

# ENGL 5352-110 Chaucer

Texas A&M University – Central Texas

Fall 2021

Instructor: Dr. Amber Dunai

Email: Canvas Course Email

Alternate Email: adunai@tamuct.edu

Office: Heritage Hall 204 K

Modality: Online with Synchronous Meetings

Meeting Platform: WebEx

Meeting Times: Monday 6-9 PM

Office Hours: WebEx meetings are available by appointment

## Course Description

An in-depth study of the language and literature of Geoffrey Chaucer, including his minor poetry and dream visions, *Troilus and Criseyde*, and the *Canterbury Tales*.

## Objectives

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

- Analyze Chaucer's literature in the original Middle English, and in terms of linguistic, literary, and historical contexts as well as various theoretical and methodological approaches, including those represented in assigned scholarship.
- Investigate the scholarly conversation(s) you intend to engage with in your term essay and contextualize your own project in relation to this/these conversation(s).
- Develop a sophisticated analysis of one or more assigned primary texts, taking into consideration feedback you receive during the drafting process and formal presentation of your work to your peers.
- Produce a polished essay which analyzes one or more assigned primary texts while engaging successfully with one or more relevant scholarly conversations.

## Required Textbooks

**Textbooks must be purchased in the editions listed below.**

Chaucer, Geoffrey. *The Canterbury Tales*. 2nd ed. Ed. Robert Boenig & Andrew Taylor. ISBN: 978-1554811069

Chaucer, Geoffrey. *Dream Visions and Other Poems*. Ed. Kathryn L. Lynch. ISBN: 978-0393925883

Chaucer, Geoffrey. *Troilus & Criseyde*. Ed. Stephen A. Barney. 978-0393927559

Additional readings will be made available through TAMU-CT library e-reserves or on Canvas.

## Course Reading Schedule

See below for an abbreviated course reading schedule; you will find an expanded version on Canvas. Readings should be completed by the day on which they are listed.

*Abbreviation Key: DV: Dream Visions and Other Poems; ER: Electronic Reserves*

- WEEK 1**      **8/23:** Introduction (no reading due, but please have *DV* handy for in-class discussion)
- WEEK 2**      **8/30:** *DV: The Book of the Duchess, The Parliament of Fowls*, ER: Raby; **9/3: Week 2 Post-Meeting Discussion Due**
- WEEK 3**      **9/6:** *DV: The House of Fame*, ER: Evans
- WEEK 4**      **9/13:** *Troilus & Criseyde* Books 1-3; **9/17: Week 4 Post-Meeting Discussion Due**
- WEEK 5**      **9/20:** *Troilus & Criseyde* Books 4-5
- WEEK 6**      **9/27:** *Canterbury Tales*: General Prologue, ER: Nolan, Rigby; **10/1: Week 6 Post-Meeting Discussion Due**
- WEEK 7**      **10/4:** *Canterbury Tales*: The Knight's Tale, ER: Shimomura
- WEEK 8**      **10/11:** *Canterbury Tales*: The Miller's Prologue & Tale, The Reeve's Prologue & Tale, The Cook's Prologue & Tale, ER: Harris; **10/15: Week 8 Post-Meeting Discussion Due**
- WEEK 9**      **10/18:** *Canterbury Tales*: The Man of Law's Prologue & Tale, The Wife of Bath's Prologue & Tale, ER: Dinshaw
- WEEK 10**      **10/25:** *Canterbury Tales*: The Friar's Prologue & Tale, The Summoner's Prologue & Tale, The Pardoner's Prologue & Tale, ER: Pugh; **10/29: Week 10 Post-Meeting Discussion Due**
- WEEK 11**      **11/1:** *Canterbury Tales*: The Clerk's Prologue & Tale, The Merchant's Prologue & Tale, ER: Mitchell; **Essay Topic Proposal Due (via email by 11:59 PM)**
- WEEK 12**      **11/8:** *Canterbury Tales*: The Squire's Prologue & Tale, The Franklin's Prologue & Tale, Chaucer's *Tale of Sir Thopas* with Prologue, Prologue to Chaucer's *Tale of Melibee*, ER: Raybin; **11/12: Week 12 Post-Meeting Discussion Due**
- WEEK 13**      **11/15:** *Canterbury Tales*: The Physician's Tale, The Prioress's Prologue & Tale, The Monk's Prologue & Tale, The Nun's Priest's Prologue, ER: Fradenburg, Heng; **11/19: Essay Draft 1 Due**
- WEEK 14**      **11/22:** *Canterbury Tales*: The Nun's Priest's Tale, The Parson's Prologue & Tale (excerpt), Chaucer's Retraction, *DV: Chaucer's Words to Adam, His Own Scribe*, ER: Cook
- WEEK 15**      **11/29: Individual Conference (No Regular Class Meeting)**
- WEEK 16**      **12/6: Research Presentations (in class); 12/10: Essay Draft 2 Due**

## Grades

20% Participation

10% Essay Draft 1

65% Essay Draft 2

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.

