

Summer 2021

AP/EN 4504 6.0A (SU)	Arthurian Legends
Course Director:	Professor Kathryn Walton Office: Zoom Personal Meeting Room e-mail: kwalton@yorku.ca Office hours: Wednesday 10:00-11:00
Time:	Asynchronous Web Course Lectures will be released Tuesdays and Thursdays
Delivery Format:	✓ ONLINE – (asynchronous delivery) – There is no set course meeting time. Students may engage with course content/materials 24/7.
Description:	The legends of King Arthur and his knights permeate across literary history. From their origins in the medieval period, to their reimagining in the Victorian period, to their popular adaptations today, these adventurous tales have always appealed to readers. This course introduces students to the establishment and development of this longstanding narrative. Our focus is on Arthur's origins in the history of England, and we will look at some of the best and most evocative examples of the Arthurian legend produced in the Middle Ages. Characters familiar to many readers today – Arthur, Guinevere, Lancelot, and Merlin – take various and diverse masks across the Middle Ages; they not only engage in the adventures and affairs for which they are most famous but also reflect on the politics and priorities of the time and even on the human condition more generally. While our focus is on medieval examples of Arthurian literature, we will also consider how the Arthurian legend has been adapted recently. We will look at some of the many contemporary books, graphic novels, television shows, and films that feature the narrative and reflect on how and why this medieval story continues to appeal to audiences today.
Category:	C
Historical Requirement:	Period I (pre-1700)
Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions: 15% • Take-Home Midterm Exam: 10% • Take-Home Final Exam: 15% • Politics and Arthur Essay: 20% • Adaptations of Arthur Essay: 15% • Final Research Paper: 25%
Reading List:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Romance of Arthur</i>, 3rd ed. Edited by Narris J. Lacy and James J. Wilhelm. Routledge, 2013. • Geoffrey of Monmouth, <i>The History of the Kings of Britain</i>, Penguin Books, 2004.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thomas Malory, <i>Le Morte D'Arthur: The Winchester Manuscript</i>. Edited by Helen Cooper, Oxford University Press, 2008.• T.H. White, <i>The Sword in the Stone</i>, Harper Collins Children's Books, 2016.• Adam P. Knave, and DJ Kirkbride, <i>The Once and Future Queen</i>, Dark Horse Books, 2017.• Marion Zimmer Bradley, <i>The Mists of Avalon</i>, Ballantine Books, 1987. ISBN: 978-0345350497
Open To:	Year 4 Honors