

University of Jordan
Faculty of Foreign Language / Graduate Studies
Department of English
Course Description

Course Title: Middle English
Course Number: 2201727

I. Objectives:

This course is intended to enable students to read Middle English-- Chaucer in particular-- with ease and enjoyment. Chaucerian texts in the original will be read and analysed, and although emphasis will be placed on the language of Chaucer, there will be some focus on Chaucer as a poet. Other texts drawn from the various Middle English dialects will be read and compared with the South East Midland/London dialect. The course will also briefly address the world picture as seen through Chaucer's eyes.

II. Textbooks:

1. Any annotated edition of *The Prologue to the Canterbury Tales*.
2. Any annotated edition of *The Clerk's Tale*.
3. Any annotated edition of *The Nun's Priest's Tale*.
4. Any annotated edition of *The Pardoner's Prologue and Tale*.
5. Middle English dialect samples in Baugh (and selected handouts).

III. Secondary Titles:

1. Baugh, Albert C. and Thomas Cable. *A History of the English Language* (5th Ed.). Prentice Hall, 2002.
2. Brewer, Derek. *A New Introduction to Chaucer*. Longman, 1998.
3. Burnley, David. *A Guide to Chaucer's Language*. Macmillan, 1983.
4. Burrow, G. A. *A Book of Middle English*. Blackwell, 1996.

5. Dickins, Bruce and R. M. Wilson. *Early Middle English Texts*. Bowes and Bowes, 1956.
6. Freeborn, Dennis. *From Old English to Standard English*. Macmillan, 1992.
7. Kokeritz, Helge. *A Guide to Chaucer's Pronunciation*. Holt, Reinhart and Winston, 1967.
8. Moore, Samuel and A. H. Marckwardt. *Historical Outlines of English Sounds And Inflections*. George Wahr, 1951.
9. Serjeantson, Mary, S. *A History of Foreign Words in English*. Dutton, 1963.
10. Sisam, Kenneth(ed.). *Fourteenth Century Verse and Prose*. Oxford. 1955.
11. Trudgill, Peter. *The Dialects of England*. Blackwell, 1992.

IV. Weekly Schedule:

Week 1: Introduction; Middle English Pronunciation and Grammar.

Week 2-4: *The Prologue to the Canterbury Tales*.

Week 5-7: *The Clerk's Tale*.

Week 8-10: *The Nun's Priest's Tale*.

Week 11: Test.

Week 12-13: Selections from *The Pardoner's Prologue and Tale*.

Week 14-15: Middle English dialects.

Week 16: Final Examination.

V: Evaluation:

Test 30% , Term Paper 30% , Final Examination 40%.

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