

McLennan
C O M M U N I T Y
C O L L E G E

WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN

BRITISH LITERATURE
ENGL 2321.287

DR. YOLANDA J. GONZALEZ

NOTE: This is an 8-week course.

COVID 19 Notice:

McLennan Community College is committed to providing you with every resource you need to reach your academic goals including your safety. We will continue to monitor the evolving situation with COVID 19 and adjust our safety guidelines to make sure we offer a safe environment for you and our faculty. Please make sure to consult your faculty and the MCC website at <https://www.mclennan.edu/crisis-management/coronavirus-updates/index.html> on any changes to these guidelines.

BRITISH LITERATURE

ENGL 2321.287

Course Description:

A survey of the development of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the present. Students will study works of prose, poetry, drama, and fiction in relation to their historical, linguistic, and cultural contexts. Texts will be selected from a diverse group of authors and traditions.

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:

ENGL 1301 (Composition I)

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

Technical Requirements

- **Students enrolled in this online course need regular, reliable access to the internet and a computer (preferably a desktop or laptop computer).** Also, students should regularly install updates to their browsers to ensure that they are using the most up-to-date systems.

Recommended Programs

- [Microsoft Office 365](#) (FREE for all students) – *please do not use Pages, Word Perfect, or MS Works as your word processing software. If you plan on using Google Drive to create documents for the course, be sure you can convert the gdoc file to a PDF.*
- [Adobe Reader](#)
- [Java](#)

Using Brightspace:

All course materials are posted on Brightspace, and all assignments must be submitted via Brightspace. Hence, students should check Brightspace regularly to keep up with course assignments. Please familiarize yourself with this course management software. The course can be accessed at brightspace.mclennan.edu.

Turnitin

<https://www.turnitin.com/>

In order to help students learn proper composition skills and to promote academic honesty, this class will use the services provided by [Turnitin](#) (hereinafter, the “Service”). The above URL contains information about the capabilities, services, terms and conditions, and privacy policy of the Service. Faculty may use the Service to review all submitted assignments.

Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to [Turnitin](#) for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the [Turnitin](#) reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Students further understand that if the results of the

BRITISH LITERATURE

ENGL 2321.287

review support an allegation of academic dishonesty, the students' work will be investigated and the student is subject to discipline according to policy.

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Dr. Yolanda J. Gonzalez

MCC E-mail: ygonzalez@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: (254) 299-8904 (please leave a voicemail message)

Office Location: FOB 112

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: You can reach me via email or Instant Messages on

Brightspace at the following times: Monday 9 am to 11 am

Tuesday & Thursday 11 am to 3 pm

In person office hours: Wednesday 11 am to 1 pm

MCC holidays will be observed, and office hours will not be held on those days.

Other Instruction Information: Video conferencing on Zoom is also available. Please email me to schedule an appointment. My Zoom URL is <https://mclennan.zoom.us/j/2394045861>.

Required Text & Materials:

Title: *Norton Anthology of English Literature 10e Core Selections eBook*

Author: Greenblatt et al

Edition: 10th

Publisher: W.W. Norton

ISBN: 978-0-393-54410-7

Please note: we use the eBook version of the *Norton Anthology of English Literature* in this course. The easiest way to purchase this text is directly from the publisher at this website: <https://wwnorton.com/books/9780393543902>. The text costs just \$25 for 4 years of access.

If you prefer, you may opt to use a print edition of the text. You will be responsible for confirming that you have appropriate access to all assigned course readings and can locate them within your print copy.

MCC Bookstore Website: <http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

All literature instructors will use an internal rubric constructed by the English Department.

Because of the variety of genres and time periods covered in literature classes, all grading will be direct and will assess the following skills: critical thinking, on the basis of interpretation, analysis, and synthesis of texts using primary and secondary sources; communication skills, on the basis of interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication; social responsibility, on the consideration of other cultures and time periods,

BRITISH LITERATURE

ENGL 2321.287

leading to awareness of civic responsibility in regional, national and global communities, as well as the consequences of failure to adopt or to apply standards of social responsibility; and personal responsibility, based on the consequences of interconnected choices and actions related to ethical decision-making, as demonstrated in the wide variety of texts covered in literature classes.

