Instructor: Katayoun Torabi  
Course: English 313  
Title: Medieval English Literature  

Description: Old and Middle English literature exclusive of Chaucer, including such authors and works as Beowulf, Judith, The Dream of the Rood, Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, The Travels of Sir John Mandeville, Julian of Norwich, Margery Kempe, and the mystery plays, among others. We will consider issues of religious belief, monstrosity, ethnicity, race, religion, and sex, with respect to the texts’ social and political environments. Students will be asked to consider how narratives in the Middle Ages both reflect and shape beliefs and anxieties about the social and historical moments in which they were created. Class activities will involve lecture, discussion, individual and group work.  

Proposed Readings: Joseph Black et al., eds., The Broadview Anthology of British Literature, Volume 1, The Medieval Period, 3rd ed. (Toronto: Broadview Press, 2015); other readings will be provided on eCampus.