

## Suggested Preparation for First Year English

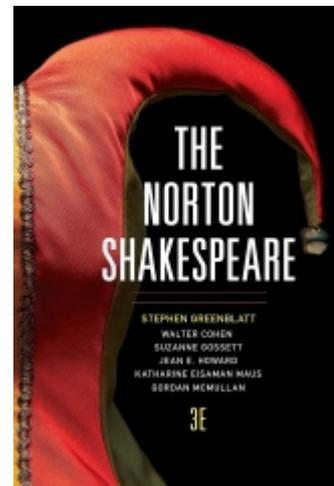
**Please note: Modules can vary depending on the degree programme you have chosen.**

**Please refer to our website for more details of the modules you may be taking here: <http://bit.ly/englishQM>.**

### ESH101 Shakespeare

**(Only certain degrees, please check if you're studying this module)**

Please buy (standard retail price £35.99) the one-volume, International Student Edition of the third edition\* of *The Norton Shakespeare*, ed. Stephen Greenblatt et al (*The Norton Shakespeare: 3E* on the cover, with a picture of a jester's hat). ISBN 978 0 393 26312 1, which includes The Norton Shakespeare Digital Edition registration card:



You can get it on Amazon at the standard retail price or pick it up direct in our campus bookstore on campus or here: <http://bit.ly/nortonshakespeare>. It comes with access to a Norton Digital Edition online with many more texts and resources than the print edition.

\*Please avoid the second edition (also 'International' edition), which has a grey cover, and which is still on sale.

Please read the first two plays we'll study: *Romeo and Juliet* and *Much Ado About Nothing*.

### ESH102 Reading, Theory and Interpretation

It would be useful to read Daniel Defoe *Robinson Crusoe* in advance of your first session.

Additional preparation might include advance reading of

- Mary Shelley *Frankenstein (revised edition 1831)*
- Tory Young *Studying English Literature*

## ESH110 Literatures in Time

**(Only certain degrees, please check if you're studying this module)**

All the texts that we will study on this module are in *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*, ed. by Stephen Greenblatt et al., 9th edn (2012), Volume A: The Middle Ages

**You are not required to purchase or read this book before your arrival at QMUL**, and copies will be available to purchase – at a competitive price – from the campus bookshop from September. However, if you do choose to purchase a copy in advance of your arrival, we encourage you to familiarise yourself with its contents and any supplementary electronic materials.

While there is **no set reading that we require you to undertake before the beginning of the semester**, if you are keen to learn more about medieval literature and culture you might want to try any one of the following:

- J. A. Burrow, *Medieval Writers and their Work*, 2nd edn (Oxford, 2007) Steve Ellis, ed., *Chaucer: An Oxford Guide* (Oxford, 2002) -- especially parts I and II, on 'Contexts'
- T. Turville-Petre, *Reading Middle English Literature* (Oxford, 2007)
- D. Johnson and E. Treharne, ed., *Readings in Medieval Texts: Interpreting Old and Middle English Literature* (Oxford, 2005), especially chapter 1 and the sections on Old English literature

While any one of these will provide a useful introduction to the material and contexts we'll cover on the module, **be assured that the module does not assume prior knowledge of the medieval period**. You are not obliged to read any of the above; they are just suggestions aimed to enrich your experience.

## ESH124 Poetry

**(Only certain degrees, please check if you're studying this module)**

Please get hold of a module pack for ESH124: Poetry in welcome week. Read the poems for the first lecture, and do the opening exercise in your module pack.

## **ESH125 English in Practice**

English in Practice is taught with a free module pack, which you'll collect later on.

A great place to start with the ideas, issues, and skills that we'll explore is to read Tory Young's *Studying English Literature: A Practical Guide* (Cambridge University Press, 2008), which is available through Amazon and in large bookshops.

We would recommend focusing particularly on chapter 1 'Introduction' and chapter 4 'Essays', as these will explain some of the basic ideas you'll encounter in your studies.

## **ESH4100 Creative Writing 1**

**(Only certain degrees, please check if you're studying this module)**

Before the first class, you should acquire a copy of *The Norton Anthology of Poetry*, 5th edition, and read the assigned poems for week 1 (see Weekly Schedule); some of these poems are in the Norton, and some are online, at the Poetry Foundation website.

In advance of week 1, please also write an original poem. It may take any poetic form; it does not need to rhyme, nor does it need to follow strict meter. It can be on any subject. Be prepared to read the poem aloud in the first class.

You should always bring writing materials to class. If you intend to use a tablet or laptop computer, these must be placed in Flight Mode (internet disabled) as soon as you arrive in class.