ENGL 5350-110 Studies in Lit. Before 1500: *Pearl*-Poet
Texas A&M University – Central Texas

Fall 2020
Instructor: Dr. Amber Dunai
Email: Canvas Course Email
Alternate Email: adunai@tamuct.edu

Modality: Online with Synchronous Meetings
Meeting Platform: WebEx
Meeting Times: Monday 6-8:45 PM
Office Hours: By appointment via WebEx

Course Description
A study of representative types of pre-1500 literature in English. Topics may vary. May be repeated for credit when topics vary.

This semester will focus on the four poems of the *Pearl* manuscript (British Library MS Cotton Nero A.x): *Pearl*, *Cleanness*, *Patience*, and *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. We will read the four poems with attention to linguistic detail; additionally, analysis of each poem will be accompanied by selected readings in scholarship which analyze it from a variety of perspectives.

Objectives
By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- Read and comprehend the works of the *Pearl*-Poet in the original Middle English.
- Analyze the poems of the *Pearl* manuscript from a variety of perspectives and in conversation with relevant scholarship.
- Engage in a scholarly conversation related to one or more works of the *Pearl* manuscript by conducting research and composing a thorough literature review of the scholarly conversation you intend to enter.
- Produce a well-developed literary analysis of one or more works of the *Pearl* manuscript which engages successfully with one or more relevant scholarly conversations, and present your research and analysis to your peers.

Required Textbooks
*The textbook must be purchased in the exact edition listed below.*

Note that this edition comes with a free digital prose translation of the poems. Please make sure that you can access this resource after purchasing your copy of the book.

Additional readings in scholarship will be made available through TAMUCT library e-reserves or on Canvas.

Course Reading Schedule
Readings and assignments should be completed by the day on which they are listed.

Abbrivation Key: ER (electronic reserves)

WEEK 1  8/24: Introduction
WEEK 2  8/31: *Pearl* prose translation, *Pearl* I-VI, ER: Andrew
WEEK 3  9/7: (No WebEx meeting due to Labor Day holiday: see Canvas for instructions on discussion board activity related to weekly readings) ER: Petroff, Spearing, Riddy
WEEK 4  9/14: *Pearl* VII-XIII, ER: Bloomfield, Bowers
WEEK 5  9/21: *Pearl* XIV-XX, ER: Aers, Beal; 9/25: Translation & Analysis 1 Due
WEEK 6  9/28: *Cleanness* prose translation, *Cleanness* lines 1-600, ER: Brzezinski
WEEK 7  10/5: *Cleanness* lines 601-1174; ER: Frantzen, Wallace
WEEK 8  10/12: *Cleanness* lines 1175-1810, ER: Potkay, Ingledew; 10/16: Translation & Analysis 2 Due
WEEK 9  10/22: *Patience* prose translation, *Patience* lines 1-530 (entire poem)
WEEK 10 10/26: ER: Benson, Davis, Spearing, Vasta; Research Proposal Due
WEEK 11 11/2: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* prose translation, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* I (lines 1-490), ER: Brewer, Stevens; 11/6: Translation & Analysis 3 Due
WEEK 12 11/9: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* II (lines 491-1125), ER: Pugh, Rendall
WEEK 13 11/16: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* III (lines 1126-1197), ER: Heng; 11/20: Literature Review Due
WEEK 14 11/23: Individual Paper Conferences (no class meeting)
WEEK 15 11/30: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* IV (lines 1198-2530), ER: Utter, Watson; 12/4: Translation & Analysis 4 Due
WEEK 16 12/7: Research Presentations (Discussion Board Activity); 12/11: Research Essays Due

Grades
15% Participation
10% Translation & Analysis 1
10% Translation & Analysis 2
10% Translation & Analysis 3
10% Translation & Analysis 4
10% Literature Review
30% Research Essay
5% Research Presentation

Grading scale: 90-100: A; 80-89: B; 70-79: C; 60-69: D; 0-59: F

All grades will be posted to Canvas’s grade book, and students will be able to view their grades (along with instructor feedback) as they are returned. You can generally expect grades to be returned within one week of the assignment deadline.

