Course Goals:
This course introduces students to the major writers and literary genres of Britain from the Anglo-Saxon through the Neo-classical period. In addition, you will learn and practice the terminology and methods of Literary Study in general. This course focuses upon careful, critical reading combined with compulsory interaction with me during lectures, therefore keeping up with the assignments and class attendance is crucial. This course is designed to give students a foundation for further scholarly labor in the Liberal arts, although our primary focus will be the analysis of British literature through the 18th century.

More specifically, you will:
1) Learn the terminology and stylistic conventions associated with the major literary genres of the period we will study.
2) Become familiar with the major works and stylistic characteristics of the authors assigned.
3) Practice interpretive, scholarly analysis in class, your journals, and by writing your own critical essays
4) Practice your writing and critical skills.

Required Texts and Materials - bring to every class meeting
The Norton Anthology of English Literature, Vols A, B, and C, 8th ed.
Any edition of Daniel Defoe’s Moll Flanders
Other literary texts available on Blackboard
Several (approx. 10) Quiz answer sheets, and 2 test answer sheets
Your reading journal and materials to take notes.

Grades: Your final grade will be determined according to the following formula:

1) **Journal and Class participation** – 20%
   You will keep a daily reading journal on our Blackboard site and bring hard copies of these entries with you to class every day; how you accomplish these tasks will be up to you, though I make some suggestions below in the section which addresses Blackboard. In addition, you will receive a grade in your class participation via in-class discussions and exercises. Being absent or unable (for whatever reason) to participate during in-class activities will lower this portion of your grade. Don’t worry; if you are not the kind of person who speaks up in class, there will be other ways to improve your participation grade. **Be prepared to be called upon without warning.**

2) **Quizzes** – 25%
   We will have brief quizzes on the reading assignments in-class. These quizzes will give you credit for reading the homework on time. Quizzes will not test your ability to interpret literature, only your ability to retain basic terminology from the text books and simple questions about plot, character names, setting, etc. from the literary works. In other words, they will be very easy if you read and take notes. You will take these quizzes on a Parscore answer sheet, so you are required to bring at least one sheet to every class meeting; I will not provide answer sheets. I will drop the two lowest quiz grade automatically to account for tardiness and choking. If you have a legitimate reason for absence, you may arrange in
advance to take up to two quizzes missed during regular class time. Send me an email
describing the legitimate reason you will miss class, and if I require documentation or decide
NOT to excuse your absence, I will contact you. I will give quizzes without warning
virtually every class meeting.

3) **Mid-Term Test** - 25%
This will be a multiple choice test that documents your understanding of the terminology,
theories, and generic conventions associated with literary study.

4) **Final Exam** - 30%
This will be a comprehensive exam comprised of multiple choice and essay questions. We
will take this exam in our in our regular classroom. **There will be no make-ups for the**
final.

**Class Policies**
1. Attendance is required. If you have more than five unexcused absences 20 pts
can be subtracted from your participation grade; further unexcused absences will
lower your grade further. If you must be absent, send me an email at
ken.burchenal@utsa.edu (I never check my Blackboard email) stating your
legitimate reason to be excused; doing so insures your right to make up or submit
any work that would have been handed in. I will acknowledge receipt of these
emails but not respond to your reasons for absence unless they are inadequate to
justify missing the class period. Just hand in the late work at the next class period
you attend and/or arrange a time to make up other work you may have missed,
such as a quiz.
2. Homework and online journal entries are due the date they are listed on the class
schedule (unless I have changed those dates in class). Failing to bring homework or
journal hard copies to class lowers your participation score. If you already know that your
schedule will make attendance problematic, you should drop the course now.
3. You are responsible for work assigned or changes in assignments made in your
absence, so you need to check with me or another student if you miss class. Being absent
does not automatically release you from due dates.
4. Turn off cell phones, pagers, and other electronic gadgets before you enter class; take
your ear buds out, don’t text people. You may use computers to take class notes, but if
you use them for ANY other reason, you will lose the privilege for the rest of the course.
5. **I will not drop you from the course for any reason; if you are failing from lack of
attendance or just poor performance, make sure you withdraw before the deadlines.**
Incompletes are only given in advance and under extreme circumstances.
6. Any other issues that may arise – such as plagiarism – will be resolved according to
UTSA policy.

**Blackboard Journal**
Your journal will be posted online on the class's Blackboard site as part of an ongoing, written
discussion about our course materials. **Students who do not already have basic word processing
and web navigation skills are required to acquire those skills outside of class within the first two**
weeks of the course. Although I will go into detail about the content goals and procedures involving your journal, in general your journal entries are subject to the following policies:

1. You will be required to post an entry for every reading assignment given unless I tell you otherwise in class. In the "Journal" section of our Blackboard site there will be a link for each journal entry; by clicking on that link, you will be taken to a discussion page where you can post your entry. I will also assign journal entries from time to time that are not based upon class readings but are still required.

2. The link for each assigned journal entry will be closed one week after its respective due date, so it is important to stay current with your journal. After its link is closed you will no longer be able to submit a given entry for consideration toward your journal grade.

3. You are required to bring a hard copy of each journal entry to class on the day it is due. You are also required to archive these journal entries throughout the course. Failure to bring a hard copy to class will lower your participation grade for that day.

4. Since computers break down, you need to do your journal entries far enough in advance to go to a UTSA computer lab in the event your computer is kaput. At the very least, you can contact me in advance if you are experiencing technical difficulties. If you do not own a reliable computer and printer, it will be your responsibility to schedule time in one of the UTSA computer facilities to do your homework and printing.

5. The easiest way to insure you have a hard copy of your journal entries is to compose your entries in MS Word, save it to disk, print out the hard copy, copy the entire entry, then paste it onto the appropriate page in Blackboard.

6. Your journal grade will be determined by the total number of required journal entries completed and by the effort you put into those entries. In addition, 25% of your journal grade will be earned by class participation, including but not limited to doing your fair share of the work during group exercises/projects.

UTSA Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty

The University expects every student to maintain a high standard of individual integrity for work done. Scholastic dishonesty is a serious offense which includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test or other class work, plagiarism (the appropriation of another's work and the unauthorized incorporation of that work in one's own work), and collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing college work offered for credit). In cases of scholastic dishonesty, the faculty member responsible for the class may initiate disciplinary proceedings against the student.

A word or two about survey courses:
Survey courses like this one are often very challenging for students who 1) are not already familiar with the material, and/or 2) are shy about asking questions. Survey courses cover vast amounts of information in short periods of time, which means you will be required to understand material which may not be discussed in the limited amount of class time available to us. My lectures will be focused upon the material which I believe is the most important and challenging for students with the presumption that you have read and understand all of the other material assigned. If you are not completely clear about any of the concepts delivered in lecture or through the reading assignments, you need to ask questions, either during class discussions or my office hours. Even those students who have not excelled at "language arts" in the past can do well in this course, but you need to have the time and willingness to work in order to succeed. In short, it is my responsibility to teach the material, and I will; it is your responsibility to learn it.