ENGL 200A
English Literature to 1660

Instructor: Allan Mitchell
Email: amitch@uvic.ca
Web: https://bit.ly/2wjvYOm

Course description:
A survey of Medieval and Renaissance English literature, focusing on selected authors, genres, and forms. You will become acquainted with influential texts in relation to specific cultural, technological, and linguistic developments.

Topics will include love and sexual transgression, spiritual experience and church authority, performance and court politics, and the changing status and significance of the English language. You will study different forms of composition (i.e., prose, poetry, and drama) and analyze the ways in which they are written to achieve specific effects. How did texts work to seduce, surprise, comfort, persuade, or even agitate readers? What were some attitudes towards representation itself?

One of the most important aims of the class is to increase your understanding and enjoyment of literary texts, sharpening your sense of the cultural dynamics of early English literature.

Proposed Assignments

- Quizzes
- Short Papers
- Research Essay
- Final Exam

Proposed Texts

- *The Norton Anthology of English Literature: The Middle Ages*
- *The Norton Anthology of English Literature: The Sixteenth and Early Seventeenth Century*