Assignment Due Dates

*Assignments are due by 11:59 PM on the day listed.*

Translation & Analysis 1: Friday, September 25
Translation & Analysis 2: Friday, October 16
Research Proposal (contributes to Week 10 participation score): Monday, October 26
Translation & Analysis 3: Friday, November 6
Literature Review: Friday, November 20
Translation & Analysis 4: Friday, December 4
Research Presentation: Monday, December 7 (responses to peers’ posts are due by Friday, December 11)
Research Essay: Friday, December 11

Participation

Participation is based on course attendance and involvement in class discussions and activities. You will receive a participation score (rated 0-10, with 10 representing excellent participation and 0 representing no participation) at the end of each week, and the average of weekly participation scores will determine the final participation score. Students will receive full points for attending the entire class meeting, contributing to discussion regularly, completing assigned readings and any other preparation work required for each meeting, and generally remaining engaged and on-task. Students may lose some or all of their weekly participation points due to tardiness, a lack of engagement in conversation or other in-class activities, or being unable to contribute meaningfully during class due to lack of preparation (such as failing to complete assigned readings or writing assignments). The Week 3 participation score will be based upon
completion of a discussion board activity, and during Week 14, the weekly participation score will be based upon an individual paper conference with the instructor. Additionally, during Week 10, completion of the research proposal will factor into the week’s participation score. See the Attendance Policy for information regarding the participation score and absences.

Translation & Analysis Papers
The translation & analysis papers are designed to gauge students’ engagement with and ability to perform detail-oriented linguistic and critical analysis of the poems of the *Pearl* manuscript. Each paper will require that students select a passage of the poem read and analyzed during the previous weeks to “translate” to modern English. The translation will be included in a short essay which first identifies and discusses significant interpretive decisions which informed the student’s translation of the passage and then draws the translated passage into the larger context of the poem, illuminating its significance and what it contributes to the student’s reading of the poem as a whole. Students will complete four of these papers, one for each of the four poems. A prompt and rubric for the Translation & Analysis assignment will be made available on Canvas.

Translation & Analysis 1 will focus on a passage from *Pearl.*
Translation & Analysis 2 will focus on a passage from *Cleanness.*
Translation & Analysis 3 will focus on a passage from *Patience.*
Translation & Analysis 4 will focus on a passage from *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight.*

Literature Review
For this assignment, students will locate, discuss, and place in scholarly conversation with one another least twelve peer-reviewed sources of relevance to the Research Essay project (see below). A prompt and rubric for this assignment will be made available on Canvas.

Research Essay & Presentation
Each student will produce a 12-15-page research paper which performs a well-developed literary analysis of one or more poems of the *Pearl* manuscript while engaging with one or more relevant scholarly conversations. During the last week of the semester, students will record presentations on their research to share on the discussion board and will post questions and comments to one another’s presentations. Prompts and rubrics for both assignments will be made available on Canvas.

Instructor Availability
You are welcome to contact me with questions or comments via email (but please send emails to me via the Canvas messaging system, unless the site is down). I endeavor to answer all
emails within 24 hours of receiving them, not counting weekends and holidays. Office hour meetings are available by appointment and will be held via the WebEx service in Canvas. You may request an appointment by email. I do ask that any appointment request be made at least 24 hours in advance of the desired meeting time to guarantee that I have time to review and respond to them. Do not assume that the meeting will take place unless I have responded to your request and confirmed the time.

Draft Review Policy
Students often ask me whether I’ll look at drafts of major assignments and give advice on how to improve them. The answer is yes; however, students who wish for me to review an entire draft must schedule a WebEx appointment in order to discuss the paper. I will not review drafts that are emailed to me with no explanation; over email, I will only address specific questions that can be answered in a brief email response.

Online Course Etiquette
Students are to maintain a high level of collegiality and respect when interacting with one another and the instructor, whether over email, during a WebEx meeting, or on the discussion board. The same expectations for professional and respectful behavior apply online as in the face-to-face classroom. Disagreements are a normal and often productive aspect of academic discourse, and differences in viewpoint relevant to course content may be expressed and explored during discussion activities. However, participants engaged in discussion must remain respectful to all parties involved and focused on topics relevant to the activity at hand.