Basic Paper and/or Presentation Rubric:

Criteria	Outstanding	Proficient	Basic	Below Expectations
Critical Thinking	-Shows originality of thought and logical connections -Demonstrates excellent descriptive, analytic, interpretative, evaluative, and engaged intellectual inquiry.	-Shows less originality and may have minor flaws in logic. -Demonstrates good descriptive, analytic, interpretative, evaluative, and engaged intellectual inquiry.	-Expression mostly limited to ideas from class or readings. -Inconsistent description, analysis, interpretation, evaluation, and engagement in intellectual inquiry.	-Does not comprehend course concepts. -Inadequate description, analysis, interpretation, evaluation, and engagement in intellectual inquiry.
Communication	-Clear main idea with supporting organization and developed examples and explanation. -Excellent awareness of rhetorical situation, including audience, topic, and perspective as speaker/writer.	-Clear main idea but may have minor lapses in organization, less developed examples and explanation. -Good awareness of rhetorical situation and matches work to audience requirements.	-Shows competency but has weak or unfocused main ideas, organization, and few developed examples and explanation. -Awareness of rhetorical situation but work does not meet the need.	-Inconsistent competence in thesis, organization, and content development. -Does not consider or tailor content and structure to rhetorical situation.
Mechanics	-Demonstrates complete command of format with mature diction and shows few, if any, grammar, spelling, or diction errors	-Demonstrates competent command of format & diction. May have minor mechanical, grammar, spelling, or diction errors.	-Shows mostly competent command of format and diction but has some major mechanical, grammar, spelling, or diction errors.	-Fails to show competence in format, diction, mechanics, grammar, and/or spelling.

BRITISH LITERATURE

ENGL 2321.287

Teamwork	-Actively assists in meeting group goals. - Always treats others respectfully. - Consistently helps and/or encourages all team members.	-Contributes to meeting group goals. -Treats others respectfully. -Assists and/or encourages other team members.	-Participates with teamwork requirements but does not actively work beyond the minimum required. -Treats group members respectfully but does not interact fully.	-Does not assist the group and/or fails to treat group members respectfully.
Personal Responsibility	-Completes all assigned tasks by deadlines; work is thorough and comprehensive. -Always shows the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.	-Completes most assigned tasks by the deadline; work is mostly thorough and shows only minor lapses in accountability. -Usually shows the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.	-Misses deadlines occasionally; work generally meets requirements; shows occasional major lapses in responsibility. -Often shows the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.	-Sometimes fails to show the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

This course offers a broad survey overview and a foundational basis for general education within the liberal arts. It also prepares students for further study within the academic area of literature.

- **Critical Thinking (CT):** Requires creative innovation in interpretation, inquiry, and analyses of a wide variety of texts and a synthesis of texts with secondary sources.
- **Communication Skills (COM):** Require effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.
- **Social Responsibility (SR):** Requires consideration of other cultures and other time periods, which in turn leads to knowledge of civic responsibility in regional, national and global communities. This knowledge prepares students for an understanding of the effects of good social responsibility, as well as the consequences of the lack thereof in communities, nations, and the world.
- **Personal Responsibility (PR):** Includes skills in connecting choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making, as demonstrated in the wide variety of texts covered in these classes.

Learning Outcomes:

While successfully completing literature courses, students will:

BRITISH LITERATURE

ENGL 2321.287

1. Identify key themes, representative authors and works, significant historical or cultural events, and characteristic perspectives or attitudes expressed in the literature of different periods or regions.
2. Analyze literary works as expressions of individual or communal values within the social, political, cultural, or religious contexts of different literary periods.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the development of characteristic forms or styles of expression during different historical periods or in different regions.
4. Articulate the aesthetic principles that guide the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
5. Write research-based critical papers about the assigned readings in clear and grammatically correct prose, using various critical approaches to literature.

Course Outline or Schedule:

Course Schedule:

This course has regular deadlines, and assignments become available once you have met specified grade criteria or submitted assignments. Please see below and refer to the “Content” or “Calendar” portion of Brightspace for specific course deadlines. Also, any updates or changes to the schedule will be communicated on Brightspace “Announcements.” Plan to check that page regularly to stay up-to-date on what’s going on in the course.

Unit 1: Anglo Saxon Literature; Deadline October 23

Module 1

- Course Orientation

Module 2

- “The Middle Ages (to ca. 1485)”
- [*Beowulf*](#)

Unit 2: Middle English Literature; Deadline October 30

Module 3

- [*Geoffrey Chaucer, The Canterbury Tales*](#)

Unit 3: The Sixteenth Century; Deadline October 30

Module 4

- “The Sixteenth Century (1485-1603)”
- [*Edmund Spenser, The Faerie Queen*](#)
- “Essay: Critical Review” assigned

Unit 4: The Seventeenth Century; Deadline November 6

Module 5

- “The Early Seventeenth Century (1603-1660)”
- [John Donne](#); [“A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning”](#)
- [George Herbert](#); [“The Windows”](#) (website)
- [Robert Herrick](#); [“To the Virgins, to Make Much of Time”](#) (website)
- [Andrew Marvell](#); [“To His Coy Mistress”](#)

