12 Sept. LECTURE 1: **Overview of the Medieval English World, Old English Prose**

The story of Cædmon and “Cædmon’s Hymn” from Bede’s *Ecclesiastical History*

King Alfred’s Preface to the translation of Gregory’s *Pastoral Care*

Wulfstan: “Sermon to the English People”

19 Sept. LECTURE 2: **Old English Heroic Poetry: Beowulf**

*Beowulf*

26 Sept. LECTURE 3: **Old and Middle English Religious Writing**

“The Seafarer”

“The Wanderer”

“The Dream of the Rood”

“Fowls in the Frith,” “The Cuckoo Song,” “Sunset on Calvary,” “I Sing of a Maiden,” “The Maiden of the Moor” [Selection of short Middle English lyrics from the Norton Anthology]

*The Book of Margery Kempe* [Passages from *The Norton Anthology*]

Julian of Norwich: *The Book of Showings (or Revelations)* [Passages from *The Norton Anthology*]

03 Oct. LECTURE 4: **The Romance**

*Sir Orfeo*

*Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*

10 Oct. LECTURE 5: **Chaucer: *The Canterbury Tales***

“General Prologue”

“The Miller’s Tale”

“The Pardoner’s Prologue, Tale and Epilogue”

“The Wife of Bath’s Prologue and Tale”

“The Nun’s Priest’s Tale”

“The Franklin’s Tale”

“The Parson’s Prologue”

Chaucer’s Retractions

17 Oct. LECTURE 6: **Medieval Drama and Theatre**

“The York Play of the Crucifixion”

“The Second Shepherd’s Pageant” from the Wakefield/Towneley Mystery Cycle

“Everyman”

24 Oct. LECTURE 7: **Introduction to the Literature of the 16th-17th Centuries**

Thomas More: *Utopia*

07 Nov. LECTURE 8: **The Sonnet**

Petrarch: *Canzionere*, Sonnetto 190

Sir Thomas Wyatt: “Whoso List to Hunt”

Edmund Spenser: *Amoretti* Sonnet 75

William Shakespeare: Sonnet 75, 130

John Milton: Sonnet 19 (“On his Blindness”)

14 Nov. LECTURE 9 **Donne & The Metaphysical Poets**

John Donne: Elegy 19. “To His Mistress Going to Bed”

John Donne: *Holy Sonnets* No. 14

Andrew Marwell: “To His Coy Mistress”

George Herbert: “The Elixir”

21 Nov. LECTURE 10: **Narrative Poetry**

John Milton: *Paradise Lost,* Book I

28 Nov. LECTURE 11: **Theatre and Shakespeare’s History Plays**

*Richard III*

05 Dec. LECTURE 12: **Shakespeare’s Tragedies**

*Hamlet, the Prince of Denmark* or *King Lear* or *Macbeth* or *Othello*

12 Dec. LECTURE 13: **Shakespeare’s Comedies ( + problem plays and romances)**

*Much Ado about Nothing, or As You Like It, or Measure for Measure, or The Tempest.*

***Recommended primary readings for Medieval Literature***

The entry of 1066 from the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle

Chaucer: *Troilus and Criseyde* (Nevil Coghill's translation, Penguin Classics edition)

Chaucer: *The Canterbury Tales* (the entire work, Penguin Classics edition)

*Pearl* (Brian Stone’s translation in *Medieval English Verse*, Penguin Classics, or any other verse translation by J.R.R. Tolkien or Marie Boroff)

“Noah’s Flood” from the *Chester Mystery Cycle*

***Useful secondary sources for Medieval Literature***

Introductions to the pieces in *The Norton Anthology of English Literature,* vol. 1

Fulk, R. D. *A History of Old English Literature*. Blackwell, 2003

Sanders, Andrew. *The Short Oxford History of English Literature*. 2nd ed. OUP, 2000

Saunders, Corinne. *A Concise Companion to Chaucer*, ed. Corinne Saunders. Blackwell, 2006

Volumes of the Cambridge Companion series

***Useful secondary sources for Renaissance Literature***

*A Companion to English Renaissance Literature and Culture*, ed. Michael Hattaway. Blackwell, 2003

*A Companion to Shakespeare*, ed. David Scott Kastan. Blackwell, 1999

Géher István. *Shakespeare olvasókönyv*. *Tükörképünk 37 darabban*. Cserépfalvi és Szépirodalmi Könyvkiadók, 1991 (or any later edition of the book)

Tucker Brooke, Matthias and A. Shaaber. *The* *Renaissance 1500-1660.* A Literary History of England, vol. 2., ed. Alfred C. Baugh. Routledge, 1993

***Assessment***

Oral examination based on lecture notes, on the mastery of primary sources, and text recognition.