

EN121-30 Medieval and Early Modern Literature

26/27

Department

English and Comparative Literary Studies

Level

Undergraduate Level 1

Module leader

Sarah Wood

Credit value

30

Module duration

19 weeks

Assessment

50% coursework, 50% exam

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module will study a number of works of medieval and early modern literature in the context of contemporary beliefs and historical and social developments. The module will be taught by means of language classes (first term only) to introduce students to Middle English; lectures on the historical, cultural and critical context; and seminars to discuss particular texts.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

This module will study a number of works of medieval and early modern literature in the context of contemporary beliefs and historical and social developments. The module will be taught by means of language classes (first term only) to introduce students to Middle English; lectures on the historical, cultural and critical context; and seminars to discuss particular texts.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be

covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Texts studied will include works by Chaucer, Sidney, Spencer, and Mary Wroth; Sir Gawain and the Green Knight; early modern travel writing; medieval and early modern drama.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Show some skill in reading Middle English and a basic understanding of the structure and history of the English language
- Demonstrate some knowledge of Medieval English literature (especially the work of Chaucer and his contemporaries), society and culture; of the forms and metres of English poetry; and of sixteenth-century and early seventeenth-century poetry, prose, and drama in its intellectual and social context
- Demonstrate an understanding of the conventions of academic writing and presentation within the discipline and of the use of scholarly resources;
- Show an ability to compare, describe and interpret literary texts in response to essay questions provided by the module tutor.

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

Research element

Research for essay

Subject specific skills

Show skill in reading Middle English and some understanding of the structure and history of the English language

Demonstrate some knowledge of Medieval English literature (especially the work of Chaucer and his contemporaries), society and culture

Show awareness of the forms and metres of English poetry

Demonstrate some knowledge of early modern literature and its intellectual and social context

Transferable skills

Essay writing and research skills

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	19 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Seminars	19 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Other activity	4 hours (1%)
Private study	258 hours (86%)
Total	300 hours

Private study description

Reading primary texts and recommended further reading from the module reading list; researching and writing essays.

Other activity description

Language and commentary classes (weeks 2-5 term 1 only)

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group C1

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Assessed essay	50%		Yes (extension)
Reassessment component is the same			
Assessment component			
Centrally-timetabled examination (Online)	50%		No
Students will write one essay (60% of the exam mark) and one commentary (40% of the exam mark).			

~Platforms - WAS

- Online examination: No Answerbook required

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Written feedback on essay and optional consultation with tutor during office hours.

[Past exam papers for EN121](#)

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of UENA-Q300 Undergraduate English Literature
- Year 1 of UENA-QP36 Undergraduate English Literature and Creative Writing
- Year 1 of UTHA-QW34 Undergraduate English and Theatre Studies

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 1 of UHPA-QR34 Undergraduate English and Hispanic Studies
- Year 1 of UENA-VQ32 Undergraduate English and History
- Year 1 of UPHA-VQ72 Undergraduate Philosophy and Literature

This module is Optional for:

- Year 1 of UENA-VQ32 Undergraduate English and History
- Year 1 of UPHA-VQ72 Undergraduate Philosophy and Literature

This module is Core option list A for:

- Year 1 of UCXA-QQ39 Undergraduate English and Classical Civilisation
- Year 1 of UFRA-QR3C Undergraduate English and French (3 year)
- Year 1 of ULNA-QR37 Undergraduate English and German
- Year 1 of ULNA-QR38 Undergraduate English and Italian

This module is Core option list B for:

- Year 1 of ULNA-QR00 Undergraduate English and Italian (3 Year)

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 1 of UFRA-QR3C Undergraduate English and French (3 year)
- Year 1 of UHPA-QR3B Undergraduate English and Hispanic Studies (3 year)

This module is Option list B for:

- Year 1 of UFRA-QR3A Undergraduate English and French