

## COURSE DETAIL

### HEROES AND QUEENS; MONSTERS AND EXILES: GENDER ROLES IN MEDIEVAL ENGLISH POETIC TEXTS

**Country**

Germany

**Host Institution**

Free University of Berlin

**Program(s)**

Humboldt University Berlin, Free University Berlin

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

English

**UCEAP Course Number**

111

**UCEAP Course Suffix**

C

**UCEAP Official Title**

HEROES AND QUEENS; MONSTERS AND EXILES: GENDER ROLES IN MEDIEVAL ENGLISH POETIC TEXTS

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

MEDIEVAL LIT: GENDR

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

4.50

**UCEAP Semester Units**

3.00

**Course Description**

Old English was the language spoken and preserved in written texts up to the mid-eleventh century CE in the regions of the British Isles. It developed from the languages spoken by Germanic peoples coming to Britain from the continental mainland and presents the earliest precursor of Modern English. In this course, we will focus on Old English texts written in verse, exploring their themes, styles, meanings, and the challenges of dealing with a language surviving only in a small number of often unique and damaged manuscripts. Texts we will be reading include heroic poetry, such as *Beowulf*, elegies, as well as Old English versions of Biblical texts. The focus of our readings will be on the question of how such texts portray concepts of gender, how they construct but also deconstruct gender roles, and how they relate to gender theory in the 21st century. Students will be introduced to the grammar and pronunciation of Old English and will use their knowledge to work with the original texts alongside Modern English translations.

**Language(s) of Instruction**

English

**Host Institution Course Number**

17329

**Host Institution Course Title**

HEROES AND QUEENS; MONSTERS AND EXILES: GENDER ROLES IN  
MEDIEVAL ENGLISH POETIC TEXTS

**Host Institution Campus****Host Institution Faculty****Host Institution Degree****Host Institution Department**

