**ENGL 3030: The Middle Ages**

***Endeavors: October 20, 2014***

<https://feudalendeavorfall2014.wikispaces.com/Endeavors>

**The Fireside Chat:** Discussion of *The Battle of Maldon* (103-8, assigned 10/20)

* Endeavors Activity

Text Description – Possibly 11th century (battle took place in 991): Remaining fragment of Anglo-Saxon poem detailing the Battle of Maldon, a fight between Viking raiders and an English army attempting to hold them off. It is known for its depictions of military loyalty and the search for honor in war.

* + During this activity, the group will discuss various aspects of *The Battle of Maldon*, re-reading the text itself closely. **In particular, discuss the question:** what can we learn about the values of Anglo-Saxon culture, particularly the values of war and warriors, from this text?
  + During this discussion, each member of the group will take notes on the paper provided, particularly including their own ideas about the text.
  + After this discussion, each member of the group will turn in their notes to Dr. T (be sure your name is on yours). You will receive bonus credit towards your Course Journal of the week on the following scale:
    - 0 points: no notes or only brief
    - 1 point: relatively thorough, demonstrating effort in discussion
    - 2 points: detailed, includes reference to at least one quotation from text
* Purpose: This activity will help us think closely about this particular text, and writing notes will help us think through the discussion (proven scientific fact!).

**The Guild:** Play Practice

* Endeavors Activity
  + During this activity, members of the group will practice reading aloud their roles from *Everyman*.
  + All members of the group should help think about the individual roles, their meaning, and potential methods of portraying the role in the performance.
* Purpose: This activity will help us continue to prepare for our play performance.

**The Scriptorium:** *The Exeter Book Elegies* (24-30, assigned 10/20)

Text Description – c. 10th century: A collection of Anglo-Saxon poems ranging in themes (loss, mourning, passage of time, etc.), narrators (warriors who have lost their kin groups, abandoned wives, sailors, etc.), and settings. They are called elegies because they are “serious meditative poem(s)” (24). Others have called them “wisdom poems” because they include discussions on how to live and perceive life.

* Endeavors Activity
  + During this activity, the group will read *The Exeter Book Elegies*, starting with “The Wanderer,” line by line.
  + During this discussion, the group will provide an interpretation of each line in the table on the wiki page dedicated to this activity, focusing on as much detail as possible.
  + ONE member of the group will be in charge of adding the line-by-line interpretation. The first line interpreted by your group should have your Group Name.
  + Goal: each group should add a minimum of **20 NEW line interpretations** (in other words, do not repeat lines that another group has already done). If the group completes 20, keep going until time is up.
* Purpose: This activity will 1) provide us practice reading a text closely, 2) emphasize the necessity of reading texts line by line to identify any parts that are confusing or need further explanation, and 3) provide us practice looking up any words that do not make sense.

**The Tournament:** Works Cited Tilting

Article Citation

Kightley, Michael R. “Communal Interdependence in *The Battle of Maldon*.” *Studia Neophilologica* 82 (2010):

58-68. *MLA International Bibliography*. Web. 19 Oct. 2014.

* Endeavors Activity
  + During this activity, Dr. T will provide you with a copy of the References page (equivalent to a Works Cited) of the above article.
  + You will have 10 minutes to study this References page, considering it as if you were going to use it to help you research *The Battle of Maldon*.
  + During this 10 minutes, you will make a list of as many useful pieces of information as possible that you can glean from this References list.
  + You can receive points in the Tilt for the following:
    - A significant observation about a source
    - A significant notation for further research
    - A significant observation about the list of sources as a whole
    - Etc.
  + The group member with the most significant and relevant points at the end of the Tilt may choose a prize.
* Purpose: This activity will provide practice in reading/mining a Works Cited (or References, Bibliography, etc.) of one source in order to help you further your own research.