FRT 3004/MEM 2050 Spring 2016

Monuments and Masterpieces of France
Dr. William Calin
Graduate Research Professor

Section 03AF

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> period

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> periods

#### THE TALES OF KING ARTHUR

### 1. THEME OF COURSE

Arthur, Guinevere, Tristan, Isolt, Lancelot, and Perceval are not historical personages. They are literary characters in romances created first by poets in twelfth- and thirteenth-century France. This course will scrutinize the relationship of literature to historical reality, including the mind-set of a feudal-aristocratic and classical-Christian culture, knighthood and chivalry, attitudes toward women (courtly love), the nature of literature, and the creation of myth. The Arthurian world is one of the great, perhaps the greatest, myth of modern times. The class will be conducted in English.

# 2. STUDENT WORK AND EXPECTATIONS

- The course will be conducted as a seminar. Students are expected to keep up with reading assignments and to participate actively in class discussion.
- No exams or quizzes
- One 10-12 page paper
- No incompletes

### 3. TEXTS FOR THE COURSE

The Lais of Marie de France. Tr. Robert Hanning and Joan Ferrante

Beroul, The Romance of Tristan. Tr. Alan Fedrick

Thomas of Britain, *Tristram*. Tr. Stewart Gregory (Packet)

Chretien de Troyes, Lancelot, or The Knight of the Cart. Tr. Ruth Cline

Chretien de Troyes, Yvain, or The Knight with the Lion. Tr. Ruth Cline

The Death of King Arthur. Tr. James Cable

Renard the Fox. Tr. Patricia Terry

# 4. SCHEDULE

Jan. 5 Introduction

Jan. 7 Courtly Lyrics (handout)

 Jan. 12 -- 21
 Marie

 Jan. 26 -- Feb. 2
 Beroul

 Feb. 4 --11
 Thomas

 Feb. 16 -- 23
 Lancelot

Feb. 25 Yvain

March 1 -- 3 Secular Holiday

March 8 Yvain

March 10 Reading Period

March 15 -- 17 Yvain

March 22 -- 31 King Arthur

April 5 --14 Renard

April 19 Conclusion

# 5. COMMUNICATION

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