TEXTS:  Introduction to the Middle Ages (Handout)
         Beowulf, trans. Kennedy, Oxford UP
         Dante, Inferno, trans. Esolen, Modern Library
         Shakespeare, Hamlet, Signet
         Sonnets (Handout)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:  This course will study European literature of the period c. 800-c. 1650, a period which
        witnessed the rise of Christian culture, its adoption of classical culture, and the beginnings of the
        breakdown of unified Christendom. Students will apply reading, writing, and research skills to enhance
        understanding of the texts studied.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:  Students will gain familiarity with some of the important literary works of the period,
        learn how to see these works both in their cultural context and in relation to perennial concerns, and learn
        to apply research principles to literature.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:  Students must complete all required reading and turn in all assigned work in order to
        receive a passing grade. Written work will consist of a number of research projects, quizzes on each
        reading selection, and a final examination.

EVALUATION:  Each research project will count for 15-20% of the final grade, the exam 10%, the combined
        quizzes 10%, and class participation and initiative 10%. No unexcused absences will be permitted, each
        lowering the final grade by 7%. All work will be graded numerically, as a percentage of 100. The number
        grades correspond to letter grades as follows: 93-100—A, 90-92—A-, 88-89—B+, 83-87—B, 80-82—B-,

COURSE POLICIES:  Each student will read assigned texts by the date assigned, and will bring the assigned text(s)
        to class on the days assigned. All electronic devices (including cell phones, pagers, PDA’s, and computers)
        will be turned off and remain unused during the class period.

READING & ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE:

| Jan. | 18-30 | Introduction to the Middle Ages |
| Feb. | 1-22  | Beowulf |
|      |       | Inferno |
| Mar. | 27-Apr. 24 | Hamlet |
| Apr. | 26-May 3 | Sonnets |

Final Examination:  TBA