This graduate course will cover select works in the Arthurian tradition from its origins to the twenty-first century. We will be particularly concerned with issues such as intertextuality, fictionality, parody, symbol, gender, sexuality, violence, and memory.

ENGL 5305 “World Literary Topics” (3 credits) typically meets once every week in 150 minute segments for 15 weeks, and also meets for a 2-hour final examination or seminar presentation. Students are expected to complete weekly reading assignments of primary, secondary, and tertiary materials. Completion and comprehension of the readings is assessed regularly through seminar style discussions, informal presentations, and a series of writing assignments, including response papers, critical summaries, and literature reviews. Students are required to conduct a significant literary research project, which typically includes a research plan, a major class presentation in which they contextualize their research within critical and cultural conversations, and a final research paper of 16–18 pages. Formal written work over the course of the semester ranges from 30–35 pages. These activities average at a minimum 10–12 hours of work each week to prepare outside of classroom hours.

**Required Texts:**
- Chrétien de Troyes, *Arthurian Romances* (Project Gutenberg or other)
- Wolfram von Eschenbach, *Parzival* (9780394701882)
- Umberto Eco, *Baudolino* (9780156029063)
- Kazuo Ishiguro, *The Buried Giant* (9780307455796)
- *The Cambridge Companion to the Arthurian Legend* (9780521677882 [CCAL])

**Note:** Readings in the schedule not cited above will be made available. You will also need to obtain access to either a film or an additional novel unique to each student to be selected from a list (we will discuss this at our first meeting).

**Course Requirements:** This course is built around reading and discussing literary and critical works. Thus, 10% of your grade will come from my perception of your participation (e.g., attendance, having demonstrably read assignments, and willingness and ability to engage in discussion). 20% of the grade will be from an annotated bibliography of 10–12 items otherwise unassigned in the class due in week 9. 30% will be the 16–18 page final paper. A comprehensive final exam will be worth 25%. The final 15% will be from your class presentation (weeks 13 and 14). More instructions for each of these items will be forthcoming.

**Attendance:** The attendance policy for this course is the official SFASU policy (6.7) by which regular and punctual attendance is expected for all classes, laboratories, and other activities for which a student is registered. Valid excuses are limited to health, religious observation, family emergencies, and participation in certain SFASU-sponsored events—and documentation may be required. Whether absences are excused or unexcused by the instructor, a student is still responsible for all course content and assignments. Students with accepted excuses may be permitted to make up work for absences equaling no more than 15% of the scheduled course meeting time for the term, depending on the nature of the missed work. The timeline for completing make-up work will be determined by the instructor.
**Academic Integrity (4.1):** The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy. Articles IV, VI, and VII of the new Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outline the violations and procedures concerning academic conduct, including cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and misrepresentation. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) Copying from the test paper (or other assignment) of another student, (2) Possession and/or use during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, (3) Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of a non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters without permission of the Faculty member, (4) Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself, to take a test, (5) Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit, (6) Using any sort of unauthorized resources or technology in completion of educational activities. Plagiarism is the appropriation of material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source or the use of one’s own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously, without any indication of the original source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, and other expression or media, and presenting that material as one’s own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction with a program course or degree requirements. Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on academic dishonesty, including disclosing and/or distributing the contents of an exam. Misrepresentation is providing false grades or résumés; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or to injure another student academically or financially.

**Withheld Grades (5.5):** Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the coursework because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course to compute the grade point average. For additional information, go to [https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf](https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf).

**Students with Disabilities:** To obtain disability-related accommodations, alternate formats, and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services promptly may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).

**Student Wellness:** SFA values students’ overall well-being, mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal well-being. These may include academic pressure and challenges associated with relationships, emotional well-being, alcohol and other drugs, identities, finances, etc. If you are experiencing concerns, seeking help, SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.
On-campus Resources:
The Dean of Students Office (Rusk Building, 3rd floor lobby)
www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents  936.468.7249  dos@sfasu.edu

SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic Human Services, Room 202  936.468.1041
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp

The Health and Wellness Hub “The Hub” Location: corner of E. College and Raguet St.
To support the health and well-being of every Lumberjack, the Health and Wellness Hub offers comprehensive services that treat the whole person – mind, body and spirit. Services include:
• Health Services
• Counseling Services
• Student Outreach and Support
• Food Pantry
• Wellness Coaching
• Alcohol and Other Drug Education
www.sfasu.edu/thehub  936.468.4008  thehub@sfasu.edu

Crisis Resources:
• Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
• National Suicide Crisis Prevention: 9-8-8
• Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
• johCrisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

Schedule

Week 1: Course Introductions and Arthurian Origins
Geoffrey of Monmouth, History of the Kings of Britain

Week 2: French/12th c.
Marie de France, “Lanval”; Chrétien de Troyes, Arthurian Romances (Erec et Enide, Yvain, Lancelot, [and Perceval if you can find it]); CCAL chp 2; Duran-Porta, “The Grail as a ‘Converted’ Object”

Week 3: German/13th c.

Week 4: 14th c.
Dante, Inferno, canto 5; Sir Gawoin and the Green Knight; CCAL chp 4; Noakes, “The Double Misreading of Paolo and Francesca”; West, “Tokens of Sin, Badges of Honor”

Week 5: English/15th c.
Sir Thomas Malory, *Le Morte d’Arthur* (selections); CCAL chp 5; Nievergelt, “Writing the ‘Hoole Book’ of King Arthur”

**Week 6: Elizabethan/16th c.**

**Week 7: Victorian/19th c.**

**Week 8: Modernism/20th c.**

**Week 9: Critical Topics**
Annotated Bibliography due. CCAL chps 8–13

**Weeks 10–11: Postmodernism/21st c.**

**Week 12: Contemporary**

**Weeks 13–14: Presentations**

Final Paper due by 5:00 pm 15 December

Final Exam date/time TBA