HU 2538 Course Syllabus

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Introduction:

HU 2538: The British Experience in Literature is a survey of selected works of British literature from its origins to the present. The course focuses on historical trends in the development of the English language and the cultures of Great Britain. In Track B of the summer semester of 2015 HU 2538 is designed especially for students participating in the Study Abroad Program in Carlisle, England, but it is also available as an online course for other students. The readings for the course range from Beowulf (anonymous poem written about the year 1000) to Virginia Woolf (writing in the 1920s). Below I have prepared a schedule of reading, viewing and writing assignments to begin on July 12, 2015. There will be two short reading responses (500-600 words each) and one longer essay (1000 words) required of students in the course.

Basis for Final Grade:

2 Reading Response Essays @ 30 points each
1 Longer Essay @ 40 points
Total: 100 points

Grading Scale:
A = 93-100
AB = 88-92
B = 83-87.
BC = 78-82.
C = 73-77
CD = 68-72
D = 60-67
F = 59 or below

Required Texts:
You'll need to acquire two books: The Longman Anthology of British Literature Volumes 1A, and 2C. These are available on Amazon in several different editions. Any edition published after 2006 is acceptable.

Course Schedule:

Available for viewing pre-departure:
(Note: Your book may have a different translation of the poem from one I'm using in these videos)
Introduction to Beowulf, part 1 (Links to an external site.)

Introduction to Beowulf, part 2 (Links to an external site.)

Introduction to Beowulf, part 3 (Links to an external site.)

Introduction to Beowulf, part 4 (Links to an external site.)

Introduction to Beowulf, part 5 (Links to an external site.)

July 16 (Thu): "The Middle Ages (Links to an external site.)" (Longman Anthology 3-26)
Powerpoint on Prosody (Links to an external site.) in Modern English and Beowulf
Beowulf Powerpoint 1 (Links to an external site.)
Beowulf Powerpoint 2 (Links to an external site.) (Lines 1-300)
Beowulf Outline (Links to an external site.) (Compiled by Prof. Jonathan Glenn)
Sparknotes Summary of Beowulf (Links to an external site.)
July 17 (Fri): Day Trip 1 (Neolithic Circles and Baronial Castles)

July 20 (Mon): Day Trip 2 (Hadrian's Wall)

July 21 (Tue): Beowulf (Longman Anthology 27-91)
Beowulf Powerpoint 3 (Links to an external site.) (Lines 301-709)
Beowulf Powerpoint 4 (Links to an external site.)
Beowulf Powerpoint 5 (Links to an external site.)
For further reading and viewing:
Video: The Hero's Adventure (Links to an external site.) (Bill Moyers interviews Joseph Campbell)
John Gardner, from Grendel (Longman Anthology 93-6)

Movie Night: Beowulf (2007)

First Reading Response Due

July 22 (Wed): Chaucer, Canterbury Tales, "General Prologue" (Longman, 316--357)
Sparknotes Guide to Canterbury Tales General Prologue (Links to an external site.)
Canterbury Tales Powerpoint 1 (Links to an external site.)
July 23 (Thu): Day Trip 3 (The Scottish Borders)

July 24 (Fri): Chaucer, Canterbury Tales, "General Prologue" (Longman, 316--357);
Chaucer Powerpoint 2 (Links to an external site.)

July 25 (Sat): York Trip
July 26 (Sun): York Trip
July 27: (Mon) York Trip
July 28: (Tue) York Trip July 29 (Wed) York Trip
July 30 (Thu): Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*

Powerpoint: Perspectives on the Twentieth Century (Links to an external site.)
Heart of Darkness Powerpoint 1 (Links to an external site.)
Sparknotes for Heart of Darkness (Links to an external site.)
Movie Night: *Pandaemonium*

July 31 (Fri): Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*

August 3 (Mon): Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*

Heart of Darkness Powerpoint 2 (Links to an external site.)
August 4 (Tue): Day Trip 4 (Edinburgh)

August 5 (Wed): Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*

Heart of Darkness Powerpoint 3 (Links to an external site.)
Movie Night: *Apocalypse Now*

Second Reading Response Essay Due

August 6 (Thu): Day Trip 5: (Lancaster)

August 7 (Fri): Virginia Woolf, "A Room of One's Own"
A Room of One's Own Powerpoint 1 (Links to an external site.)
August 10 (Mon): Virginia Woolf "A Room of One's Own"
A Room of One's Own Powerpoint 2 (Links to an external site.)

August 12 (Wed) Final Essay Due