

## English 2321: British Literature

Dr. Monica Smith

Fall 2008: Online Course

Office: FAC 115

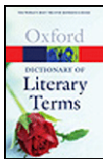
Office Hours: Tuesday 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.,

Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. CST via Live Office Hours on WTClass,  
and by appointment

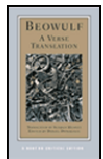
Email: Please use course mail on WTClass

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** A study of selected significant works of British Literature arranged around a common theme. Prerequisite ENGL 1302.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:** MAKE CERTAIN THAT YOU PURCHASE THE CORRECT EDITIONS. OTHER EDITIONS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE, FOR THEY WILL NOT CONTAIN THE NECESSARY INTRODUCTIONS, APPENDICES, AND PAGINATION. CHECK THE BOOKS YOU PURCHASE AT THE WT BOOKSTORE TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY ARE EXACTLY WHAT IS LISTED BELOW.



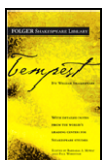
Baldick, Chris. *Concise Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004.



*Beowulf: A Verse Translation*. Trans. Seamus Heaney. Ed. Daniel Donoghue. New York: W. W. Norton, 2001. ISBN: 0393975800.



Gardner, John. *Grendel*. Vintage, 1989. ISBN: 0679723110.



Shakespeare, William. *The Tempest*. Washington, D.C.: Washington Square Press, 2004. ISBN 10: 0743482832.



Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein*. Ed. J. Paul Hunter. New York: W. W. Norton, 1995. ISBN: 0393964582.



Stevenson, Robert Louis. *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. Ed. Martin Danahay. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Broadview, 2005. ISBN: 1551116553.

**wtclass**

Readings and course materials available via WTClass.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Students should:

- Discuss and write critically about different literary genres, periods and themes
- Develop an understanding of literary culture and its relationship to social and historical contexts
- Improve critical thinking and writing skills

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to write a critical analysis of a literary work
- Appropriately integrate social and historical context into critical analysis of literary works.
- Employ the following literary terms in their writing: *simile, metaphor, image, symbol, speaker, persona, meter, rhyme, stanza, line break, caesura, iambic pentameter, setting, tone, character, narrative, narrator*

**ASSIGNMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS:**

**Assigned Readings** are demanding, and some texts will demand multiple readings. Do not attempt to complete course assignments without having read the assigned material carefully and completely.

**Online Lectures and Materials:** I have created online lectures in a number of different formats—some Flash movies, some mp3 files, some Powerpoint, and some plain text—depending on the topics we’re discussing at the time. See “Computer Access” below for more information.

**Quizzes (20% of final course grade):** Expect at least one quiz each week, sometimes more. Quizzes cannot be taken early or made up. At the end of term, I will drop your lowest grade from this category.

**Commonplace Book (20% of final course grade):** Five entries of 200-400 words into our course Commonplace Book on WTClass along with a 500-800 word epilogue at the end of the semester. Details available on WTClass.

**Exams (4 exams totaling 60% of final course grade):** Each exam may consist of identifications, objective questions, and short answers. All exams will be administered and assessed via WTClass. Alternate testing times/accommodations are not available. Make-ups will only be allowed under the most extreme circumstances. If a student cannot provide the appropriate documentation within five business days of the missed exam, s/he will receive a zero.

**WEEKLY LESSONS:**

- Each week, lessons will **open** on Monday at 7:00 a.m. and **close** on Sunday at 5:00 p.m.
- **Lessons will not be reopened after they close on Sundays at 5:00 p.m.** So be certain to print or save any materials you might want while the lesson is open and complete all assignments before Sunday at 5:00 p.m.
- Late assignments will not be accepted, and the Lesson will not be reopened. See “Submitting Assignments” and “Computer Access” below.

**SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS:**

- **All assignments will be completed via WTClass. Assignments that are not submitted in the assigned format or in the proper place will not be graded.**
- Late assignments will not be accepted.
- Each student is held responsible for all assignments. If a previously scheduled event coincides with an exam or due date, a written request for an extension or make-up date will be considered. All such requests must be submitted prior to the date in question.
- Any requests for extensions based on illness or family emergency must be accompanied by written documentation verified by the Office of Student Services. All make-ups and extensions are at the instructor's discretion.

**COMPUTER ACCESS:** Students are expected to check email daily and the course webpage several times a week or as indicated on the daily schedule.

