

SU 2024

AP/EN 4504 6.0A (SU)	<i>Arthurian Literature</i>
Course Director:	Natalia Khomenko khomenko@yorku.ca Virtual Office Hours: TBD (Meeting ID on Zoom: 769 129 3766, https://yorku.zoom.us/j/7691293766)
Time:	There is no set course meeting time. Students may engage with course content/materials 24/7.
Delivery Format:	ONLINE – (asynchronous delivery).
Description:	<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 may 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. Post-medieval versions of Arthuriana offered their authors an opportunity to consider gender, race, colonialism, and religion through the lens of this genre’s fabricated histories and imagined futures.</p> <p>This course will begin by drawing a connection from present-day image of King Arthur to early medieval Latin chronicles, Welsh narratives, and Old French poetry. We will explore the creation of Arthuriana as a genre from the twelfth to the fifteenth century. Later, we will trace the adaptation and reception of Arthurian texts and characters from the sixteenth into the twenty-first century. 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 examine 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. We will approach Arthurian narratives as a case study in usable history, and discuss how the same plot, character, or trope can be adapted for different aims.</p>
Category:	C
Historical Requirement:	Time Period I (pre-1700)
Requirements:	<u>Evaluation:</u> Short Essay Project: 25% Research Essay Project: 35% Response Papers: 20% Participation: 20%

Reading List:	<p><u>Textbooks (available through York University's Bookstore):</u></p> <p><i>The Romance of Arthur: An Anthology of Medieval Texts in Translation</i>, 3rd ed., edited by Norris J. Lacy and James J. Wilhelm. Routledge, 2013. ISBN-10: 9780415782890. ISBN-13: 978-0415782890</p> <p>Kazuo Ishiguro, <i>The Buried Giant</i>. Vintage (or any other edition), 2015. ISBN: 0307455793.</p> <p>Tracy Deonn, <i>Legendborn</i>. Simon & Schuster, Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2020. ISBN: 9781534441606, ISBN13: 9781534441613</p> <p>Other course readings will be available through York University Libraries or open-access.</p>
Open To:	YR 3 & 4 H