Seventeenth-Century Poetry & Prose

ENGL 3324 / MLENG 5324, Section A
Spring 2016 ~ T & Th ~ 11:00-12:15 ~ Malloy 024

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Office Hours: W 2:00-3:00; T & Th 10:00-11:00, 3:30-4:30 (and by appointment)

Objectives: This course offers a critical survey of seventeenth-century English non-dramatic literature, exclusive of Milton. We will study the principal literary achievements of the second half of the English literary Renaissance in verse and prose. We will also set these works in the relevant historical, intellectual, and cultural contexts of Jacobean, Caroline, Interregnum, and Restoration society. Over the course of the term, students will (1) become conversant with major works of seventeenth-century poetry and prose, (2) engage the study of Renaissance intellectual contexts and historical backgrounds, (3), articulate critical arguments about literary meaning in discussion and writing.


Requirements: To receive credit for this course students are expected to attend class regularly, read all of the assignments on the syllabus, participate in class discussion, sit for a mid-term and final examinations, take several reading quizzes, and submit two formal essays (4-6 pages each). MLA students will also research and compose a short annotated bibliography and develop a critical research project in consultation with the instructor (in place of Essay 2).

Unexcused absences and habitual tardiness will not be tolerated and will result in a reduction of the final grade at the instructor’s discretion.

Written work is due on the dates designated on the syllabus, *at the beginning of class*. Work submitted late without prior approval will be penalized with the reduction of letter grade for each two-day period past the due date.

The university’s policies on academic dishonesty will be strictly enforced, and students are strongly urged for familiarize themselves with the relevant sections of the *Undergraduate Catalog* (pp. 71-73) and the *Student Handbook* (pp. 40-45).

Grading: For the satisfactory achievement of these requirements, letter grades will be awarded and will constitute percentages of the final grade as follows:

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<th>Component</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-term Exam</td>
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<td>Essay 1</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td>Quizzes</td>
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January
19 T  Introductory: Seventeenth-Century Literary Culture / “A warlike, various & tragicall age”
26 T  The vexatious contraries of John Donne / Carew, “An Elegy Upon the Death of the Dean of Pauls, Dr. John Donne” (BASCVP, p. 385); Walton, The Life of Dr. John Donne (handout); Holy Sonnet XI, “Oh, to vex me, contraries meet in one” (p. 125)
28 Th  Donne’s Songs and Sonnets: The Pose of Libertinism; “The Flea” (p. 103); “The Indifferent” (p. 104); “Confined Love” (p. 107); “Farewell to Love” (p. 111); Elegy XIX “To His Mistress Going to Bed” (p. 117); Eros & Thanatos: “The Apparition” (p. 103); “The Relic” (p. 113); “The Damp” (handout); “Twicknam Garden” (p. 108); for comparison, Ben Jonson, “Though I am young” (handout)

February
2 T  The Religion of Love: “The Good-Morrow” (p. 103); “The Anniversary” (p. 105); “The Sun Rising” (p. 106); “The Canonization” (p. 106); “The Ecstasy” (p. 109); “A Valediction: forbidding Mourning” (p. 112); Read also, Rivers, Chp. 3, “Platonism and Neoplatonism”
9 T  Sacred & Profane / Gender & Geometry: “Satire III” (p. 120); “Good Friday, 1613. Riding Westward” (p. 125); “Upon the Annunciation and Passion falling upon one day, 1608” (handout)
11 Th  Holy Sonnets I-XI (pp. 122-25); “A Hymn to God my God, in my sickness” (p. 127); “A Hymn to God the Father” (p. 127); Read again Rivers, Chp. 7, “Reformation and Counter-Reformation”; Chp. 8, “Protestant Theology”
16 T  Devotions: Upon Emergent Occasions, selections (pp. 128-32); Second Prebend Sermon (pp. 132-45)
18 Th  O rare Ben Jonson: “On Something that Walks Somewhere” (p. 147); “On My First Daughter” (p. 147); “On My First Son” (p. 147); “Inviting a Friend to Supper” (p. 149); “Song To Celia” (p. 152); “An Ode. To Himself” (p. 156); Read also Rivers, Chp. 4, “Stoicism”
23 T  “To Penshurst” (pp. 150); “The Praises of a Country Life” (p. 159)
25 Th  Robert Herrick: “The Argument of His Book” (p. 309); “Delight in Disorder” (p. 311); “Corinna’s Going A Maying” (p. 311); “To live merrily and trust to good verses” (p. 313); “To the Virgins, To make much of Time” (p. 314); “The Hock-Cart, or Harvest home” (p. 314); Read also Rivers, Chp. 1, “The Golden Age and the Garden of Eden”

