

**San José State University**  
**English Department**  
**English 142, Chaucer, Fall 2019**

**Course and Contact Information**

Instructor:	Nancy Stork
Office Location:	Faculty Offices 218
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Office Hours:	Tuesday, 3:00-5:00 pm and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	TR 1330-1445
Classroom:	Sweeney Hall 441

**Description (Required)**

Chaucer's language and major poetic works. The Canterbury Tales and Troilus and Criseyde. Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

**Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:**

1. *Read Middle English aloud*
2. *Translate Middle English to Modern English*
3. *Analyze the literary significance of Chaucer's work and understand its history*

**Textbook**

*David Lawton, The Norton Chaucer, 2019 978-0-393-60347-7*

*Other texts are also fine:*

*Riverside Chaucer, Larry Benson, ed.*

*Chaucer's Major Works, Baugh, ed.*

*Complete Prose and Poetry of Geoffrey Chaucer, Fisher, ed.*

*Chaucer's Complete Works, Robinson, ed.*

**Course Requirements and Assignments (Required)**

Recitation or reading of 20-30 lines of Middle English	20%
Midterm Exam (translation)	20%
Word Study	30%
Final Essay (prepared essay to be written in exam period)	30%

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities.”

### **Grading Information (Required)**

Oral presentations will be graded for accuracy of Middle English pronunciation.

Translations will be graded for technical accuracy.

Word Study will be graded for use of appropriate historical and linguistic resources as well as prose style and clarity.

Final Essay will be graded for intellectual content, prose style and effectiveness of literary analysis.

### **University Policies (Required)**

Per University Policy S16-9 (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant information to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. is available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>” Make sure to review these university policies and resources with students.

## Course Schedule

<b>Week (Optional)</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines (If appropriate, add any extra column(s) to meet your needs.)</b>
1	Aug 22	Introduction
1	Aug 27	Troilus and Criseyde, Book One
2	Aug 29	Troilus and Criseyde, Book One
2	Sep 3	Troilus and Criseyde, Book Two
3	Sep 5	Troilus and Criseyde, Two and Three
3	Sep 10	Troilus and Criseyde, Book Three
4	Sep 12	Troilus and Criseyde, Book Four
4	Sep 17	Troilus and Criseyde, Book Four and Five
5	Sep 19	Troilus and Criseyde, Book Five
5	Sep 24	READ OR RECITE A MIDDLE ENGLISH PASSAGE
6	Sep 26	General Prologue to the Canterbury Tales, lines 1-100, 715-858 Begin Knight's Tale, Book One
6	Oct 1	Knight's Tale, Books Two and Three
7	Oct 3	Knight's Tale, Book Four
7	Oct 8	Miller's Tale
8	Oct 10	No Class
8	Oct 15	Clerk's Tale
9	Oct 17	Clerk
9	Oct 22	Prioress
10	Oct 24	Monk (Lucifer, Adam ) Nun's Priest
10	Oct 29	Pardoner
11	Oct 31	MIDTERM TRANSLATION EXAM
11	Nov 5	Begin in-class workshops: close reading of a Canterbury Tale of your choice: Reeve, Wife of Bath's Prologue, Wife of Bath's Tale, Merchant, Franklin, Man of Law, or other tale of your choice
12	Nov 7	Tale-reading workshop
12	Nov 12	Tale-reading workshop
13	Nov 14	Tale-reading workshop
13	Nov 19	Tale-reading workshop
14	Nov 21	Word Study Workshop (bring draft for comments)

<b>Week (Optional)</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines (If appropriate, add any extra column(s) to meet your needs.)</b>
14	Nov 26	Word Study DUE
15	Nov 28	Thanksgiving – No Class
15	Dec 3	Sir Thopas Thopas-Melibee link and first 4 paragraphs of Melibee
16	Dec 5	Chaucer’s Retraction
Final Exam		Monday, December 16, 1215-1430 Final Exam consists of a prepared essay to be written in class-time using notes