

**ENGLISH 4260: CHAUCER
SPRING 2020
DISCUSSION BOARD DATA SHEET**

For the rest of the semester we will use weekly discussion boards to continue the discussions we have been having in class. There will ultimately be eight of them, arranged according to the groups and the schedule below.

The first check-in board is already open; I've asked you to post a meme or a joke or a recipe to demonstrate your ability to use the software. That post will be worth 1% of your final grade.

The remaining board activity—two substantial posts and four replies are the minimum required—will *replace the second essay assignment*. You can earn 24 points for discussion board work, which will comprise the remaining 24% of your grade.

For orientation purposes I will endeavor to post 2-3 mini-lectures near the beginning of each week (basically, my slide shows accompanied by my mellifluous voice and occasional glimpses of my smiling face).

I will also open up a "Questions about this Tale?" board when the weekly discussion boards open, so you can always ask questions about the reading as you do it. Posting on this board is not required; it's just an opportunity to clarify matters as you read. I will check that board daily—maybe even twice daily—but not, say, hourly, so if you have a question, be a little patient. And if you don't have a question, check out the "Questions" board anyway; who knows what you might discover?

| ENGLISH 4260: CHAUCER DISCUSSION BOARD GROUPS | | |
|---|-------------|-----------|
| GROUP A | GROUP B | GROUP C |
| Gregory B | Elisabeth M | Chelsea B |
| Joseph D | Gabrielle N | Emily D |
| Jason D | Taylor O | Joel G |
| Ellie G | Dominic S | Jason L |
| Bailey H | Emily S | Lauren W |
| | Jeffrey S | |

| WEEK | BOARD TOPIC | OPENS | CLOSES | POSTING | REPLYING | RESTING (no activity required) |
|-------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| 9 | Check-in Post (memes) | THURS 3/19 | SOON! | Everyone posts! | | |
| 10 | Franklin's Tale | SUN 3/29 NOON | THURS 4/2 5PM | A | B | C |
| 10-11 | Pardoner's Tale | SAT 4/4 NOON | WEDS 4/8 9AM | B | C | A |
| 11-12 | Shipman/Prioress | FRI 4/10 NOON | TUES 4/14 5PM | C | A | B |
| | | | | | | |
| 12-13 | Monk's Tale | SUN 4/12 NOON | THURS 4/16 5PM | B | A | C |
| 13 | Nun's Priest's Tale | SAT 4/18 NOON | WEDS 4/21 9AM | A | C | B |
| 14 | Parson's Tale | SAT 4/25 NOON | WEDS 4/29 9AM | C | B | A |
| 15 | TBA | TBA | TBA | | | |

Posting:

- 8 points each (8 points/post x 2 separate weeks = 16 total points)
- Minimum 350 words
- Please try to post during the first 36 hours that the board is available; that gives responders time to respond, and gives you time to respond the responses.
- “Posters” should make specific observations or ask thoughtfully framed questions about the new reading. Sometimes I will suggest topics. At this point in the semester, you should feel free to relate the new reading back to the Tales we have already covered, and week-to-week posters should feel free to continue to pursue interesting themes from the previous week’s discussions (once we have some). Try to frame your observations in a way that will invite further conversation, and always try to refer to specific passages in the text (by line number) to support your claim/ground your question/guide your reader.

Replying:

- 2 points each reply ([2 points/reply] x [2 replies/week] x [2 separate weeks] = 8 total points)
- Minimum 100 words
- Reply to at least two different posts
- Each reply to a post should respond to the claims or questions made in the posting, agreeing, disagreeing, qualifying, answering, or adding to them. Whether you agree or disagree or a little of both, you should give reasons for your opinions or judgments. You can also cite additional passages of the text, or related texts, to support your reply. Write as if you expect the original poster to respond to you—because they might!

Resting:

- No posts required for that board, though you are encouraged to read and keep track, as each discussion will be a source of topics for the next.
- You are in no way prohibited from participating, should you wish to do so—you will have full access.

One-and-done posting/replying will certainly earn you the necessary credit for these assignments, but I encourage you to stay involved through the week on the discussion boards—they only become actual discussions when they are animated by the genuine back-and-forth of replies that spawn more replies, and it's the experience of participating in a discussion as it follows its own self-generated thread that we're trying to capture. You know—kind of like the *Canterbury Tales*.

I'm sure I don't need to remind you that the usual face-to-face classroom guidelines about civility and collegiality apply online as well, because our in-class discussions were already fully respectful.