Late Submission Policy
I do not accept late/make-up work for assignments unless the student has missed the deadline due to an excused reason (for example, an illness or emergency situation experienced by the student or a member of his or her immediate family). Whenever possible, students should notify me before the assignment deadline if they believe they cannot meet it and let me know why. At that time, I will determine whether an extension is appropriate (based upon the student’s reason for missing the deadline) and, if it is, set a new deadline. After a new deadline for the assignment is established, you must abide by this deadline or else receive a zero on the assignment. In all situations involving missed and/or extended deadlines, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor if any issues arise. If I do not hear from you and do not have your submission after a deadline passes, I will assume that you do not intend to turn in the assignment and will put a zero in the gradebook. Additionally, extensions must be requested in a timely manner. If a student has not requested an extension within two
calendar days (48 hours) of the deadline, the grade will remain zero unless the student can provide a reasonable explanation regarding why it was not possible to contact me sooner.

Attendance Policy
This semester will include weekly meetings over WebEx. Because class meetings this semester will be light on lecture and heavy on activity and discussion, and because graduate students are particularly responsible for contributing to the productivity of class meetings, attendance is of utmost importance. You may miss one class this semester without an excused reason before your participation score will be affected. Any unexcused absences beyond this will result in a zero participation score for the missed weekly meeting.

Program Assessment Statement
To ensure the learning outcomes are met in the English Department, there is a program-wide artifact collection process. To that end, some of the projects you complete for ENGL 5350 this semester may be used for programmatic assessment. Please note that all efforts will be made to keep your identity anonymous; as such, all identifying markers will be removed from your work if used for programmatic assessment. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dr. Dunai.

COVID-19 Safety Measures
To promote public safety and protect students, faculty, and staff during the coronavirus pandemic, Texas A&M University-Central Texas has adopted policies and practices to minimize virus transmission. All members of the university community are expected to adhere to these measures to ensure their own safety and the safety of others. Students must observe the following practices while participating in face-to-face courses, course-related activities (office hours, help sessions, transitioning to and between classes, study spaces, academic services, etc.) and co-curricular programs:

- Self-monitoring—Students should follow CDC recommendations for self-monitoring. Students who have a fever or exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 should participate in class remotely and should not participate in face-to-face instruction. Students required to quarantine must participate in courses and course-related activities remotely and must not attend face-to-face course activities. Students should notify their instructors of the quarantine requirement. Students under quarantine are expected to participate in courses and complete graded work unless they have symptoms that are too severe to participate in course activities.

- Face Coverings—Face coverings must be worn inside of buildings and within 50 feet of building entrances on the A&M-Central Texas Campus. This includes lobbies, restrooms, hallways, elevators, classrooms, laboratories, conference rooms, break rooms, non-private office spaces, and other shared spaces. Face coverings are also required in outdoor spaces where physical distancing is not maintained. The university will evaluate
exceptions to this requirement on a case by case basis. Students can request an exception through the Office of Access and Inclusion in Student Affairs.

- If a student refuses to wear a face covering, the instructor should ask the student to leave and join the class remotely. If the student does not leave the class, the faculty member should report that student to the Office of Student Conduct. Additionally, the faculty member may choose to teach that day’s class remotely for all students.

- Physical Distancing—Physical distancing must be maintained between students, instructors, and others in the course and course-related activities.

- Classroom Ingress/Egress—Students must follow marked pathways for entering and exiting classrooms and other teaching spaces. Leave classrooms promptly after course activities have concluded. Do not congregate in hallways and maintain 6-foot physical distancing when waiting to enter classrooms and other instructional spaces.

- The university will notify students in the event that the COVID-19 situation necessitates changes to the course schedule or modality.

Drop Policy
If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the Drop Request Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/casAuthentication.ashx?InstID=eaed95b9-f2be-45f3-a37d-46928168bc10&targetUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2FSubmit%2FForm%2FStart%2F53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar’s Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Registrar’s Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar’s Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Incompletes
Incompletes are only assigned due to unexpected emergency situations which occur after the final drop date (for example, an emergency medical situation experienced by the student). If you simply find yourself overwhelmed by the semester’s demands, you do not qualify for an incomplete. If you experience an emergency which you believe will prevent you from completing the semester’s work before the final drop date, you are expected to drop. If you
experience an unexpected emergency situation after the final drop date which you believe will prevent you from completing the semester’s work, please contact me as soon as possible so that we can discuss whether you qualify for an incomplete.

