

This syllabus has been provided as a reference tool for students considering this course. It has been modified to follow Senate regulations. Current students enrolled in any undergraduate course must obtain the most recent syllabus from their course instructor or from their course website. This is not the latest version.



Department of English & Writing Studies

Renaissance Literature English 3224E (001) Fall/Winter 2013-14

Instructor: Dr. Madeline Bassnett

Date/Time: Monday 10:30am-12:30pm
Wednesday 10:30am-11:30am

Location: Physics & Astronomy Building 150

Prerequisites

At least 60% in 1.0 of English 1020E or 1022E or 1024E or 1035E or 1036E or both English 1027F/G and 1028F/G, or permission of the Department.

Antirequisite(s): English 2301E, 2302F/G, 2303F/G, 2304E, 2305F/G and 2306F/G.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Description

This course covers a wide range of poetry and prose written by both men and women in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Discussions of literary history, genre, and form will be combined with examinations of ideas such as gender and sexuality, political and national identity, authorship and literary production.

Objectives:

Successful students who complete the course will be better able to:

- Engage critically and creatively with canonical and non-canonical literature
- Explore relationships between historical context and literary criticism
- Examine generic, formal, rhetorical, and prosodic techniques
- Develop effective arguments through a combination of close reading and independent research
- Evaluate and integrate secondary criticism into your own arguments
- Discover connections between the past and present

Course Materials

Required text: *Broadview Press Custom Coursepack*: available through the bookstore

Methods of Evaluation

Group discussions		10%
Essay #1 (1000-1500 words)	Due Oct. 9	10%
Essay #2 (2000 words)	Due Nov. 20	15%
Essay #3 (1500-2000 words)	Due Feb. 5	15%
Essay #4 (2000-2500 words)	Due March 19	15%
3 Hour Final Exam		35%

A student must receive a passing grade for both term work and the final examination in order to receive a passing grade for the course. This applies to all courses in all programs offered by the department. Students whose term and final exam grades average 50% or above, even though one of the two is a failure, shall receive a default grade of 48%. **Please note:** The department of English & Writing Studies does not release final grades. All undergraduate grade reports will be available online from the Office of the Registrar.

Students are fully responsible for looking at and being familiar with the information posted on the department website at <http://www.uwo.ca/english/undergraduate/info%20for%20students.html#grade>.

Timetable:

FALL TERM: SIXTEENTH CENTURY

Sept. 9 Introduction

A Whole Lotta Love: Lyric and Sonnets

- 11 **Lyric: Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey**, "Prisoned in Windsor, He Recounteth His Pleasure There Passed; **Sir Thomas Wyatt**, "They Flee From Me," "Blame Not My Lute" (pp. 4-5, 7-8)
- 16 **English Petrarchism 1: Richard Tottel**, "The Printer to the Reader"; **Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey**, "Description of Spring," "How Each Thing, Save the Lover, in Spring Reviveth to Pleasure"; **Sir Thomas Wyatt**, "Description of the Contrarious Passions in a Lover," "Whoso List to Hunt" (pp. 1-4, 6, 7-8)
- 18 **Wyatt**, "The Lover for Shamefastness," "The Long Love"; **Surrey**, "Complaint of a Lover Rebuked," "Complaint by Night of the Lover Not Beloved" (pp. 6, 7, 3)
GROUPS: Sonnet "Translations"
- 23 **English Petrarchism 2: Philip Sidney**, *Astrophile and Stella*, 1, 5, 9, 27, 47, 53, 71, 81, 82, Fourth Song, Ninth Song, 87, 108 (pp. 9-15, 17-19)
- 25 **Queering the Sonnet 1: Richard Barnfield**, from *Cynthia. With Certain Sonnets, and the Legend of Cassandra*. (pp. 47-52)
- 30 **Queering the Sonnet 2: William Shakespeare**, *Sonnets*, 2, 3, 12, 17, 18, 20, 40, 42, 73, 76, 89, 90, 99, 116, 129, 130, 135, 138, 144, 145, 146 (pp. 53, 74-83)
GROUPS: Working with the *OED*

Love Again: Epyllion and Epithalamion

- Oct. 2 **Shakespeare**, *Venus and Adonis* (pp. 54-74)
- 7 **Shakespeare**, *Venus and Adonis*
GROUPS: Ovid and Shakespeare
- 9 **Edmund Spenser**, *Epithalamion* (pp. 85-93)
ESSAY #1 DUE**
- 14 Thanksgiving