Unit 5: Restoration/Eighteenth Century; Deadline November 13

Module 6

- “The Restoration and the Eighteenth Century (1660-1785)”
- [Jonathan Swift](#); [“A Modest Proposal”](#)

Module 7

- MID-TERM

Unit 6: The Romantic Period; Deadline November 20

Module 8

- “The Romantic Period (1785-1832)”
- [William Blake](#); [“The Lamb”](#); “The Chimney Sweeper” – [version 1](#) & [version 2](#); [“The Tyger”](#); [“London”](#)
- [Joanna Baillie biography](#); [“A Mother to Her Waking Infant”](#) (shared PDF files)
- [William Wordsworth](#); [“Lines Composed a Few Miles above Tintern Abbey”](#)
- [Samuel Taylor Coleridge](#); [“Frost at Midnight”](#)
- [George Gordon, Lord Byron](#); [“Darkness”](#)
- [Percy Bysshe Shelley](#); [“Mont Blanc”](#)
- [John Keats](#); [“To Autumn”](#)
- **ESSAY: CRITICAL REVIEW DUE**

Unit 7: The Victorian Age; Deadline November 27

Module 9

- “The Victorian Age (1830-1901)”
- [Elizabeth Barrett Browning](#); [Aurora Leigh](#) (website; lines 1-498)
- [Alfred, Lord Tennyson](#); [“In Memoriam A. H. H.”](#)
- [Matthew Arnold](#); [“Dover Beach”](#)
- [Gerard Manley Hopkins](#); [“No worst, there is none”](#)
- *“Essay: Close Reading” assigned*

Unit 8: The Twentieth Century and After; Deadline December 4**Module 10**

- “The Twentieth Century and After”
- [Virginia Woolf](#); “[Professions for Women](#)” (website)
- [T. S. Eliot](#); “[The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock](#)” & [Tradition and the Individual Talent](#)

Unit 9: Final Essay/Presentation; Deadline December 5**Module 11**

- **ESSAY: CLOSE READING DUE**
- **PRESENTATION**

Course Grading Information:

Grades in the course will be based on a sum of the weighted average of the grades the student earns for each course requirement. Please refer to the course requirements for the instructor’s expectations of students.

Final grades will correspond to the following scale:

A = 90-100 B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69 F = 0-59

Course grades will be based on the following percentages:

Course Requirement	Percentage
Reading Quizzes	10%
Discussion Board Participation	10%
Midterm Exam	25%
Critical Review	15%
Close Reading Essay	25%
Presentation	15%

*Note: I reserve the right to adjust these percentages as necessary

I am more than happy to discuss any questions students may have concerning the grades they receive. However, I ask that students take plenty of time to review the grade and determine what question(s) to ask *before* contacting me to discuss the assignment grade.

Course Requirements:

Reading Quizzes: Students can expect quizzes over assigned readings during the semester. Each quiz will consist of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, and/or essay questions that will test the student’s critical thinking over the reading assignment. Students wishing to earn high marks on these quizzes must complete all assigned readings, actively engage with the

material they are reading, and consider the overall meaning of the text within its historical and social context.

Discussion Board: Regular participation is required of all students, regardless of whether the class meets face to face or is completed online. In online courses, the discussion board is one of the main places a student participates in the course.

Discussion Board Participation in Modules: In most modules, you will be required to make **three posts** on a discussion board. For your first post, you need to create a new thread and respond to **at least one** of the questions your instructor will post to get the discussion started. Additionally, you need to provide **two additional responses to posts made by two different classmates**. Your discussion board posts need to be substantive, meaning you need to say more than “That’s interesting” or “I agree.”

Discussion Board Rubric: All discussion boards are worth 10 points. The following rubric will be used to determine discussion board grades:

- 8-10 points – substantive posts that contribute to the class’s overall understanding of the text; minimum of three posts.
- 7 points – posts that demonstrate a basic level of understanding of the reading; minimum of three posts.
- 6 points – posts that demonstrate that you have completed the reading; minimum of three posts.
- 0-5 points – two posts or fewer.

Midterm: The midterm will be available under **Unit 5/Module 7**. The midterm will include both multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, and essay questions. It may cover any reading that has been reviewed prior to the date of the midterm. Students can expect to encounter questions that ask them to compare and/or contrast texts by two or more authors. Students wishing to earn high marks on their midterm must complete all assigned readings and participate in discussion boards.

