



ENGL 330 – Special Topics in Literature: Arthurian Literature

Fall 2024, Harlaxton

Instructor	Dr. Michael M. Baker
E-mail	Michael.Baker@fgc.edu
Course Meeting Days and Time	Monday / Wednesday, 3:30–4:45
Required Experiential Learning Dates	There are no required experiential learning excursions for this course, although students are encouraged to consider visiting Stonehenge.
Office Hours	Wednesdays, 1:30–3:00

Catalog Description:

This course introduces students to a range of literary perspectives in relation to the development of modern Britain. The central theme of the course is the development of a sense of national identity within the British Isles and the ways in which literature has both shaped and questioned British identity. We will consider how national identity intersects with other key themes including gender, race, class and belonging.

In this thematic, gamified course we will trace the development of the Arthurian legend from its earliest roots to its modern iterations. As we read texts from the chronicle and romance traditions and modern genres, you will become doubly immersed in the legend: as a reader *and* as a participant in an epic quest!

On the one hand, you will read texts like Geoffrey of Monmouth's *History of the Kings of Britain*, Chrétien de Troyes' tales of *Yvain* and *Lancelot*, and the famous *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. On the other hand, the king must call on you in his time of need. Shall you prove yourself worthy, or shall you falter in the face of villainous knights, evil sorcerers, and deadly monsters? Only your knowledge of the Arthurian legends can help you save the realm from the greatest threat it has ever faced.

Credit Hour Policy Statement:

Standard lecture:

"This class meets the federal credit hour policy of 1 hour of class with an expected 2 hours of additional student work outside of class each week for approximately 15 weeks for each hour of credit, or a total of 45-75 total hours for each credit." (Def 1)

General Education Requirements:

University of Evansville students enrolled on BRIT 230; BRIT 330; BRIT 330H are eligible for General Education credit for Outcome 2 and credit for Components A and E.

- Outcome 2: Engagement with imaginative expressions of the human condition
- Component A: Global diversity: International component
- Component E: Writing across the curriculum

Non-UE students will need to determine with their home campus how their course credit transfers.

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Course Learning Objectives:

BRIT 230/330/330H focuses on a selection of major literary works and trends that have shaped modern British identity. The course aims to situate you within a complex multinational and multicultural society, challenging you to identify issues and to affect change within your new home and community through:

- a. Inquiry, research, and analysis
- b. Intercultural knowledge and understanding
- c. Critical and creative thinking
- d. Cultural competency
- e. Written and oral communication
- f. Information literacy
- g. Teamwork and problem solving

Methods of Instructions:

Primarily lecture and discussion, although students may be expected to view some videos outside of designated class times.

Textbooks and Required Reading:

Students will be asked to purchase four textbooks: Geoffrey of Monmouth, *History of the Kings of Britain* (Penguin edition), Chrétien de Troyes, *Arthurian Romances* (Penguin), *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* (Penguin), and Sir Thomas Malory, *Le Morte Darthur: The Winchester Manuscript* (Oxford World Classics edition). Students may use other editions or versions of the texts, although references to the works in course materials and assignments will be made to the editions listed above.

Textbook readings will be supplemented with assorted readings and articles available online or on reserve in the Harlaxton College Library.

Course Schedule:

[Schedule with Topics and Assignments. Note any required field trips and submission dates for examinations and assessed work. Provide a list with sufficient detail to justify time requirements.]

Grading Criteria:

1. Participation, 30%. This category includes regular attendance (see below, "Withdrawal and Attendance policies" for other ways attendance can affect a student's course grade), participation in class activities, presentations, and discussions. Please note that in-class activities may include quizzes on the readings and course lectures.
2. Midterm Project, 30%. The Midterm Project will have an analytical/written component of 1000 words; it will be due at the end of Week 7.
3. Research Paper, 40%. There will be a final research-based paper of 2500 words due at the end of Week 14.

Withdrawal and Attendance policies:

Harlaxton College expects regular class attendance by all students. Students are considered sufficiently mature to appreciate the necessity of regular and punctual attendance, to accept this personal responsibility and to accept the consequences of failure to attend. When absences occur due to emergency or medical reasons, students are expected to notify their instructors of the absence prior to class or to seek the assistance of the College nurse or a member of the Student Experience Team for help in notifying instructors.



Instructors have the authority to grant excused absences for medical, psychological, or personal reasons upon review of appropriate documentation and professional recommendation supporting such a request. In the event of long-term illness, reasonable accommodations will be made to allow a student to complete a course. In these cases, the Dean will need to approve the long-term nature of the accommodation.

The Dean of Harlaxton College has the authority to grant excused absences for medical, psychological, or personal reasons.

Each instructor is expected to maintain an attendance policy in keeping with the nature of the Harlaxton program and may consider it in evaluating performance in their courses.

Policy Governing Unexcused Absences:

Harlaxton College operates an attendance policy that is binding on all faculty and students. The number of unexcused absences that are allowed before incurring a penalty is related to the number of times a class meets each week. For courses which meet three times a week, students are allowed a maximum of three unexcused absences during the semester without attracting penalty points. For courses meeting twice a week two such absences are permitted, and for courses meeting once a week a single absence is allowed. Additional unexcused absences will attract a grade penalty.