Women's Voices

- 16 **Jean Luis Vives**, from *The Instruction of a Christian Woman*, "Preface," "Of Her First Exercise," "Of the Learning of Maids," "What Books to Be Read and What Not" (pp. 94, 96-110)
- 21 **Anne Askew**, from *The First Examination* and *The Latter Examination* (pp. 109-31)
- 23 **Mary Sidney Herbert, Countess of Pembroke**, "To the Angel Spirit," "Psalm 72," "Psalm 139" (pp. 132-39)
- 28 **Jane Anger**, from *Her Protection for Women* (pp. 140-47)
GROUPS: Female Authorship
- 30 **Isabella Whitney**, "An Order Prescribed," "The Author... Maketh Her Will and Testament" (pp. 148-57)

Humanism and Travel

- Nov. 4 **Sir Thomas More**, *Utopia* (pp. 158-226)
- 6 **More**, *Utopia*
- 11 **Critiquing Utopia: Christopher Burlinson**, "Humans and Animals in Thomas More's *Utopia*." *Utopian Studies* 19.1 (2008): 25-47. Available on OWL.
GROUPS: Writing Synopses, Defining Arguments
- 13 **Francis Bacon**, "Of Travel," "Of Plantations" (pp. 294-99)
- 18 **Sir Philip Sidney**, from *Defence of Poesy* (pp. 20-46)
GROUPS: Learning, Pleasure, and Golden Worlds
- 20 **Walter Raleigh**, *Discovery of Guiana* (pp. 227-45)
ESSAY #2 DUE**
- 25 **Thomas Nashe**, from *The Unfortunate Traveler* (pp. 246-56)
- 27 **William Kemp**, *Kemp's Nine Days' Wonder* (pp. 257-73)
- Dec. 2 **Monstrous Children Broadides** (pp. 274-89)
GROUPS: Image, Text, and Fashion

4 **Summing Up and Looking Forward: First term review**

WINTER TERM: SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

Marriage and Conduct

- Jan. 6 **Francis Bacon**, "Of Simulation and Dissimulation," "Of Marriage and Single Life," "Of Love"; **Nicholas Breton**, "An Atheist," "A Wanton Woman," "A Quiet Woman," "An Unworthy Lawyer" (pp. 300-303, 304-6)
- 8 **Robert Herrick**, "Corinna's Going a-Maying," "To the Virgins, to Make Much of Time"; **John Suckling**, "A Ballad. Upon a Wedding," "A Candle" (pp. 358-61, 362, 368-71)
- 13 **Rachel Speght**, "Of Woman's Excellency"; **Aemilia Lanyer**, "To All Virtuous Ladies in General," "To the Virtuous Reader," *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum* lines 745-840 (Defence of Eve) (pp. 373-76, 377-81, 387-88)
GROUPS: Texts and Contexts
- 15 **Katherine Philips**, "A Married State"; **Margaret Cavendish**, "The Loving Cuckold," "Sociable Letter XXVI" (pp. 336, 341, 394-97, 398-99)
- 20 **John Milton**, *Samson Agonistes* (pp. 424-55)
GROUPS: A Wicked Wife?
- 22 **Milton**, *Samson Agonistes*

Metaphysical and Neoplatonic Love

- 27 **John Donne**, "The Good Morrow," "The Sun Rising," "Farewell to Love," "Love's Alchemy," "The Indifferent" (pp. 307-11, 314)
- 29 **Donne**, "A Valediction: forbidding Mourning," "The Ecstasy" (pp. 312-13, 315)
- Feb. 3 **Donne**, "Elegy XIX: To His Mistress Going to Bed"; **Andrew Marvell**, "To His Coy Mistress" (pp. 316-17, 322-24)
GROUPS: Petrarchism and the Metaphysicals
- 5 **Thomas Carew**, "A Rapture" (pp. 331-34)
ESSAY #3 DUE**
- 10 **Katherine Philips**, "Friendship's Mystery, To My Dearest Lucasia," "Orinda to Lucasia Parting," "Orinda to Lucasia"; **John Donne**, "Sappho to Philaenis" (pp. 337-41, 293)
- 12 **Mary Wroth**, from *Pamphilia to Amphilanthus*, 77-90 (A Crown of Sonnets Dedicated to Love), 103 (pp. 342-43, 346-50)
- 17-21 Reading Week

Food, Animals, and Agriculture

- 24 **Ben Jonson**, "To Penshurst," "Inviting a Friend to Supper," "The Praises of a Country Life" (pp. 405-409, 410-11)
- 26 **Robert Herrick**, "Cherry-Ripe," "The Hock Cart," "Fresh Cheese and Cream," "A Thanksgiving to God, for his House" (pp. 362-67)
- Mar. 3 **Margaret Cavendish**, "A Discourse of Beasts," "The Hunting of the Hare," "Philosophical Letter XXXVI"; **Andrew Marvell**, "The Nymph Complaining for the Death of Her Fawn" (pp. 400-404, 328-30)
GROUPS: Theories of the Animal
- 5 **Aemilia Lanyer**, "Description of Cookham" (pp. 390-93)
- 10 **Andrew Marvell**, "The Mower Against Gardens," "Damon the Mower," "The Mower to the Glow-worms," "The Mower's Song" (pp. 325-27)
GROUPS: Renaissance Ecocriticism

