

Department of English & Writing Studies

<http://www.uwo.ca/english>

English 3228F (001) - *Paradise Lost*

Mondays 10.30-11.30 and Wednesdays 10.30-12.30 in TH3102

INSTRUCTOR:

John Leonard
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Email: jleonard@uwo.ca
Office hours: M 2:30-3:30; W 2:30-3:30
or by appointment

“Students must pass *both* term work and the final examination in order to pass the course. Students who fail the final examination (regardless of their term mark) automatically fail the course” (from the Department of English/Undergraduate/Student Information).

TEXTBOOKS:

Any good annotated edition of *Paradise Lost* is acceptable. The bookstore has copies of my Penguin edition (2000).

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- To develop an appreciation of *Paradise Lost* that unites historical observation and literary analysis. Emphasis will be placed on style, genre (the epic), and interpretative issues.
- To hone analytical and critical skills in both oral and written work.
- To develop confidence and competence in research practice.

TEACHING/LEARNING METHODS:

- This class meets twice a week. Students should come to lecture prepared to participate in group discussion: read the assigned portions of the text in advance of class, and always bring the right text(s) to class with you.

GRADING:

The mark for this course will be arrived at as follows:

Short Essay (20%)
Long Essay (35%)
Participation (10%)
Final Exam (35%)

Instructions for particular assignments are set out below, after the Teaching Programme.

TEACHING PROGRAMME:

SEPTEMBER

- 14 Introduction
- 16 Milton's Epic Universe

- 21 Book I Milton's Epic Style
- 23 Book I Satan and Epic Heroism

- 28 Book II Debate in Hell
- 30 Book II Debate (cont'd), Sin, Death, Chaos

OCTOBER

- 5 Book III Invocation and Council in Heaven
- 7 Book III Satan's Journey. Epic Similes

- 12 THANKSGIVING
- 14 Book IV Satan in Paradise

- 19 Book IV Adam and Eve **Short Essay Due**
- 21 Book V Eve's Dream

- 26 Books V Entertaining Raphael
- 28 Books V and VI Satan's Revolt

NOVEMBER

- 2 Book VII Invocation and Creation
- 4 Book VIII Astronomy and Adam's first memories

- 9 Book IX Induction and Satan's fourth soliloquy (9.99-178)
- 11 Book IX Argument about Working Separately and Eve's Fall

- 16 Book IX Eve's Fall (continued): Satan as con-man
- 18 Book IX Adam's Fall

- 23 Book IX Similes and Style **Long Essay Due**
- 25 Book X Judgment and Satan's Triumph

- 30 Book X Adam's Lament

DECEMBER

- 2 Books XI and XII "an untransmuted lump"?

- 7 Conclusions
- 9 We'll wait and see

ASSIGNMENTS:

THE SHORT ESSAY (20%)

- Write an essay on a topic (related to Milton's style) to be chosen after consultation with the instructor (1,000 words)
- Due in class, 19 October

LONG ESSAY (35%)

- Write an essay on an interpretative issue to be chosen after consultation with the instructor (2,500 words). Due in class, 23 November

PARTICIPATION (10%). Grade based on:

- Informed weekly participation

FINAL EXAM (35%)

LATE PAPER POLICY:

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

- The paper will not be read until all the assignments handed in on time have been read and returned (all papers are read in order of receipt).
- The paper will be read and a grade given, but **NO COMMENTS OR CORRECTIONS** will be made on it.

- The grade will be reduced by a penalty of two marks (2%) for each calendar day that it is late. Note that when a paper is late, every day counts (including weekends); however the arrangements for date-stamping essays in the Department of English essay box are accepted for late essays.

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

PLAGIARISM:

The Senate of the University of Western Ontario writes:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of a text 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 offense. See the Scholastic Offence Policy in Western Academic Calendar:

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

Any paper suspected to have been plagiarized will be sent directly to the Chair of Undergraduate Studies.

ACCOMMODATION FOR ASSESSMENTS ON MEDICAL GROUNDS:

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth (either alone or in combination) 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 Student Medical Certificate (SMC) can be found at

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

The full policy is set out here:

http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

MENTAL WELLNESS:

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western for a complete list of options about how to obtain help:

<http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/>