Each unexcused absences over the allowed amount will result in a course grade deduction of minus one-third letter grade (e.g., after one extra unexcused absence, an A- would become a B+).

Policy Governing Excused Absences.

- Excused absences are not given to facilitate student travel independent of College-sponsored travel.
- Students may be permitted to miss class because of participation in academic field trips.
- Instructors must co-ordinate and confirm academic fieldtrips with the Dean, prior to the commencement of the Semester to ensure their inclusion in the Semester timetable.
- Where authorization for an academic fieldtrip is requested after the commencement of the semester, the request must be submitted to the Dean.

The following information is required:

- Purpose and brief description of the official Harlaxton event or academic fieldtrip.
- Dates, location, and times (as applicable).
- Alphabetical list of students involved [Last Name/First Name] along with their student identification number.

If approval is granted:

- Instructors affected will be notified at least one week prior to the class period during which absence is anticipated, or as soon as possible.
- Missed class time due to student participation is to be considered an excused absence.
- The grade of a student may not be lowered in any class due to excused absences.
- It is the student's responsibility - to take the initiative by consulting with their instructors before the absence occurs, and - to do what is required by the instructor to make up all missed assignments and/or examinations.
- Instructors are required to assist students in these occasional situations of excused absences.

Honor Code:

All students at the University of Evansville agree to the University honor code: *I will neither give nor receive unauthorized aid, nor will I tolerate an environment that condones the use of unauthorized aid.*



AI may be used only with prior permission or direction by the instructor.

- All work submitted in this course must be your own.
- The use of generative AI composition tools, such as those offered by ChatGPT, Google Bard etc. is prohibited in this course except for specific assignments and subject to the instructor's guidelines.
- Work generated by such tools without proper attribution is plagiarism and, thereby, a breach of the University's Plagiarism and Academic Honesty policy.

Disability Policy:

It is the policy and practice of the University of Evansville to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. Students should contact Disability Services within the Office of Counseling Services by calling 812-488-2663 to seek services or accommodations for disabilities. Written notification to faculty from Disability Services is required for academic accommodations.

The University of Evansville Disability Services office will share the request for academic accommodations with the Academic Support team at Harlaxton College. Staff members at Harlaxton will meet individually with students to discuss needs and provide additional information related to examinations or other assessments.

Students from partner institutions should provide the appropriate letter of accommodation from their institution to the Academic Support team at Harlaxton College.



Non-Discrimination Statement

The University of Evansville expects all members of its community to treat each other with respect and civility. Harassing behaviors directed towards any member of our community will not be tolerated. As part of its commitment to non-discrimination, the University specifically prohibits harassment based on any other characteristics set forth in its nondiscrimination statement as follows: including race, color, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, creed or religion, national origin, age, disability, veteran status and all federally protected groups/classes. Any form of harassment undermines the mission of the University and negatively impacts the University community as a whole.

Prohibited Conduct and Confidentiality

The University of Evansville is committed to fostering an atmosphere free from harassment and discrimination. This commitment includes identifying problems that may lead to sexual harassment and misconduct, as well as other forms of harassment and discrimination, by creating an atmosphere in which the entire University community is sensitive to preventing prohibited conduct. Additionally, the University is committed to providing support and resources to individuals who have experienced prohibited conduct. This commitment includes effectively responding when a student, visitor, guest or program participant is the victim of prohibited conduct.

All campus employees, students, and guests are required to abide by the Title IX and Other Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Policy, the Harassment and Discrimination Policy, and the Consensual Sexual or Romantic Relationships Between Employees and Students Policy. Violation of these policies could result in disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion for students and termination for employees.

Faculty members at the University of Evansville are considered "Responsible Employees" under the applicable federal guidelines and the University's policies. This means that I am unable to offer you confidentiality if you report any incidence of prohibited conduct to me as defined by Title IX statute. If I am made aware of a violation, I am required to report any known information to the Office of Institutional Equity.

You may choose to report the violation yourself the following ways:

Email: · Annie Sills, Assistant Director of Institutional Equity and Title IX Coordinator: cs175@evansville.edu ·

Keith Gehlhausen, Executive Director of HR and Institutional Equity: kg77@evansville.edu ·

Title IX: titleix@evansville.edu

Phone: 812-288-5261

Online: <https://www.evansville.edu/safety/report.cfm>

You may also choose to speak with a Confidential Resource. Confidential Resources are required to maintain confidentiality and cannot report violations to the Office of Institutional Equity:

University of Evansville

- Counseling Services: counselingservices@evansville.edu, 812-488-2633
- Health Center Professionals: healthcenter@evansville.edu, 812-488-2033
- University Chaplain: chaplain@evansville.edu, 812-488-5262

Harlaxton College

- College Nurse: Lesley Selby, RGN, +44 01476 403027, lselby@harlaxton.ac.uk
- Counselling Services: counselling@harlaxton.ac.uk