Faith and the World

- 12 **George Herbert**, "The Pilgrimage," "The Flower"; **Henry Vaughan**, "Regeneration," "I walked the other day," "The Book" (pp. 351, 355-7, 416-23)
- 17 **George Herbert**, "Redemption," "Easter Wings," "Jordan (I)," "Jordan (II)," "Paradise," "The Collar" (pp. 351-56)
GROUPS: The Shape of Faith
- 19 **John Donne**: Holy Sonnets, V, VI, X, XIII, XIV, XVII, XVIII, XIX (pp. 318-21)
ESSAY #4 DUE**

Elegies and Authorship

- 24 **John Milton**, *Areopagitica* (pp. 461-90)
- 26 **John Milton**, "Lycidas" (pp. 456-60)
- 31 **Ben Jonson**, "On My First Daughter," "On My First Son," "On Lucy, Countess of Bedford," "To the Memory of My Beloved, The Author, Mr William Shakespeare," "On *The New Inn*: Ode. To Himself"
GROUPS: Praising the Author (pp. 414-15, 412-13, 411-12)
- Apr. 2 **Thomas Carew**, "To Ben Jonson" (p. 335)
- 7 **Exam Review**

Assignments:

Group Discussions: Seven discussion groups are scheduled for each term. These groups will provide opportunities for focused peer-group analysis. Topics are designed to assist with essay preparation and encourage practical and creative responses to the readings. After each session, groups will be asked to submit their in-class notes (i.e. appoint a secretary) and a list of attending members. While your notes won't be formally graded, evidence of attendance AND

fruitful discussion will count towards 10% of your grade for the year. All groups should be prepared to contribute to follow-up class discussions.

Essay #1: Close Reading/ Translation

1000-1500 words (approx. 4-5 pages), due Wednesday October 9th.

This assignment will ask you to use close reading skills to develop an independent argument. Detailed instructions will be provided in the second week of class.

Essay #2: Critical Sources

2000 words (approx. 6-7 pages), due Wednesday November 20th.

This assignment will ask you to read and evaluate three critical sources that will then form the context for your own discussion. Detailed instructions will be provided.

Essay #3: Texts and Contexts

1500-2000 words (approx. 5-7 pages), due Wednesday February 5th

This assignment will ask you to analyse a primary text using early modern documentary material. Detailed instructions will be provided at the beginning of the winter term.

Essay #4: Modern Theories and Interpretations

2000-2500 words (approx. 7-9 pages), due Wednesday March 19th

The final assignment of the term will ask you to examine an early modern text using a combination of modern theory, criticism, and/ or artistic responses to or representations of early modern texts and themes. Detailed instructions will be provided in the winter term.

Final Exam: There will be a three-hour written exam during the April examination period. It will cover the entire year's work and will be a closed book exam.

OWL: Handouts and links to useful articles and websites will be posted on OWL.

Submission of Assignments: All assignments will be due in class. You may submit late assignments to the essay box outside the Department of English office (UC 173), where they will be date- and time-stamped. Essays submitted before 8:30 am in the essay box are stamped with the previous day's date. This also applies to essays submitted before 8:30 am. Monday, which will be stamped with Friday's date. **PLEASE DO NOT PUT ANY ASSIGNMENTS UNDER OFFICE DOORS!** Please remember that the Department will not accept assignments by fax or email. If necessary, and by prior arrangement only, assignments may be sent to me at the Department by post or courier. **Be sure to keep a copy of all assignments submitted.**

Late Assignments: If you submit a paper after the due date, but within two weeks of this date, the paper will be counted as late, and the following procedures will apply:

1. The paper will not be read until all previous assignments have been read and marked, and depending on the extent of the lateness, may be returned at a later date.
2. A grade will be given, but no (or minimal) comments or corrections will be provided.
3. The grade will be reduced by a penalty of two marks (2%) for each calendar day (including weekends) that it is late. The arrangement for date-stamping essays (identified above) still applies.

PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED IF SUBMITTED MORE THAN TWO WEEKS AFTER THE DUE DATE UNLESS PRIOR ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE.

Accommodation

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Dean of the student's Faculty of registration, together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. The UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and further information regarding this policy can be found at http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

Plagiarism Checking:

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

Support Services

Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>

Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Student Development Centre <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.