

Introducing British and American Literary Movements Outline of Lecture One: 1– Defining Literary Movements 2– The Importance of Studying Literary Movements 3– World and British Literature Periods 3–1– Early Periods of Literature 3–2– Later Periods of Literature Aim: At the end of this lecture, students will be able to: 1. Magic Realists such as Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Luis Borges, Alejo Carpentier, Gunter Grass, and Salman Rushdie flourish with surrealistic writings embroidered in the conventions of realism.

THE OLD ENGLISH (ANGLO–SAXON) PERIOD (428–1066) The so–called "Dark Ages" (455 CE – 799 CE) occur when Rome falls and barbarian tribes move into Europe. Franks, Ostrogoths, Lombards, and Goths settle in the ruins of Europe and the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes migrate to Britain, displacing native Celts into Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. Early Old English poems such as Beowulf, The Wanderer, and The Seafarer originate sometime late in the Anglo– Saxon period. The Carolingian Renaissance (800– 850 CE) emerges in Europe. In central Europe, texts include early medieval grammars, encyclopedias, etc. In northern Europe, this time period marks the setting of Viking sagas.

2. THE MIDDLE ENGLISH PERIOD (c. 1066–1450 CE): In 1066, Norman French armies invade and conquer England under William I. This marks the end of the Anglo– Saxon hierarchy and the emergence of the Twelfth Century Renaissance (c. 1100– 1200 CE). French chivalric romances—such as works by Chretien de Troyes—and French fables— such as the works of Marie de France and Jeun de Meun— spread in popularity. Abelard and other humanists produce great scholastic and theological works.

3. LATE OR "HIGH" MEDIEVAL PERIOD (c. 1200–1485 CE): This often tumultuous period is marked by the Middle English writings of Geoffrey Chaucer, the "Gawain" or "Pearl" Poet, the Wakefield Master, and William Langland.

CAROLINE AGE (1625–1649): John Milton, George Herbert, Robert Herrick, the "Sons of Ben" and others write during the reign of Charles I and his Cavaliers (The Cavalier Poets).

5. COMMONWEALTH PERIOD OR PURITAN INTERREGNUM (1649–1660): Under Cromwell's Puritan dictatorship, John Milton continues to write, but we also find writers like Andrew Marvell and Sir Thomas Browne.

3–2–Later Periods of Literature These periods are spans of time in which literature shared intellectual, linguistic, religious, and artistic influences. The Neoclassical Period is also called the "Enlightenment" due to the increased reverence for logic and disdain for superstition.

H. POSTMODERN PERIOD (c. 1945–1970) T. S. Eliot, Morrison, Shaw, Beckett, Stoppard, Fowles, Calvino, Ginsberg, Pynchon, and other modern writers, poets, and playwrights experiment with metafiction and fragmented poetry.

Plato, Socrates, Aristotle, Euripides, and Sophocles.

Prerequisites: ???2.3.4. 1.2.3.4. 1.2.3.