



Legends of King Arthur Syllabus

ENGL 210: Approache to Literature, Summer 1 2025

Instructor	Sara Petrosillo	Phone	207-364-6826 (Whatsapp)
Office Location		Email	Sp220@EVANSVILLE.EDU
Course Meeting Days and Time	Monday, Wednesday PM	Student Drop-In Office Hours	By appointment
Course Mode	In-person		

Course Information

Catalog Description:

In this course you will learn how to approach literary texts with imagination and authority. You will work to build up a writing skillset that will allow you both to argue imaginatively and effectively about poetry, drama, and fiction, and also to take those skills and communicate effectively in any context. In addition to building a critical vocabulary to talk about the formal components of literature, you will learn strategies for generating ideas, turning those ideas into arguable theses, organizing evidence and supporting arguments, and revising your drafts into convincing and provocative essays.

Detailed Description:

The theme of this course is Arthurian legends; we will be reading poetry, drama, memoir, and fiction that use stories about King Arthur's Round Table to ask questions about social conventions and human nature. Field trips to Arthurian sites will also contribute to our understanding of how literature continues to shape and be shaped by a desire to explore actual locations.

Credit Hour Policy Statement:

***** ACTION: Required.** Choose the credit hour policy in which this course meets. Delete all other options listed and only include the text in quotation marks.

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:

Education Outcome 2: Engagement with Imaginative Expressions of the Human Condition
General Education Overlay E: Writing Across the Curriculum

Course Learning Outcomes:

- Students will acquire and use a basic vocabulary appropriate to literary studies.
- Students will acquire and use a basic vocabulary of literary criticism.
- Students will analyze and interpret literary texts in four genres.
- Students will refine their writing practices in the discipline.
- Students will present and discuss their literary interpretations.

Program Learning Outcomes:

Students will discuss (orally and/or in writing) works of literature in their literary, historical, or critical contexts. Students will explicate literary texts closely and accurately, showing familiarity with form and content as well as with literary terms appropriate to the field.

Required Materials:

1. Arthur Phillips, *The Tragedy of Arthur*, Random House, 2011, ISBN: 978-0812977929
2. Simon Armitage (translator) *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, Norton, 2020, ISBN: 978-039353249-4

Methods of Instructions:

I will introduce new texts, genres, and writing strategies with lectures. Once we delve into the text or genre, we will engage in small and large group discussions and writing activities. I expect you to come to class having completed the reading listed for that day, prepared to take paper notes, and prepared to discuss and question the reading

Withdrawal and Attendance policies:

Harlaxton College operates a mandatory attendance policy that is binding on all faculty and students. Because of the amount of material covered, it is in your best interest to attend all classes. Because this is a condensed 5-week semester, only 1 absence will be permitted before the penalty of one full letter grade (e.g., A to B) per absence begins. Additional unexcused absences will attract a grade penalty per absence. Please note: travel or unexpected delays returning from travel are not excused absences. Students are responsible for the academic consequences of their failure to attend class. If any assessment (e.g. in-class test, exam, paper, presentation, etc.) is missed, there is no expectation or requirement that a faculty member will accept the work after it is due, provide an extension to a deadline, or offer an alternative assessment opportunity for a student with an unexcused absence.

Grading Criteria:

Essay 1 - 25%: On drama and memoir (6 pages, 1500 words) + Memo (1 page, 200-300 words)

Essay 2 - 30%: On poetry and prose (8 pages, 2000 words) + Memo (1 page, 200-300 words)

Reading Responses (5) - 25%

Literary Tourism project - 20%: Pairing images with passages and reflections (3 images plus 2 pages reflection)

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.*

Unauthorized aid includes but is not limited to: collaborating with a peer for an individual assignment; using online resources (ChatGPT or any other AI (see below), Coursehero, Sparknotes, Google Books, Bookrags, any website.) when not instructed to do so; using ideas and/or language of someone other than yourself when not instructed to do so and/or without attributing the source correctly and appropriately. Sharing course materials (in person or online) including your own assignments is also a violation of the honor code. Ignorance is not an excuse for breaching the honor code; come talk to me to clarify any questions about what is considered unauthorized aid

before submitting your work. Any work that demonstrates the usage of unauthorized aid will be reported to the Dean of Students. Review the student handbook for further information regarding the consequences of breaching the honor code.

Course AI Policy:

In this course, submission of any work that is not entirely your own is considered academic dishonesty. The use of generative AI tools such as ChatGPT are prohibited and constitute a violation of academic integrity as examples of unauthorized aid. Besides ChatGPT, other prohibited AI generators include but are not limited to Grammarly, Claude, Gemini, and any others not listed here including any translating tool. Using generative AI is plagiarism and will be reported to the Dean of Student's Office and result in a minimum of a zero grade on the assignment and possible further consequences depending on pages 18-21 in the [Student Handbook](#).

