

Peer-Assisted Medieval English Studies

B.EP.401

Term:	Winter 2019/2020	Instructor:	Dr P. S. Langeslag
Time:	Fri 2–4 (weeks 1–3; then by appt)	Office:	SEP 2.306
Room:	See schedule	Phone:	0551 39 19706
Credits:	7	Office hours:	Tue 11–12
Prerequisites:	B.EP.301	E-mail:	planges@uni-goettingen.de

Course Description

In this course, students will write an independent research paper of 5,000 words on the subject of medieval language, literature, and/or culture.

Assessment

Assessment rests solely on a research paper of 5,000 words, due Friday 27 March at midnight. However, the right to submit this paper is contingent upon the timely submission of an outline and a draft of 2,000 words, due by email on 6 January.

The course's mandatory two-step submission trains students in the crucial skills of revision and responding to feedback. At the same time, it gives them an opportunity to correct mistakes and improve the end product.

Required Texts and Resources

I have gathered a selection of relevant links and information at studium.langeslag.org/peer. As a textbook, we will use

Kate L. Turabian, *Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 9th edition, rev. by Wayne C. Booth et al. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2018)

I recommend that you purchase it: the SUB and SEP libraries have only one reference copy each (of the previous edition).

Schedule

wk	date	topic	meet	read	due
1	25 Oct	Finding a topic	KWZ 0.601		
2	1 Nov	Composition	KWZ 0.601	Turabian chs 1–2	Topic
3	8 Nov	Citation	SEP 2.311	Turabian chs 15–17; tinyurl.com/citmgrs	Research question
8	25–29 Nov	Progress meetings	SEP 2.306 by appt	Turabian chs 5–7; MLA Handbook § 1.8	Thesis statement; elevator pitch
11	6 January		no	Turabian chs 3–4, 9–12	Draft (2,000 words); full sentence outline
	20–24 Jan	Progress meetings	SEP 2.306 by appt	Turabian chs 20–5	
	27 March		no		Essay (5,000 words)

Draft

The draft should not fall far short of 2,000 words, and should be accompanied by a detailed **sentence outline** following the guidelines in the *MLA Handbook* (§1.8). It should deal with some aspect of medieval English language, literature, and/or culture, with reference to at least one text in the original language. Ideally, you will base your draft on your own ideas about the text, leaving (the bulk of) your secondary readings for the final version.

Final Paper

Your paper should not fall far short of 5,000 words; it should refer to at least one medieval text in the original language (accompanied by translations either your own or duly cited from a published translation) and at least five secondary sources. It should follow the *Chicago Manual of Style*, the most important points of which are covered in our textbook under "Part II." The following marking grid indicates the considerations used to mark papers for this course (but not the weighting):

Aspect	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Argument										
Structure										
Close reading & analysis										
Structural use of primary sources										
Use of secondary sources										
Grasp of source language										
Cultural context										
Command of academic English										
Mechanics (style, referencing, formatting)										
Length										

The draft is due by email; the final paper is to be submitted on [TurnItIn.com](https://www.turnitin.com) (class ID 19341530; enrolment key 7f5wRX5%).

Diversity Statement

This course is run with the understanding that students bring a variety of backgrounds into the classroom in such domains as socioeconomics, appearance, culture, religion, disability, gender, age, family situation, and sexual identity. With different backgrounds come different needs. If you feel your needs or those of a fellow student require special attention or are being compromised, please feel free to make this known to me by whatever channel seems most appropriate. (For more serious concerns, the Department, Faculty, and University each have their own points of contact as well.) I will treat all requests seriously and with confidentiality, and will seek to make accommodations within my abilities and reason. At the same time, you too owe it to your fellow students to treat them with respect regardless of their background, identity, and identity expression.