

Middle English Course Translation Project
The Canterbury Interlude and Merchant's Tale of Beryn

Content: Group translation project of *The Canterbury Interlude and Merchant's Tale of Beryn* from Middle English to present day English. The first intention of this assignment is to test and fine-tune your Middle English language and translation skills. The second impetus is to produce a usable translation of *The Canterbury Interlude and Merchant's Tale of Beryn* that we can post on the class website as a help to the scholarly community and a credit to your work.

<http://www.lib.rochester.edu/camelot/teams/berynint.htm>

<http://www.lib.rochester.edu/camelot/teams/berynfrm.htm>

Format: Each two-person student group is charged with translating a ca. 365-line segment of this text into idiomatic prose English (we do not want to imitate the rhyme). Furthermore, each group writes a 5-page minimum evaluative commentary on its own translation, noting especially linguistic difficulties you have encountered, such as semantic or lexical tough spots or ambiguities. Justify why you translated certain things the way you did. You can also remark on dialectal features of the text, if you like. You will need to use the *Middle English Dictionary* online and other language resources made available online, via eReserves or hard copy reserves. See links on class website. You can find sample translations and commentaries on the Sample Paper part of the class website. See specifically entries under English 351. You need to log into that site with your UNM net id and password.

Next, each group will then check over the translation of two other groups and provide at a minimum a 2-page list and rationale of suggestions for emendations and corrections for each of the two groups. You may also provide a marked up copy of the translation to that group. Each group should then assess the suggestions and emendations of the other two groups, updating its own translation, if it chooses. Each group needs to write and provide a 1-page response to the editing suggestions of the other two groups. Preferably you will also consult with the groups that are editing your work and whose work you are editing.

If your group updates its translation after the feedback from the first group, you might post an updated version of your section before the second group reviews it. Alternatively, you can wait for both reviews to be posted.

Ultimately, you will submit a final translated version of your original text section. Each group member will lastly produce a 1-page assessment of his or her group dynamic to be handed in to me confidentially (see p. 4). I will then assign one grade for both persons in each group at the end of the semester. After the semester is over, I will put it all together in a final format and post it on the web.

Please follow the guidelines outlined in the *Guide to Style* containing the format guidelines of the *MLA* (online on the class website). Double-space the paper, identify the text passage you are working from, and supply a works cited of all materials used or consulted. Review

documentation procedures. Failure to provide the correct format will result in lower grades. An explanation of grade rubrics can be found on my website under Engl. 449/459.

I encourage you to edit, revise, and proofread your papers, striving for coherence, grammatical correctness, and good transitions.

Procedure: Each group needs to email me NO LATER than Monday, October 3, 2011 with its preference for three sections from the list below. I will then assign you a section based on everyone's choices by Monday evening. Note: These group numbers might be different from the group work numbers we are using in class.

I shuffled a few of you around in order to make even groups. I hope you don't mind.

Group 1	Megan Chatterton and Caroline Keller mchatter@unm.edu / ckeller@unm.edu
Group 2	Estela Gutierrez A. and Loreto Lorient M. estela@unm.edu / loretolo@unm.edu
Group 3	Janelle Hunt and Madison Selleck jhunt90@unm.edu / maedhros@unm.edu
Group 4	Nate Tremba and Carmen Halstead tremban@unm.edu / chalstea@unm.edu
Group 5	Veronica Schornack and Colleen Cummins ronnie7@unm.edu / cummins@unm.edu
Group 6	Megan Abrahamson and Emilee Howland-Davis maeglin@unm.edu / ehowland@unm.edu
Group 7	Clare Barker and Jeramie Barker clarebbarker@gmail.com / jbarker@unm.edu
Group 8	Colleen Dunn and Justin Brock cdunn01@unm.edu / jbrock87@unm.edu
Group 9	Justin Larsen and Jessica Troy jlarsen1@unm.edu / vampytoto@gmail.com
Group 10	Nick Schwartz, Kevin Jackson, Allison Pitts nschwar@unm.edu / kevin.scott.jackson@gmail.com apitts1@unm.edu

You should do the reviews in the order listed here:

- Group 1 will review the translations of Groups 8 and 3
- Group 2 will review the translations of Groups 10 and 6
- Group 3 will review the translations of Groups 9 and 1
- Group 4 will review the translations of Groups 7 and 5
- Group 5 will review the translations of Groups 6 and 10
- Group 6 will review the translations of Groups 5 and 8
- Group 7 will review the translations of Groups 4 and 9
- Group 8 will review the translations of Groups 2 and 7
- Group 9 will review the translations of Groups 3 and 2
- Group 10 will review the translations of Groups 1 and 4

Sections in the Poems:

Section 1: Lines 1-500	Group 10
Section 2: Lines 501-923	Group 7
Section 3: Lines 924-1286	Group 4
Section 4: Lines 1287-1707	Group 8
Section 5: Lines 1708-2073	Group 1
Section 6: Lines 2074-2438	Group 2
Section 7: Lines 2439-2800	Group 3
Section 8: Lines 2801-3169	Group 5
Section 9: Lines 3170-3590	Group 6
Section 10: Lines 3591-4022	Group 9

Schedule and Due Dates: This schedule supersedes the info on the original syllabus, which I also updated and reposted; I have created a PBWorks account for this project so that you can simply submit your work in MS Word to that site, from which we can all access all files. This should prevent an email nightmare. I will send the account info as soon as I have it formatted it. Make sure that you label your files with your group number for easy references.

Phase 1: Friday, 10.28.2011, submit your original translation and linguistic evaluation (one document).

Phase 2: Friday, 11.11.2011, submit editing suggestions to the first group you are editing.

Phase 3: Friday, 11.18.2011, submit editing suggestions to the second group you are editing and response to your first set of reviewers.

Final Draft due: Friday, 12.9.2011, submit final version of your initial translation and response to your second set of reviewers.

Submit to me via email attachment your evaluation of your translation group. Use the form on the website.