- It is the student's responsibility to secure reliable, up-to-date, working computer equipment.
- I've made every effort to provide course information in multiple formats whenever possible, both to ensure that you are able to access the information as well as to give you the opportunity to use the technology to your advantage.
  - For example, during Week One, there is a Flash movie (with slides and audio) that covers literary devices in *Beowulf*. But I've also given you this identical information just as a PowerPoint without audio and as an mp3 file.
  - You might decide, then, to watch the Flash movie first, and then print (or save) the PowerPoint slides for review. If you are an iTunes user (or have some other compatible mp3 file organizer), you might set up a playlist just for course materials on your iTunes and download the mp3 file there so you can review it before the test. However you choose to use the files is up to you, so long as you get the information.
  - If you do not have iTunes on your computer, you can download it for free at <http://www.apple.com/itunes/download/>.
- Regrettably, I am not a computer expert, so I cannot help you troubleshoot problems with your computer hardware. If for some reason you cannot open the course files, you should try to open the files on another computer, either at the HELC (Hastings Electronic Learning Center) on the WTAMU campus or, if you don't live in or near Canyon, at your local public library.
- **IMPORTANT:** Please note that since "The printer wouldn't work," "Something's wrong with my disk," and "I don't know what happened—I saved it but now it's not there" have become the 21st century versions of "The dog ate my homework," **computer hardware, software, or printer malfunction/failure of any kind will not excuse missed, late, or incomplete work.** Remember: start each week's lesson promptly; save early, save often (and in multiple formats: hard drive and flash drive or email to yourself); print early, print often.

**CONFERENCES AND EMAIL ACCESS:** I will hold office hours on Tuesday 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. CST via Live Office Hours on WTClass, and by appointment

- I check course email during **regular business hours only** (Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.). Thus, if you email me at midnight, do not expect a response before the next morning during business hours.



## Code of Student Life, Appendix III

(<http://www.wtamu.edu/administrative/ss/code/index.htm>)

**ACCESS STATEMENT:** If you need adaptations or accommodations because of a disability (i.e., physical, mental, psychological, learning) or have emergency medical information to share with me, please let me know as soon as possible. West Texas A&M University seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for all qualified persons with disabilities. This University will adhere to all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to register with Student Disability Services (SDS) and to contact faculty members in a timely fashion to arrange for suitable accommodations. The SDS Office is located in the Virgil Henson Activities Center, Room 218 and their phone number is 806-651-2335.

**Grading Percentages:**

Quizzes	20%
Commonplace Book	20%
Exams (4)	60%

**Grading Scale:**

Excellent work will earn an A (90-100).

Good work will earn a B (80-89.99).

Average work will earn a C (70-79.99).

Fair work will earn a D (60-69.99).

Poor work will earn an F (0-59.99).

A = 95

C+ = 78

D- = 60

A- = 90

C = 75

F = (as marked; work not submitted marked as 0)

B+ = 88

C- = 70

B = 85

D+ = 68

B- = 80

D = 65

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE: Subject to change.** The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary. The most update version of the syllabus will be available on WTClass.

Lesson	Major Assignments and Texts Covered (see Lessons for specific weekly assignments and readings)
<b>Week 1</b> August 25-August 31	<i>Beowulf</i> (read lines 1-1650)
<b>Week 2</b> September 1-September 7	<i>Beowulf</i> (read lines 1651-end) Commonplace Book Entry over <i>Beowulf</i> <b>Due</b>
<b>Week 3</b> September 8-September 14	<b>Test</b>
<b>Week 4</b> September 15-September 21	<i>The Tempest</i> (read Acts I and II)
<b>Week 5</b> September 22-September 28	<i>The Tempest</i> (read Acts III-V) Commonplace Book Entry over <i>The Tempest</i> <b>Due</b>
<b>Week 6</b> September 29-October 5	<b>Test</b>
<b>Week 7</b> October 6-October 12  <i>Midterm: Last date to withdraw with a guaranteed X is October 10</i>	<i>Frankenstein</i> (read Volume I)
<b>Week 8</b> October 13-October 19	<i>Frankenstein</i> (read Volume II)
<b>Week 9</b> October 20-October 26	<i>Frankenstein</i> (read Volume III) Commonplace Book Entry over <i>Frankenstein</i> <b>Due</b>
<b>Week 10</b> October 27-November 2  <i>Withdrawal Deadline: October 31</i>	<b>Test</b>
<b>Week 11</b> November 3-November 9	<i>The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i> (read story plus Appendices A, F, and G)
<b>Week 12</b> November 10-November 16	<i>The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i> (read Appendices H-K) Commonplace Book Entry over <i>The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i> <b>Due</b>
<b>Week 13</b> November 17-November 23	<i>Grendel</i> (read pages 1-90)
<b>Week 14</b> November 24-December 3	<i>Grendel</i> (read pages 91-end) Commonplace Book Entry over <i>Grendel</i> <b>Due</b>

Exam Four will be administered during Final Exam week.

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