## Major Assignment Due Dates

Essay Draft 1: Friday, November 19 (11:59 PM)

Research Presentation: Monday, December 6 (in-class)

Essay Draft 2: Friday, December 10 (11:59 PM)

## Participation

This score is based on 1) active participation in course meetings (including any required conferences with the instructor, as in Week 15) as well as 2) participation in the post-meeting discussion forums due every other week from Weeks 2-12 and completion of any other required activities (such as the emailed essay topic proposal due in Week 11). Preparation for and participation in meetings this semester is of great importance and constitutes a form of work which is required for this course; being able to discuss assigned readings and participate in activities contributes not just to your own experience in the course, but enriches your peers' experiences as well. For that reason, each "missed" opportunity to participate (meaning that the student either missed the class without an excused reason, attended but made no substantive contributions to discussion, or neglected to complete a required follow-up discussion post or turned in a discussion post which did not fulfill prompt specifications) after the first two will result in a loss of half of the possible points that could be earned for participation, resulting in a letter grade drop. This means that two "missed" participation opportunities beyond the allotted ones will result in the loss of all possible participation points, resulting in a deduction of two letter grades. **In short, participation in class as well as in corresponding discussion forums is not optional; this participation must be active, substantive, and consistent in order for students to earn all possible participation points.**

## Essay (Draft 1 and 2) & Presentation

Each student will produce a 15-20-page essay which performs a well-developed literary analysis of one or more assigned primary texts while engaging with one or more scholarly conversations relevant to the essay's thesis. Two drafts of the essay will be required so that students can revise their work after receiving feedback on Draft 1. During the last week of the semester, students will give presentations on their research and engage in discussion of their peers' projects. Prompts for these 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 via WebEx. 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, confirmed the time, and sent you a WebEx invitation.

## Draft Review Policy

Students often ask me whether I'll look at drafts of assignments before the deadline 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 an appointment in order to discuss the paper. I will not review drafts that are emailed to me with no explanation; over email, I will limit my commentary to specific items that can be addressed in a brief email response. Additionally, I will not predict the grade that a draft might receive either prior to or after revision.

## 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

Generally, I do not accept late/make-up work for assignments unless the student has missed the deadline due to an excused reason. However, I will consider granting extensions *before the*

*deadline has passed* if students are facing challenges which merit one. Whenever possible, students should notify me **before** the assignment deadline if they believe they cannot meet it. At that time, I will determine whether an extension is appropriate and, if so, 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 (see the Participation section of the syllabus). For that reason, if you need to miss a class meeting due to a reason you believe would be excused, you should notify me as soon as possible, preferably before the meeting that would be missed.

## 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 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.

## Important University Dates

For important university dates, see <https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html>.

## 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 attend a WebEx course meeting or 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](mailto: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](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 9<sup>th</sup> 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](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](https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717) 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) [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 about these [requirements and guidelines](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf) online, please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

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

Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (A&M–Central Texas) is a free service open to all A&M–Central Texas students. For the Fall 2021 semester, the hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday in Warrior Hall 416 (with online tutoring available every hour as well) with satellite hours available online only Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. 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. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. 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 WOnline at <https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto:bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu) if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor by making an appointment via WOnline at <https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto:bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu) if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor.

## 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](mailto: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 400,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 96,000 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 virtually through WebEx, Microsoft Teams 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) [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index].

## 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) [https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html].

## Behavioral Intervention

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the referral online [[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout\\_id=2](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2)]. Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the Behavioral Intervention Team website for more information [<https://www.tamuct.edu/bit>]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5800.

## 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) [<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.

**Fall 2021 Return to Campus Plan.** For the most recent campus information regarding COVID-19 see the Texas A&M University-Central Texas Fall 2021 Return to Campus Plan [<https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/>]

## Copyright Notice

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*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).*