Geoffrey Chaucer’s literary influence is such that the entirety of the fourteenth century sometimes referred to as “The Age of Chaucer.” In this course, we will undertake an examination of his greatest work, *The Canterbury Tales*, in an attempt to determine why. This course will examine a selection of Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales* and will subject them to careful, critically-informed close-reading analysis, paying particular attention to topics such as historical context, critical reception, and language. To this end, we will also undertake a crash course in the reading and pronunciation of Chaucerian Middle English, effectively giving you two valuable courses in one. You can’t afford not to take this course!

We will also be viewing (outside of class) Pier Paolo Pasolini’s bawdy, infamous, and highly entertaining film adaptation of *The Canterbury Tales*.

This course is worth a single credit hour. Course requirements will include one lengthy, researched essay in addition to one shorter assignment and a final exam. Participation in class discussion is assumed.

Prerequisite: English 205 and at least one 300-level survey, preferably English 324 (although this prerequisite can be waved with the consent of the professor).