Technology Statement
Technology Requirements:
All work submitted this semester must be in Microsoft Word or PDF format, and you must be able to open Microsoft Word and PDF files on your computer in order to access important course documents.

In order to view course-related videos, you will require speakers on the device you use to access Canvas. In order to set a WebEx office hours appointment with the instructor, you will require a device with both speakers and a microphone (you can also join a WebEx meeting via telephone). Webcam use during WebEx meetings is optional.

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [https://tamuct.instructure.com/] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [https://tamuct.onecampus.com/]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

   Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

Canvas Support
Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select “Chat with Canvas Support,” submit a support request through “Report a Problem,” or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

Online Proctored Testing
A&M-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio also requires the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in.
Other Technology Support
For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central
24 hours a day, 7 days a week

   Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu
   Phone: (254) 519-5466
   Web Chat: [http://hdc.tamu.edu]

*Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.*

Academic Integrity
Texas A&M University - Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student’s academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student’s work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be reported to the university’s Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university’s standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more information regarding the Student Conduct process, [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html].
If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may submit a report, [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0].

*Instructor’s Note on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity:*
Plagiarism is the act of presenting another person’s work as if it were your own or failing to acknowledge your sources. This might be done by quoting a source without indicating that you are quoting (if you neglect to include quotation marks and/or a citation); paraphrasing or summarizing without acknowledging your source; and/or taking part or all of another text and presenting it as your own. Self-plagiarism (also known as “recycling” an assignment) means submitting part or all of an assignment that you previously submitted for credit in a course; this is also not permitted. You are responsible for understanding how to use sources correctly and
ethically. You are also responsible for understanding how to cite a source which you have quoted, paraphrased, or summarized. This course uses the 8th edition of MLA for formatting and citations. You can access the guidelines online at the Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL) website:
[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_and_style_guide.html].

If you have questions about using and citing sources, please ask. I am always happy to explain how to cite sources correctly and to provide any clarification needed regarding questions of academic integrity. Be aware that any assignment that fails to attribute sources properly, was written in part or in whole by someone other than the student who submitted it, and/or was previously submitted for credit to another course will receive a grade of zero and will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. Likewise, any other violations of academic integrity (such as collaborating on an assignment when the instructions are to work individually) will result in a grade of zero on the assignment in question and a report to the Office of Student Conduct. All major writing assignments will be checked for originality through a plagiarism-detecting service when they are uploaded to the assignment link.

Academic Accommodations
At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Office of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university’s programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our Access & Inclusion Canvas page (log-in required) [https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717]

Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students
Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs’ Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit Student Affairs [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html]. Students may also contact the institution’s Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more
Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University’s Title IX Coordinator.

The University Writing Center
The University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (TAMUCT) is a free service open to all TAMUCT students. For the Fall 2020 semester, all services will be online as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday with satellite hours online Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. The UWC is also offering hours from 12:00-3:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. By providing a practice audience for students’ ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students’ texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via WCONline [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC and/or need any assistance with scheduling.

Tutoring
Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, on a remote online basis. Visit the Academic Support Community in Canvas to view schedules and contact information. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors will return at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111 in the Fall 2020. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, success coaching, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 501-5836, visit the Office of Student Success at 212F Warrior Hall, or by emailing studentsuccess@tamuct.edu.
Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Library

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 85,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our Library website [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index].

For Fall 2020, all reference service will be conducted virtually. Please go to our Library website [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index] to access our virtual reference help and our current hours.

A Note About Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively
create environments that tell predators we don’t agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don’t be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the Title IX webpage [https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html].

Warrior Shield

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas

Warrior Shield is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in Warrior Shield through their myCT email account.

Connect to Warrior Shield by 911Cellular [https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in Warrior Shield, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

Copyright Notice

Students should assume that all course material is copyrighted by the respective author(s). Reproduction of course material is prohibited without consent by the author and/or course instructor. Violation of copyright is against the law and Texas A&M University-Central Texas’ Code of Academic Honesty. All alleged violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

*The professor reserves the right to amend this syllabus at any time. If changes are required, students will be notified immediately and provided with a copy of the updated section(s).*