

## F/W 2021-2022

<b>AP/EN 4504 6.0B (Y)</b>	Arthurian Literature
<b>Course Director:</b>	Professor Natalia Khomenko khomenko@yorku.ca
<b>Time:</b>	Fridays 11:30-14:30
<b>Delivery Format:</b>	<input type="radio"/> LECTURE/SEMINAR – in-person classes
<b>Description:</b>	<p>The stories of King Arthur and his knights have captivated the popular imagination for centuries and stimulated the efforts of many writers and, lately, filmmakers. These stories might have loosely stemmed from historical events: early historiographical materials depicted Arthur as a warrior who fought on the side of the Celtic-speaking Britons after the weakening of the Roman Empire. However, in medieval literature Arthur gradually became a symbol of Britain's greatness as a king who had supposedly conquered half of the world and even sacked Rome.</p> <p>This course will begin with proto-Arthurian figures in early medieval Latin chronicles (Gildas, Bede, pseudo-Nennius), and early Welsh sources. We will explore the creation of Arthuriana as a genre from the twelfth to the fifteenth century (including Geoffrey of Monmouth, Chrétien de Troyes, Marie de France, and a range of late Middle English chivalric romances). Later, we will closely examine Thomas Malory's <i>Le Morte D'Arthur</i>, recognized as a pinnacle of Middle English Arthuriana, and trace the adaptation and reception of Arthurian texts and characters from the sixteenth into the twenty-first century (including Ben Jonson, Alfred Tennyson, Monty Python, Marion Zimmer Bradley, and Kazuo Ishiguro). Where possible, this course will bring in a range of media, from manuscript facsimiles to graphic novels and film.</p> <p>Throughout the course, we will consider how Arthurian stories draw on history (or what their authors believe to be history) and fiction in order to offer social, political, and religious lessons to their readers. Primary materials will be supplemented with secondary readings throughout. Some of the materials will be read in translation from Latin, Old French, and Middle Welsh, but we will also be reading some romances in their original Middle English.</p>
<b>Category:</b>	C
<b>Historical Requirement:</b>	Period I (pre-1700)
<b>Requirements:</b>	Fall essay proposal: 5% Fall term essay: 15% Winter term essay proposal & annotated bibliography: 10% Winter term research essay: 20%

	<p>Short response papers (2 each semester): 20%</p> <p>Translation exercise (fall semester): 5%</p> <p>Annotation exercise (winter semester): 5%</p> <p>Presentation: 5%</p> <p>Participation: 15%</p>
<p><b>Reading List:</b></p>	<p>This course will frequently rely on Arthurian materials published online, including the York University In Parentheses Publications database and the University of Rochester Robbins Library Digital Projects database.</p> <p><u>The following texts are required for the class and are not open-access or available through York:</u></p> <p>1) Sir Thomas Malory's <i>Le Morte D'Arthur</i> (Winchester Manuscript, edited by Helen Cooper, Oxford Paperbacks Publication, 2008). There are numerous editions of Malory: please be sure to get this one. I strongly recommend that you get a hard copy, as it uses both footnotes and endnotes and might be more difficult to follow as an e-book.</p> <p>2) Marion Zimmer Bradley, <i>The Mists of Avalon</i>. Penguin Random House, 1987. Any edition is acceptable.</p> <p>3) Kazuo Ishiguro's <i>The Buried Giant</i> (2015). Any edition is acceptable.</p> <p><u>These three books have been ordered by York's bookstore.</u></p> <p>We will also be using a range of readings available through York University Library subscriptions or through open-access databases.</p>
<p><b>Open To:</b></p>	<p>Year 4 Honours</p>