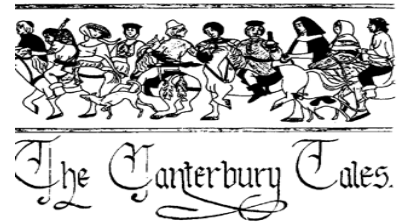


BRITISH LITERATURE LECTURE 02



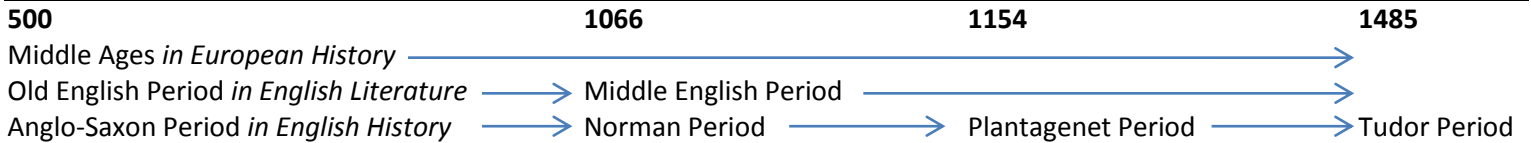
Beowulf Analysis

- Elements of Literature

Middle Ages – 500 (Fall of Rome) to 1500 (Protestant Reformation/Renaissance/Turkish invasion of Constantinople)

Middle English Period was the second half of Middle Ages in England – 1066 to 1485

- From Normand Invasion of 1066
- To Battle of Bosworth of 1485 marking the end of the War of the Roses and the beginning of the Tudor Reign



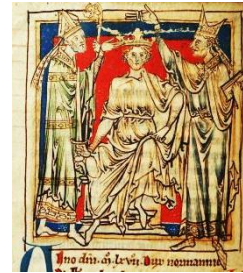
Battle of Hastings - 1066

- Bayeux Tapestry
- William the Conqueror introduced feudalism to England
 - Feudalism based on the Lord and Vassal relationship

Henry II ruled 1154 - 1189

Henry II is known for three main things:

- Rule by precedent – a basis for English & American common law
- Trial by Jury
- Thomas 'a Becket murder



Richard the Lionhearted ruled 1189 – 1199

- Son of Henry II ...and a famous Crusader!
- The famous Third Crusade: 1189 – 1192 (All the crusades took place from 1095 – 1291)



Infamous King John ruled 1199 - 1216

- Son of Henry II and little brother of Richard
- Forced by barons to sign Magna Carta (1215) – the foundation of our founding documents

Hundred Years War 1337 - 1453

- England versus France - House of Valois in France versus House of Plantagenet in England
- Direct result of feudal system
- Longbows & Gunpowder
- Joan of Arc

During those years of the Hundred Years War many things happened:

- **Black Death** / Bubonic Plague – 1348 - 1349
- **John Wycliffe** challenges the organized church – 1324 - 1384
- Invention of the movable-type **Printing Press!** :-D



War of Roses (about 1455 – 1485)

- Civil War in England lasting on and off for about thirty years
- House of Lancaster versus House of York – vying for the throne – both sides had claims
- Ended with Battle of Bosworth – Richard III died in battle against Henry VII
- Houses were united with marriage of Henry VII (Lancaster) and Elizabeth of York (niece of Richard III)
- Elizabeth didn't mind marrying the "enemy of the Yorks – her uncle had (probably) had her little brothers killed!

This week's Authors:

- **John Wycliffe**
 - For the Order of the Priesthood
 - Sentence of the Curse Expounded
- **Geoffrey Chaucer**
 - Canterbury Tales

