**Recommended Course Identification:**

**Prefix:** LIT  
**Course Number:** 6900  
**Lab Code:** (L or C)  

**Complete Course Title:** READING FOR COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS

**Credits:** 3; may be repeated for credit

**Textbook Information:** Texts vary by student

**Grading (Select only one grading option):** Regular  
**Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory**  

**Course Description, no more than three lines:**
This course is designed to give graduate students who have elected to pursue the comprehensive exam option in the English MA or MAT program rigorous guidance in preparing for that exam. In close consultation with their exam committee chair, a student will work through at least half of her or his reading list during each semester taking this course.

**Prerequisites:** Departmental permission

**Corequisites:**

**Registration Controls (Major, College, Level):**

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**Minimum Qualifications Needed to Teach This Course:**
Terminal degree in field; member of English Department Graduate Faculty

Faculty contact, email and complete phone number:
Mark Scroggins  
mscroggi@fau.edu  
561-297-3561

Please consult and list departments that might be affected by the new course and attach comments.

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Email this form and syllabus to UGPC@fau.edu one week before the University Graduate Programs Committee meeting so that materials may be viewed on the UGPC website prior to the meeting.

FAUnewcourseGrad—Revised September 2013
LIT 6900: Reading for Comprehensive Exams
3 credits
(Prerequisite: by permission of Department. This course is a requirement for MA and MAT students electing to pursue the comprehensive exam option. It may be repeated for credit.)

Spring 2014
Instructor: Professor Mark Scroggins
Office: CU 357
Office Hours: M/W/F 11-1, and by appointment
Office Phone: 561-297-3561
E-mail: mscroggi@fau.edu

Course Description:
This course is designed to give graduate students who have elected to pursue the comprehensive exam option rigorous guidance in preparing for that exam.

Course Objectives:
Over the course of this semester, you will work your way through at least half of the reading list for your comprehensive exam. It is assumed that you have already encountered many of the texts on your reading list in your coursework, but you will revisit those texts with the same care you devote to the unfamiliar items on your list. By the end of the semester, you will be prepared to be examined on the texts that you and your exam committee have agreed to focus on.

Course Evaluation Method:
This course is graded S/U. You are expected to meet with your exam chair on a weekly basis over the course of the semester, including an initial orientational meeting. You should keep in close touch with your chair about the progress of your reading. At the end of the semester, you will meet with your full exam committee and discuss your progress. It is highly recommended that you keep a reading journal, as well as copious notes, so that you can document your reading. If at that time the committee deems that you are making satisfactory progress towards a successful exam, you will receive an "S."

Required Texts/Readings:
The reading for this course will consist of the works on your exam reading list, which includes between 20 and 25 works of literature and 5 to 10 secondary readings. Over the course of this semester, you will cover approximately half of the reading list, as detailed in the schedule. Your full reading list is attached at the end of this syllabus.
ADA and Academic Integrity Statements:

**University Disability Policy Statement:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodation due to a disability to properly execute course work must register with the Office of Students with Disabilities (OSD) – in Boca Raton, SU 133 (561-297-3880); in Davie, LA 240 (954-236-1222); in Jupiter, SR 110 (561-799-8010) – and follow all OSD procedures.

**Code of Academic Integrity Statement:** Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the University mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, consult the Code of Academic Integrity in the University Regulations:

Course Schedule:

Week 1 (6 – 10 January): *Beowulf*; Sisam, *The Structure of Beowulf*

Week 2 (13 – 17 January): *Sir Orfeo, Pearl*


Week 4 (27 – 31 January): Patterson, *Chaucer and the Subject of History*


Week 6 (10 – 14 February): Sidney, *Astrophel and Stella*; Spenser, "Epithalamion"


Week 8 (24 – 28 February): Greenblatt, *Renaissance Self-Fashioning*; selections from Parker and Quint, eds., *Literary Theory / Renaissance Texts*

3 – 7 March: SPRING BREAK

Week 9 (10 – 14 March): Shakespeare, *Hamlet; Richard III*

Week 10 (17 – 21 March): Shakespeare, *The Tempest; Sonnets*


Week 13 (7 April – 11 April): Bacon, *The New Organon*
Week 14 (14 April – 18 April): Bacon, *The New Organon* continued

Week 15 (21 – 22 April): Herbert, *The Temple*

A final evaluative meeting between the student and the exam committee will be scheduled during exam week.
Full Reading List: British Literature

Primary Works

*Beowulf*

*Sir Orfeo*

*Pearl*


Sir Thomas More, *Utopia*

Sir Philip Sidney, *Astrophel and Stella*

---, *Defence of Poesy*

Sir Edmund Spenser, *The Faerie Queene* (Book I)

---, "Epithalamion"

William Shakespeare, *Hamlet*

---, *Richard III*

---, *The Tempest*

---, *Sonnets*

Ben Jonson, *The Alchemist*

---, *Epicoene*

John Donne, *Songs and Sonnets*

---, Sermon 66

Sir Francis Bacon, *The New Organon*

George Herbert, *The Temple*


Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan* (selections)

John Milton, "Lycidas"

---, *Paradise Lost*

Andrew Marvell, Poems

John Dryden, *Absalom and Achitophel*

Jonathan Swift, *Gulliver's Travels*

Alexander Pope, *Moral Essays*

Samuel Johnson, *Rasselas*

Secondary Works

Kenneth Sisam, *The Structure of Beowulf*

Lee Patterson, *Chaucer and the Subject of History*

Stephen Greenblatt, *Renaissance Self-Fashioning*

Stanley Fish, *Self-Consuming Artifacts*

Stephen Greenblatt, ed., *Representing the English Renaissance*

Patricia Parker and David Quint, eds., *Literary Theory / Renaissance Texts*

Louis I. Bredvold, *The Intellectual Milieu of John Dryden*