Elizabeth Bryan, Instructor Office: 70 Brown Street, Room 302

Semester II, 2013-14 Office Hours: T, Th 10:30 -12:00

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**ENGL 0310C: Matters of Romance**

**Syllabus**

Week

1 Th 1/23 Introduction

2 T 1/28 *Sir Orfeo* and article by Caroline Walker Bynum, “Women’s Stories,

 Women’s Symbols: A Critique of Victor Turner’s Theory of Liminality”

 Th 1/30 *Havelok the Dane*. Prep Paper due on liminality in *Havelok*

3 T 2/4 *King Horn* and *Floris and Blanchefleur*

 Th 2/6 *Aucassin and Nicolete* and *Amis and Amiloun*

4 T 2/11 Marie de France, *Lais*

 Th 2/13 Marie de France, *Lais*

 Friday 2/14 **Paper 1 due** [in Prof. Bryan's faculty mailbox by 5 p.m.]

5 T 2/18 - Long Weekend no class

 Th 2/20 Sir Thomas Malory, *Le Morte d’Arthur*

6 T 2/25 Sir Thomas Malory, *Le Morte d’Arthur*

 Th 2/27 Sir Thomas Malory, *Le Morte d’Arthur*

7 T 3/4 Sir Thomas Malory, *Le Morte d’Arthur*

 Th 3/6 **Midterm small group discussions in lieu of regular class meeting.**

8 T 3/11 Sir Thomas Malory, *Le Morte d’Arthur*

 Th 3/13 Sir Thomas Malory, *Le Morte d’Arthur*

9 T 3/18 Sir Thomas Malory, *Le Morte d’Arthur*

 Th 3/20 Sir Thomas Malory, *Le Morte d’Arthur*

Spring Break, 3/22 - 3/30

10 T 4/1 *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, fitts 1 & 2

 Th 4/3 *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, fitt 3

 Friday 4/4 **Paper 2 due** [in Prof. Bryan's faculty mailbox by 5 p.m.]

11 T 4/8 *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, fitt 4

 Th 4/10 Geoffrey Chaucer, *Troilus and Criseyde*

12 T 4/15 Geoffrey Chaucer, *Troilus and Criseyde*

 Th 4/17 Geoffrey Chaucer, *Troilus and Criseyde*

13 T 4/22 *The Wedding of Sir Gawain and Dame Ragnell* & Chaucer, *Wife of Bath’s Tale*

 Th 4/24 *The Adventures at Tarn Wadling*

 Friday 4/25 **Paper 3 due**  [in Prof. Bryan's faculty mailbox by 5 p.m.]

(Reading period April 25 - May 6.)

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Texts at Brown Bookstore:

1. Marie de France, *The Lais of Marie de France*, transl. Burgess & Busby (Penguin).

2. Sir Thomas Malory, *Le Morte d’Arthur*, intro. Bryan (Random House, Modern Library).

3. *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, *Pearl, and Sir Orfeo*, transl. J.R.R. Tolkien (DelRay).

4. Geoffrey Chaucer, *Troilus and Criseyde*, transl. Barry Windeatt (Oxford, Worlds Classics).

Course Requirements

1. Three papers, each of 5-6 pages. Due on February 14, April 4, and April 25.

2. Occasional prep papers (1-2 pp.), as assigned.

3. Participation in one mid-semester Small Discussion Group.

Class Policies

Late papers: I expect drafts and papers to be handed in on time. If a paper is late, its return to you will be delayed, it may come back without comments, and your grade may be penalized.

Attendance: More than 4 absences will result in a lowering of your final grade.

Evaluation: I will base your final grade largely on the three papers, which will receive letter grades. Your thoughtful participation in class discussion will also be an important factor, as will various other kinds of class participation (like the prep papers, and your involvement in the required small discussion groups, which will be graded S/NC). Your final grade will reflect my assessment of your gained knowledge of medieval literature rather than a strict mathematical computation, but you can use as a general guideline that each paper will count for about 30% of your final grade, with class participation counting for at least 10%. All assigned work must be completed to receive Credit in this course.

Submitting papers: Papers should be one-sided hard copy, and pages should be numbered. I do not accept papers by email, as a rule.