

English 300: Medieval Literature

Final Presentation on Chester Mystery Cycle Play

Purpose: This presentation gives you an opportunity to explain to the class what you as a group have learned about your play and found interesting, as well as given you an opportunity to practice your presentation skills. You want to appeal to this audience—explaining what your peers don't know, but keeping in mind that when you talk about material or ideas that we all do know, you'll need to relate it back specifically to YOUR play to show us something new and interesting. Whatever creative, visual, or pedagogical strategies you can bring to the presentation will only enhance it. Think about what works effectively for YOU as a learner/audience member. The class is your audience, and you want to engage and inform them.

Practical notes: If you send a handout to me by 9:30AM the morning of your presentation, then I can run off photocopies for the class. If you include lines of the play on the handout, please be sure to give your versions with glosses; if you include any significant quotations from scholarly sources, please identify the title of the article, essay, or monograph, the author, and the page number(s). If you have color images you want reproduced, you must let me know AT LEAST 24 HOURS in advance. If you are going to be using PowerPoint or other visual elements via the computer, make sure you have at LEAST two copies (2 flashdrives/thumbdrives/USB sticks; a flashdrive and it uploaded onto Google Docs, Dropbox, or some other cloud-based storage; online and off-line versions, etc.). I recommend that PowerPoint users check to see if your PowerPoint works and shows up like you want on the computer the day BEFORE you present; just slip into the classroom when it's open.

Presentation Feedback and Grade

Poor		Fine		Excellent	
1	2	3	4	5	Creative, engaging presentation that generated interest <i>(interactive elements are a plus)</i>
1	2	3	4	5	Gave a good sense of the chief elements of the play (<i>characters, action, plot</i>) as well as some specific elements or insights (<i>could be a discussion about language, lines, themes, symbols, characters, how the story differs from its sources, scholarly interpretations, historical and artistic context, any discussion of specificities</i>)
1	2	3	4	5	Gave sense of some scholarly approaches and relevant background information (<i>can be as small as mentioning scholarly interpretations of a few key lines or characters, or as major as taking several minutes to review major scholarly discussions of your play, or showing various pictures of different kinds of modern/medieval staging, etc.</i>)
1	2	3	4	5	Actively connected the play to other aspects of the course: other medieval drama and literature, historical context, etc.
1	2	3	4	5	All group members participated significantly (<i>Note: the presentation does NOT have to perfectly align with who writes about what topic in the Introduction.</i>)
1	2	3	4	5	Respected time constraints and moved at an acceptable pace (<i>i.e. not rushing things in at the end or beginning, enough material for 20 minutes</i>)
1	2	3	4	5	Had sense of organization and structure