March
1 T  George Herbert: The Temple (outline & overview; handout); “The Altar” (p. 363); “Redemption” (p. 363); “Easter Wings” (p. 364); “Prayer (I)” (p. 365); “Jordan (I)” (p. 366); “Denial” (p. 367); “Virtue” (p. 369); Read also Rivers, Chp. 10, “Biblical Exegesis and Typology”
3 Th  “The Pearl. Matth. 13:45” (p. 369); “Man” (p. 370); “Life” (p. 371); “Jordan (II)” (p. 371); “The Quip” (p. 371); “Paradise” (p. 375); Essay 1 due
8 T  “To All Angels and Saints” (handout); “The Collar” (p. 376); “The Flower” (p. 377); “Love (III)” (p. 379)
10 Th Mid-term exam

15 T  Seventeenth-Century Prose: Styles, Modes, and Classical Antecedents
17 Th  Francis Bacon, “Of Truth” (p. 25); “Of Studies” (1597) (p. 45); “Of Studies” (1625) (p. 46);
       Aphorisms (pp. 47-62)

       Holy Week & Easter Break – March 21-27

29 T  Robert Burton: The Anatomy of Melancholy (selections) (pp. 188-217)
31 Th  Sir Thomas Browne: Religio Medici (selections) (pp. 465-488); Hydriotaphia (selections) (pp. 489-497)

April
5 T  Cavaliers & Libertines: Carew, “A Rapture” (p. 382); “In praise of his Mistress” (p. 388); Suckling, “Song” (p. 597); “The Constant Lover” (p. 599); “Sonnet II” (p. 601); Lovelace, “To Lucasta, Going to the Wars” (p. 765); “To Lucasta. From Prison” (p. 766)
7 Th  Cowley, “The Innocent Ill” (p. 773); Rochester, “Upon His Leaving His Mistress” (p. 1156); Behn, “Song” (p. 1098); MLA Prospectus due

12 T  Voices of Women: Lanyer, “To the Virtuous Reader” (p. 83); Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum
       (selections) (pp. 84-93); Makin, An essay to Revive the Ancient Education of Gentlewomen (pp. 425-433); Fell, Women’s Speaking Justified (pp. 705-712)
14 Th  Cavendish, “The Poetress’s Hasty Resolution” (p. 887); “The Pastime of the Queen of the
       Fairies” (p. 889); “Her Descending Down” (p. 890); “I language want”” (p. 890); Philips,
       “Friendship’s Mystery” (p. 1010); “To My Excellent Lucasia” (p. 1012)

19 T  Andrew Marvell: Aubrey’s Brief Lives:  “Andrew Marvell” (p. 932); “The Definition of Love”
       (p. 833); “To His Coy Mistress” (p. 834); “The Nymph Complaining” (p. 838)
21 Th  “The Garden” (p. 855); “Bermudas” (p. 863); Essay 2 due / MLA Essay due

26 T  “An Horatian Ode Upon Cromwell’s Return from Ireland” (p. 835)
28 Th  The End of an Age: Dryden, The Secular Masque (p. 1005); Conclusion & review

       Final Examination: Thursday, May 5, 12:00-2:30