

ENGL 411 (WINTER 2012)

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

FACULTY OF ARTS
UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

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COURSE DESCRIPTION & GOALS

Poets in the seventeenth century confronted the political turmoil of a civil war, the discoveries of a scientific revolution, the geographical expansion of English sovereignty, and the spread of ideas in a new public sphere. They wrote and published their works in a range of genres, from epics to elegies. In English 411 we will read the twelve books of Milton's epic *Paradise Lost*—the story of cosmic and human origins—alongside narrower treatments of love, belief, mourning, and discovery.

By the end of this course, your writing will be more effective and persuasive, and will make more judicious use of primary and critical texts. You will develop techniques for reading and annotating texts from every era, and for writing critically and perceptively about the issues informing them. You will appreciate the history of early modern printing, and the editorial decisions between past writers and modern readers.

TEXTBOOKS

Required

1. *The Penguin Book of Renaissance Verse: 1509-1659*, ed. Norbrook & Woudhuysen (Penguin)
2. John Milton, *Paradise Lost*, ed. Leonard (Penguin)

Recommended

3. *The MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th edition (MLA)

All are available at the university bookstore, but search www.bookfinder.com for used copies—as long as they are the editions listed here.

EVALUATION

Response Paper	(Jan 30)	15%
Midterm	(Feb 27)	15%
Participation Report	(Mar 12)	10%
EEBO Assignment	(Mar 30)	20%
Final Exam	(Apr 23)	40%

Each component is graded on a percentage scale. At right are their letter-grade equivalents.

You must complete all four assignments to earn a passing grade in this course: Response Paper, Midterm, EEBO Assignment, and Final Exam.

90 + %	A+	4.0
85 – 89 %	A	4.0
80 – 84 %	A–	3.7
77 – 79 %	B+	3.3
74 – 76 %	B	3.0
70 – 73 %	B–	2.7
67 – 69 %	C+	2.3
64 – 66 %	C	2.0
60 – 63 %	C–	1.7
55 – 59 %	D+	1.3
50 – 54 %	D	1.0
0 – 49 %	F	0

RESPONSE PAPER (15%)

The Response Paper, due on January 30th at 11:00 a.m., asks you to answer this question in a 1000 words:

In Books 1 and 2 of *Paradise Lost*, the fallen angels debate what to do next: “our own loss how repair, | How overcome this dire calamity” (1.188-89). What are the essential arguments for and against the action they decide to pursue?

Guidelines

- Include at least four quotations from Milton’s Books 1 and/or 2. Use **only** the evidence of Milton’s text to make your argument; **do not** do external research.
- 1000 words is a **strict maximum**. Do not waste precious words on long introductions or conclusions, or on vague statements like “In this essay I will discuss...”. Plunge directly into your argument.

MIDTERM (15%)

The open-book midterm on February 27th consists of eight passages from the first eight books of *Paradise Lost*; you will choose three of them to identify and discuss. All eight will have been discussed in class.

PARTICIPATION REPORT (10%)

10% is a significant part of your grade, because **regular, active and informed participation is essential to your success**. That means you come to class regularly, always prepared to discuss the day’s reading(s) with your peers. If there are designated discussion questions for that day, you have thought about them, and about how you would (at least) begin to develop an answer.

This is a **self-reporting** component. On March 12th, submit a written proposal (about 500-750 words) of the grade (out of 10) you feel you deserve. Make your case convincing: defend your proposed grade with evidence from the classroom. If you have difficulty making the case for a good grade, use your report to describe instead the specific steps you will take to improve.

Persistently silent students are often the most intelligent and perceptive, who simply prefer not to speak in class. To avoid my presuming any less of you, **e-mail me regularly** with your thoughts on the day’s readings, questions, or anything else to do with the course. I encourage you to write me e-mails of this kind, no matter how often you speak in class. (Don’t wait for the end of term!)

I **expect** you to have difficulty understanding the unfamiliar language and concepts in our readings, particularly at the beginning of this course and when we begin new texts. My lectures aim, in part, to demystify these texts. But I also expect you to begin resolving these difficulties for yourself by looking up words in reference sources. Use **reliable sources** like the *Oxford English Dictionary*.

EEBO ASSIGNMENT (20%)

This assignment will ask you to find and describe a seventeenth-century printed book in facsimile in Early English Books Online, or EEBO. More details will be available later this term.

FINAL EXAM (40%)

The final exam will be a take-home writing assignment. It will be distributed on Friday, April 13th and will be due on Monday, April 23rd. It will require external research, and will cover all of the authors we have read. More details will be available later this term.

LAPTOP & MOBILE POLICY

Computers will be allowed in lectures and tutorials **only** if you use them to take notes, to follow along with classroom demonstrations, or to use them for other course-related purposes. Those who cause a distraction by using them for other purposes will have this privilege withdrawn. Simply put, **there is no need for any internet-connected program to run on your computer** during class.

Set your mobile phone to vibrate and put it away. Do not use it in class, except in case of real emergencies.

SUBMISSION POLICY

Each student is permitted one extension, on either the Response Paper or the Take-home Final Exam, of one day without penalty.

Beyond these provisions, I penalize late assignments—submitted after class ends on the due date—at a rate of 5% daily for the first two days, and 1% daily thereafter, excluding weekends and university holidays. I do not give any other extensions. Writing assignments must be submitted no later than one calendar week after the due date. Any later, and you will receive a zero grade on that assignment.

The only legitimate excuse for late submissions is a documented medical emergency—as opposed to less drastic misfortunes like the deaths of beloved family pets. Last-minute technological problems (e.g. printers, mail servers, corrupted files) are your own responsibility. Prevent them from costing you marks by finishing before the due date.

Make every effort to submit printed papers **directly** to me, **in class**. If that is impossible, take your paper to the Department office (SS1152) and put it in the drop-box, where your paper will be date-stamped and placed in my mailbox. *Always keep a copy* in case of loss. Electronic submissions will not be accepted. Papers will not be returned by office staff.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. If you submit an assignment that includes material (even a very small amount) that you did not write, but that is presented as your own work, you are guilty of plagiarism. The consequences include **failure** on the assignment or in the course, and **suspension** or **expulsion** from the university. For details, see www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html

Please read the following information carefully. The penalty routinely recommended by the English Department for documented plagiarism is failure of the course in which the offence occurred; academic probation is also routinely applied at the Faculty level. Suspension or expulsion can result from severe or repeated plagiarism.

The **University Calendar** states:

1. Plagiarism - Essentially plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:
 - (a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
 - (b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
 - (c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,
 - (d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves **reference** to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be **explicitly and clearly noted**.

Plagiarism occurs when direct quotations are taken from a source without **specific acknowledgement**, or when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. **Citing your sources in a bibliography is not enough**, because a bibliography does not establish which parts of a student's work are taken from other sources. MLA (Modern Language Association) documentation or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH STATEMENT ON PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT

According to the University Calendar (www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/j.html), "The University of Calgary community has undertaken to be guided by the following statements of purpose and values: to promote free inquiry and debate, to act as a community of scholars, ..., to respect, appreciate, and encourage diversity, [and] to display care and concern for community". The Department of English, like the university as a whole, is committed to a "positive and productive learning and working environment." This environment is characterized by appreciation and encouragement of diversity and respect for the dignity of all persons: students, support staff, and faculty. The department will not tolerate unacceptable behaviour, such as threatening gestures, threatening or abusive verbal or written communication (including e-mails), or any conduct that "seriously disrupts the lawful education and related activities of students and/or university staff". Any cases of such misconduct should be reported immediately to the department Head, who, depending on the nature and severity of the incident, may then take further appropriate action.

RESOURCES

For information about these resources, and links to their web sites, see the **External Links** page in Bb:

- Dr. Ullyot's guide to Effective Critical Writing
- The English Department Website
- Academic regulations and schedules
- Guidelines on e-mail etiquette
- Grade appeals
- Deferral of term work and final examinations
- Academic accommodation
- Students Union representatives
- Scribe and Muse Reading and Writing Club
- Safewalk Program
- Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

COURSE SCHEDULE

Read the assigned texts *before* each class, and be prepared to discuss them. Make marginal annotations in every text, and always bring your text to class.

Month	Day	Readings (<i>pages refer to Penguin anthology</i>)	Writings
January	9	—	
	11	<i>Course introduction</i>	
	13	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 1	
	16	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 1	
	18	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 2	
	20	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Books 2-3	
	23	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 3	
	25	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 4	
	27	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 4	
	30	Donne: 331-37	Response Paper due
February	1	Donne; Carew: An Elegie (741-43)	
	3	Wroth: 341-50	
	6	Wroth	
	8	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 5	
	10	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 6	
	13	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 7	
	15	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 8	
	17	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 8	
	—	<i>Reading Week</i>	
	27	—	Midterm (in class)
March	29	Marvell: 372-77	
	2	Marvell: 470-76	
	5	Herbert: 574-84	
	7	Herbert	
	9	Vaughan: 605-12	
	12	Vaughan	Participation Report due
	14	Lanyer: <i>from</i> Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum (556-58)	
	16	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 9	
	19	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 9	
	21	<i>Guest lecture:</i> Dr. Maria Zytaruk on Book 9	
23	—		
26	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 10		
28	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 11		
30	Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i> , Book 12	EEBO Assignment due	
April	2	Drayton: To the Virginian Voyage (431-33); Daniel: <i>from</i> Epistle. To Prince Henrie (433-36); Anon.: On Francis Drake (437)	
	4	King: An Exequy (644-48); Milton: Lycidas (651-58)	
	6	—	
	9	Drayton: 727-38	
	11	Drayton; Cowley: The Muse (752-54); Vaughan: The Book (755-56)	
	13	<i>Review and conclusions</i>	Final Exam distributed
	—		
	23		Final Exam due