Critical Review: Each student must complete a critical review over one of the assigned readings. A critical review is a summary of an academic article over one of the assigned readings. Simply read the article; write a 500-word summary of the contents of that article and describe how the article has enhanced your understanding of the course text; and submit the essay to Brightspace for grading. Students who submit effective, well written summaries that identify the argument of the article, the author’s main supporting points, and what they learned from the article will earn the highest marks on this assignment. **The Critical Review must be submitted under Unit 6/Module 8.**

Close Reading Essay: Each student must complete a close reading essay. The goal of this essay is to gain an appreciation of the interrelations of the elements of a literary work. In this essay, students will write about a poem assigned as reading in the course. Students will provide a close reading of the poem in the essay, paying attention to elements like form, structure, language, and sound (to name a few). This close reading must advance a thesis – the student’s argument about the importance or significance of one or more elements within the poem. The only outside source that may be used in this essay is a dictionary – preferably *The Oxford English Dictionary* (available via MCC’s library web page). The essay must be **750-1,500 words in length and conform to MLA format**. Students wishing to earn high marks on their essay must offer a clear thesis that is supported via appropriate references to the assigned poem. **The Close Reading Essay must be submitted under Unit 9/Module 11.**

Presentation: Each student will also be required to submit a short, 2 to 3-minute video presentation. Topics vary from semester to semester. Students wishing to earn high marks on their presentation must follow the directions for the assignment carefully and include all the required information in their presentation. The presentation deadline is posted in the course calendar on Brightspace. **The Presentation must be submitted under Unit 9/Module 11.**

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

Late work: Work may only be submitted after the published deadline in the event of an excused absence (i.e. personal illness or illness in the family; death in the family; observance of a religious holiday). Students are asked to contact the instructor via email as soon as they believe they may miss a course deadline due to an excused absence. An extension on the late work will be granted via email, so students need to look for an instructor response in their MCC email account after informing the instructor about their situation.

*COVID-19 Note: If you or someone you care for contracts COVID-19, please be sure to fill out MCC’s [self-reporting form](#). In addition to confirming to your instructors that you have an excused absence, this form ensures that MCC can take adequate measures to contact trace and inform close contacts of their exposure (following all HIPAA and FERPA requirements). The information you provide on this form helps to protect the entire MCC community.

Attendance: To remain in good standing in this course, all students must submit one graded assignment each week of the semester. Attendance will be recorded at weekly intervals, and students who do not participate regularly by submitting an assignment each week may be contacted by the instructor or a Success Coach.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

Students are expected to improve their own reading, thinking, and writing skills and to assist their fellow classmates to do the same. To create comfortable learning environment for all

present, students are asked to respect their colleagues. Disrespectful comments on discussion boards will not be tolerated. Repeat offenders will be dropped from the course, and they will be reported to MCC's Discipline Coordinator.

Additionally, students are asked to carefully consider the content of their communications to their instructor and classmates. Is it clear? Does it communicate its main idea well? Has it been edited and proofread? Make sure you can answer yes to all these questions before you submit your discussion board posts and emails.

Course Policy on Academic Dishonesty

Students found to be guilty of acts of academic dishonesty (including but not limited to sharing coursework with a classmate, presenting the work of another's as their own, copying from sources without documentation, purchasing papers, copying another's work, and gaining access to quiz and/or test answers prior to taking the quiz/test) are subject to college policy as found in the Highlander Guide. In addition, in this class, students are subject to the following discipline:

- First Offense: Warning
- Second Offense: failing grade on the assignment & report to MCC's Discipline Coordinator
- Third Offense: failing grade in the course & report to MCC's Discipline Coordinator

[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)

(<https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html>)

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have additional guidelines specific to this course.

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ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

Accommodations/ADA Statement:

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit <https://www.mclennan.edu/disability/>.

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

disabilities@mclennan.edu

254-299-8122

Room 319, Student Services Center

Title IX:

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Chief of Staff for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion/Title IX) at (254) 299-8645. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at MCC at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student or employee may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <https://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/incidentLandingPageV2-MCC.asp>.

Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at <https://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/>. It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you

or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

Student Support/Resources:

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>.

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu. Students may visit the Completion Center Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. to schedule a meeting with a Success Coach and receive additional resources and support to help reach academic and personal goals. Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff based on household size. Text (254) 870-7573 to schedule a pantry appointment. The Completion Center and pantry are located on the Second Floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html> to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf.

MCC Academic Integrity Statement:

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity/> for information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-Staff-Commons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

Minimum Technical Skills:

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

Backup Plan for Technology:

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

Email Policy:

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy regarding college email, which can be found at <https://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails. For more information about your student email account, go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/student-email/>.

Instructional Uses of Email:

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

Email on Mobile Devices:

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email Helpdesk@mclennan.edu for help.

You can find help on the McLennan website about connecting your McLennan email account to your mobile device:

- [Email Setup for iPhones and iPads](#)
- [Email Setup for Androids](#)

Forwarding Emails:

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

For more helpful information about technology at MCC, go to [MCC's Tech Support Cheat Sheet](#) or email helpdesk@mclennan.edu.

Disclaimer:

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.