

Bus 3920.001
Making Money in Medieval and Renaissance England
Summer Session 1
T, H 1-4pm
SFEBB 1170

Professor: Disa Gambera
TA: Paula Mendoza

This course aims to introduce you to the work of Chaucer and Shakespeare in order to learn about how past centuries thought about the relationship between business and individual identity while also considering what these concepts might mean for us today. We'll take the idea of the "transaction" and consider how these literary texts reveal a world in which human relationships are understood in economic terms.

We'll be handing out a more complete syllabus on the first day of class, but here is some basic information about the course.

You are required to buy or rent the following 3 books for the course:

1. Geoffrey Chaucer, *The Canterbury Tales in Modern Verse*, Joseph Glaser translator, Hackett Classics: 9780872207547
2. William Shakespeare, *Troilus and Cressida*, Signet Editions: 9780451528476
3. *The Merchant of Venice*, Signet Editions: 9780451526809

All three texts are available through the Campus Store. Please order your books now if you have not already done so. We will be using the Chaucer first.

If you have not read Shakespeare before and would like some additional help with his language, there are two optional texts you may purchase IN ADDITION to the Signet editions above (these cannot be substitutes). These are also available through the Campus Store

No Fear Shakespeare: The Merchant of Venice: 9781586638504 (published by SparkNotes)
Troilus and Cressida in Plain and Simple English: 9781478342540

Course Policies:

This will be an electronics-free classroom. No laptops, e-readers, or cell phones will be allowed during class.

Attendance is mandatory. Everyone may have one free absence; additional absences will lower your grade. Missing 4 or more class sessions will be grounds for failing the course. To be considered present you must stay for the entire length of the class.

Required Work:

6 Canvas discussions or short answer quizzes (30% of grade)

2 papers of 3-4 pages each (30% of grade). **You must write both papers to pass this class.**

1 group presentation (20% of grade)

Attendance (20% of grade)

READING SCHEDULE

Week One: Chaucer: *The Canterbury Tales in Modern Verse* (Joseph Glaser translator)

T 5/14: Course Introduction

H 5/16: read the Introduction pages 1-17, then the General Prologue pp. 21-42

Week Two: Chaucer

T 5/21: The Knight through The Reeve, pp. 43-102

H 5/23: The Wife of Bath pp. 107-140

Week Three: Chaucer

T 5/28: The Merchant and Franklin pp. 188-240

H 5/30: The Friar, Summoner and Pardoner pp. 141-168, 249-265

Week Four: Shakespeare: *Troilus and Cressida*

T 6/04: *T&C* Acts 1&2 (pp. 1-58)

H 6/06: *T&C* Acts 3&4 (pp. 59-110)

****Paper #1 due on Friday 6/07****

Week Five: *Troilus and Cressida* and *The Merchant of Venice*

T 6/11: *T&C* Act 5 (pp. 111-141), and *The Merchant of Venice* Act 1 (pp. 3-20)

H 6/13: *Merchant* Acts 2&3 (pp. 21-70)

Week Six: *The Merchant of Venice*

T 6/18: *Merchant* Acts 4&5 (pp. 71-100)

****Paper 2 due by Monday June 24****

Canvas discussion or short answer quiz due every Wednesday by 11:59pm

Group presentations will start in the fourth week of classes.