

Literatures on the British Isles: the Middle Ages - lecture

- 1 18/2 **Introduction;**
Migration period mythologies: problems in Old English heroic poetry (H.Znojemská)
 - a) Germania and Romanitas; dating and record; literature in society
 - b) form: metre, alliteration, poetics – in relation to a)
- 2 25/2 **After conversion** (H.Znojemská)
 - a) historical background; Latin in England (Bede, Aldhelm, Alcuin)
 - b) religious epic: biblical, Latinate, vernacular impulses
- 3 4/3 **"Portrait 1": *Beowulf, Exodus*** (H.Znojemská)
- 4 11/3 **Old English poetry – generic overview** (H.Znojemská)
towards alternative voices? (elegies, „minor“ genres)
- 5 18/3 **The literature of medieval Ireland** (R. Markus)
- 6 25/3 **Old English prose** (H.Znojemská)
 - a) evolution
 - b) establishing a tradition: saints' lives, histories
- 7 1/4 **From Old English to Middle English: overview** (H.Znojemská)
- 8 8/4 **Middle English lyrics** (H.Znojemská)
 - a) types and forms; popular, courtly and clerical traditions
 - b) lyrics in record
- 9 15/4 **Courtly literature: romances and affiliated genres** (H.Znojemská)
 - a) characteristic features: themes, structures, values
 - b) from epic to romance: historical and cultural background
- 10 22/4 **"Portrait 2": *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*** (H.Znojemská)
- 11 29/4 **City literature** (H.Znojemská)
 - a) 12th century Renaissance
 - b) drama
 - c) "national" voice – 14th century
- 12 6/5 **"Portrait 3": Chaucer** (H.Znojemská)
- 13 13/5 **Rector's day – NO CLASS**

N.B. The literature of medieval Scotland (P. Poncarová) will be available as **presentation in Moodle**

The first test date will be set for the first week of the exam period.

ASSESSMENT

LECTURE

The lecture component is compulsory for both single-subject and joint-subject students. Students must pass the final test. The test is subject to two re-sits and must be completed by the end of the year following the one in which the student registered for the course (i.e. by September 2026).

Základní literatura:

Béowulf, vydal a přeložil Jan Čermák, Torst, 2003

Burrow, J.A.W. *Medieval Writers and Their Work: Middle English Literature and Its Background, 1100-1500*. Oxford, 1982

Černý, Václav. *Soustavný přehled obecných dějin literatury naší vzdělanosti, Díl I.: Středověk*. H&H, 1996

Godden, Malcolm - Lapidge, Michael (eds.). *The Cambridge Companion to Old English Literature*. Cambridge University Press, 1985

Greenfield, Stanley B. - Calder, Daniel G. *A New Critical History of Old English Literature. With a Survey of the Anglo-Latin Background by M. Lapidge*. New York University Press, 1986

Pearsall, D. (ed.). *Chaucer to Spenser. An Anthology*. Blackwell, 1999

Treharne, E.M. (ed.). *Old and Middle English. An Anthology*. 2nd ed., Blackwell, 2003

Ford, Boris (ed.). *New Pelican Guide to English Literature: 1. Medieval Literature*. vol. 1, 2, Penguin, 1982

Doporučená literatura:

Bolton, W.F. (ed.). *The Middle Ages*, Sphere History of Literature, Vol. 1. 2nd, rev. ed., London, 1986

Brown, Peter (ed.). *A Companion to Medieval English Literature and Culture c. 1350-1500*. Blackwell, 2007

Curtius, Robert Ernst. *Evropská literatura a latinský středověk*. Triáda, 1998

Donoghue, Daniel. *Old English Literature*. Blackwell, 2004

Le Goff, Jacques. *Kultura středověké Evropy*. Vyšehrad 2005

Pearsall, Derek. *Old English and Middle English Poetry*. Routledge, 1977

Pulsiano, Phillip a Elaine Treharne (eds.). *A Companion to Anglo-Saxon Literature*. Blackwell, 2001

Swanton, Michael. *English Literature before Chaucer*. Longman Literature in English Series, 1987

Whitelock, Dorothy. *The Beginnings of English Society*. Penguin, 1952.