all-class re-take date at the end of the semester:
 - * you are entitled to a retake (quizzes and tests) if your absence is excused
- attend the classes
- * you can be absent twice a semester but you have to cover the material on your own and retake the quiz at the final retake date
- submit a project in the form of a pdf file prepared in pairs in the form of lesson materials that can be used to teach some aspects of English (at a primary or secondary school level) on the basis of elements of literature / literary works
- * draft proposal must be emailed by **10 APRIL 2020**
- * must be emailed, **DEADLINE 22 MAY 2020**
- * must include speaking, listening, reading, vocabulary and grammar exercises, writing (optional)
- **you final semester grade = 25% in-class quizzes + 20% project + 5% attendance/ class participation + 50% the final test**

Course book:

- Brodey, Kenneth and Fabio Malgaretti. 2002. *Focus on English and American Literature*. Milan: Modern Languages.
- McDougal, Littell. 2008. *British Literature Grade 12*. Evanston, Illinois: Houghton Mifflin Company.

Background reading:

- Abrams, M.H. 1988. *A Glossary of Literary Terms*. Fort Worth: Holt, Reinhart and Winston. Inc.
- Abrams, M.H. 1993. *The Norton Anthology of English Literature* Vols 1 and 2. W. W. Norton and Company: New York.
- Alexander, M. 2000. *A History of English Literature*. New York: Polgrave.
- Bernard, R. *A Short History of English Literature*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers 2000.
- Cuddon, J.A. 1992. *Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory*. London : Penguin Books.
- Ford, B. (ed). *The New Pelican Guide to English Literature. Vols 1- 7. From James to Eliot*. London: Penguin Books 1996.
- Fordoński, K. 1999. *An Anthology of English Literature. From Victorians to Our Contemporaries*. Poznań: Rebis.
- Nawrocki, G. 1999. *An Anthology of English Literature. From the Restoration Age through Romanticism 1660-1842*. Poznań: Rebis.
- Poplawski, P. 2007. *English Literature in Context*. Cambridge: CUP.
- Sikorska, L., Fabiszak J., 1998. *An Anthology of English Literature. From Beowulf to John Milton*. Poznań: Rebis.
- Sikorska, L. 2002. *An Outline History of English Literature*. Poznań: Wydawnictwo Poznańskie.
- Zbierski, H. 2002. *Historia Literatury Angielskiej*. Poznań: Oficyna Wydawnicza Atena.

Selected internet sources:

- Anthology of English Literature: <http://www.luminarium.org/>
- Internet Public Library: <http://www.ipl.org/div/litcrit/>
- The Cambridge History of English and American Literature: <http://www.bartleby.com/cambridge/>
- The Literary Encyclopedia: <http://www.litencyc.com/>
- Research Tools: <http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/doemoff/english/sources.html>