Instructor: Nancy Warren  
Course: ENGL 431  
Title: Chaucer

Description: In this course, we will study the writings of Geoffrey Chaucer, concentrating primarily on the Canterbury Tales but occasionally venturing further abroad in the Chaucerian corpus. We will situate Chaucerian texts in their literary, historical, and cultural environments, exploring the dialogues in which texts engage with each other and with contemporary events and phenomena. We will also encounter and analyze a variety of critical / theoretical approaches to Chaucer’s work and Chaucer’s times. We will read medieval texts in their original language, so during the first part of the class we will devote time to mastering Middle English. No prior experience with Middle English is required, but a willingness to work hard and spend a great deal of time coming to grips with the language is!

Proposed Readings: Canterbury Tales, Book of the Duchess, Legend of Good Women, House of Fame