

Dr William Nelles
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English 305: Medieval Literature (online)

Catalog description: Reading and discussion of major works of medieval literature. This course focuses on English literature from *Beowulf* to Malory, but includes translations of key sources and analogues from other literatures.

Texts		
Author/title	Date	ISBN
<i>Beowulf</i>	ca. 1000?	978-0393320978
Marie de France, <i>Poetry</i>	late 12 th c.	978-0393932683
<i>The Travels of Sir John Mandeville</i>	mid 14 th c.	978-0141441436
<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i>	late 14 th c.	978-0393334159
Geoffrey Chaucer, <i>The Canterbury Tales</i>	late 14 th c.	978-0199599028
Sir Thomas Malory, <i>Le Morte D'Arthur</i>	ca. 1470	978-0199537341

The texts are all available from the UMD campus bookstore, but you can probably find cheap used copies online. Please use these editions, as several of the assignments and quizzes are keyed to page numbers and other features of these texts.

Requirements

- (1) Ten quizzes on our readings, mostly short-answer questions with some multiple choice and matching (4% each, so 40% of your total course grade).
- (2) Four hands-on projects working with the language and artifacts from our period: you'll study runic inscriptions on an ancient casket, arrange an archeological slide show of the contents of an Anglo-Saxon burial mound, and make three voice recordings, one in Old English and two in Middle English (4% each, so 20%).
- (3) Four online class discussions (5% each, so 20%).
- (4) Midterm and final essay examinations (5% each, so 10%).
- (5) One ten-page (3,000-word) mini-research paper (10%). A choice of topics and all of the necessary research materials are included in our myCourses site.