Course Schedule:

Week 1:

Wednesday, June 11

Make sure to have started the "Introduction"/Memoir to Phillips, *Tragedy of Arthur* before first class (through ch. 25, p. 142- don't worry, this reads very quickly)

Thursday, June 12 (Memoir)

Read: Phillips, *The Tragedy of Arthur*, pp. 142-256

Due: Reading Response 1 (practice- graded complete/incomplete)

Saturday, June 13

Experiential Learning in London (British Library, British Museum, Globe Theatre tour)

Week 2:

Monday, June 16 (Drama)

Read: Phillips, *The Tragedy of Arthur*, Acts 1-3

Tuesday, June 17: Experiential Learning Trip:

Lincoln Day Trip (Lincoln Castle and Cathedral)

Wednesday, June 18 (Drama)

Read: Phillips, *The Tragedy of Arthur*, Acts 4-5

Due: Reading Response 2

Week 3:

Monday, June 23 (Prose)

Read: *Sir Thomas Malory's Morte Darthur* (translated and abridged PDF on BB)

Due: Reading Response 3

Wednesday, June 25

Due: Essay 1, draft 1, peer review

Watch in class: finish *Excalibur* by John Boorman

Thursday, June 26 Experiential Learning Trip:

Grantham trip to St. Wulfram's Church (Trigge Chained Library)

Week 4:

Monday, June 30 (Poetry)

Read: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*

Watch in class: start *The Green Knight*

Due: Reading Response 4

Due: Essay 1, final draft and Memo 1 due by 11:59pm

Tuesday, July 1: Experiential Learning Trip:

Leeds Armoury and Kirkstall Abbey

Wednesday, July 2

Read: Morris, "The Defence of Guenevere"; Sara Teasdale, "Guenevere"; Wendy Mnookin, *Guinevere Speaks*

Watch in class: finish *The Green Knight*

Due: Reading Response 5

Week 5:

Monday, July 7: Final Exams

Due: Final draft of Essay 2 and Memo 2

Literary Tourism project presentations during final exam time

About the assignments:

Reading Responses:

You will complete 5 Reading Responses. All except the first of the Reading Responses will be graded and will count towards your final grade (the first Reading Response will be graded Complete/Incomplete). You should submit your Reading Response prior to class on the due date. Your reading response will begin with a quotation at the top of the page. That quotation must be drawn from the reading assigned for the due date of the Reading Response. You will cite the page number or line numbers in parentheses after the quotation. Below the quotation, you will compose a 1-page (250-300 words) analysis of the quotation according to the guidelines given in class.

Essays:

You will write two essays for this class. The first will be 6 pages (1500 words) and regard the text *The Tragedy of Arthur*. The second will be 8 pages (2000 words) and consider *Morte Darthur* and one or more of the poems and one of the films.

You will submit your essays to Blackboard. These essays will count towards your final grade.

Memos:

You will submit a Memo with the final draft of each essay. This memo will explain in 200-300 words your experience of composing and revising and incorporating my feedback into your second draft. I will award full credit to memos that fulfill these requirements. Memos are an easy way for you to accumulate points and communicate with me about your writing experience.

Literary Tourism project and presentation: This multimedia project will act as an appendix to your final paper. You will include images from our Experiential Learning trips and reflections on connecting literature to travel. During our final exam, you will present your Literary Tourism project to the class.

University Policy Statements

Disability Policy:

The University of Evansville is committed to providing an accessible and supportive environment for students with disabilities. 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 at 812-488-2663 to seek services or accommodations for disabilities. Written notification to faculty from Disability Services is required for academic accommodations.

Institutional Equity and Title IX

UE is committed to fostering an atmosphere free from harassment and creating an inclusive campus for all members of the University community regardless of their sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, religion, ethnicity, country of origin, ability, or veteran status. All Faculty members are considered Responsible Employees and required to report instances of discrimination, harassment, or sexual violence to the Office of Institutional Equity

You may also choose to speak to a Confidential Resource about your experience. Confidential Resources at the University include:

Counseling Services: 812-488-2663, counselingservices@evansville.edu

Crayton E. and Ellen Mann Health Center: 812-488-2033, healthcenter@evansville.edu

Spiritual Formation Coordinator: 812- 488-5265, spiritualformation@evansville.edu

If you or someone you know has been harassed, assaulted, or discriminated against you can find the appropriate resources by contacting the Assistant Director of Institutional Equity and Title IX Coordinator: email titleix@evansville.edu ; phone (812) 488-5261. For more information visit <https://www.evansville.edu/offices/titleix/policy.cfm> .

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. For more information contact the [Center for Inclusive Excellence](#).

Campus Safety

All members of the UE community are automatically enrolled in the Ace Alerts Emergency Alert System. When the system is activated, emergency notification information is sent in the following manner: calls to campus IP phones, text messages, emails, campus housing speaker system, active threat sirens (non-weather related), digital signage, and AlertUS desktop on campus-owned computers.

To contact the Office of Public Safety:

Emergencies: 812-488-6911

Non-emergencies: 812-488-2051

Complaints, Grievances, and Appeals

The University of Evansville seeks to resolve all student concerns in a timely and effective manner through policies and processes documented in the University [Course Catalog](#) and [Student Handbook](#).

Student Resources

*****ACTION:** *Recommended. Include, adapt, or remove this section as it fits with the resources that you may already link to in other places and the needs of the students in your course.*

Access the links below to connect with departments and resources that are here to support all UE students.

Academic Services: Contact the Center for Academic Advising to connect with academic support services including supplemental instruction, tutoring, and time management and study skills help.

Blackboard Guides: Blackboard is the University of Evansville's course management system for online courses. Guides on using Blackboard can be found within [MyUE](#).

Writing Center : The Writing Center provides access to writing resources, appointments for one-on-one writing help, and assistance with any stage of the writing process.

Counseling Services: Counseling Services provides general, short-term counseling that assists students in identifying barriers and setting goals while improving coping strategies to achieve personal and academic goals.

University Libraries: Conduct research, access resources, and contact librarians for any research related help.