ENGL 200A: English Literature to 1660
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COURSE OVERVIEW
In this course we will consult a broad range of medieval and early modern literature from Old English to Shakespeare. No prior knowledge of these texts or eras is expected, and all course texts other than Shakespeare will be modern English translations (so no need to worry about learning Old English!). Through lectures, discussions, and essay assignments we will cover a wide array of historical and literary topics from the early medieval period up to 1660, with particular attention to our main course texts, which cover Old English epic, Middle English romance, and renaissance drama. By the end of the course you will have been introduced to the main literary, historical, and linguistic influences on English literature across a period of roughly 1000 years, and have shaped your own literary tastes and analytical thoughts with regard to these.

PROPOSED TEXTS
- Beowulf
- Sir Orfeo
- Sir Gawain and the Green Knight
- Thomas Malory, Le Morte Darthur
- William Shakespeare, Hamlet

PROPOSED ASSIGNMENTS
- Short essays 40%
- Research essay 30%
- Final exam 30%

A NOTE ON THE TEXTS
You will need to purchase two course texts, both of which will be available at the UVic Bookstore:

Two further course texts will also be available to purchase, but these are optional as they are also available as e-books through UVic libraries, at no additional cost to UVic students: