

ENGL 2200 British Literature II
The Anatomy of the World
Winter Quarter, 2016
T / R 10:00 – 11:50
SH 234

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SH 387-E

Course Description:

This course provides a dynamic survey of literary works and cultural materials in the early modern era—that is, roughly from the time of John Skelton (1460?-1529) to Mary Wollstonecraft (1759-97). Some of the topics to be explored include: manuscript & print cultures, poetics & cosmology, humanism & historiography, reformations & revolutions, trans-European & trans-Atlantic legacies. The course will introduce students to a variety of our Library's print and electronic materials as well as other digital humanities resources & tools beyond DU.

METHOD OF EVALUATION & GRADING:

7 Essays (3 pages each): 35%
1 Research Paper Proposal (3 pages): 5%
1 Research Paper (10-12 pages): 50%
1 Commonplace Book: 10%

Note on essays: Unless otherwise specified, all essays and papers are due at the beginning of class in hard copy form: typed, double-spaced, in 12-point font and with pages stapled. Essays/papers that do not follow these guidelines will be considered late. Work submitted late will receive a deduction of -0.5 per day.

Note on grading: I'll be grading your essays (and your research paper proposal) with a *check system* that will follow these guidelines: A check plus on all of your essays will translate into a grade of 4.0/A for that percentage of your overall grade in the course. Each check on an essay will reduce your grade for that component of your overall grade by -0.5. Each check minus, by -1.0; each missing essay, by -2.0. Should you receive less than a check plus on any of the essays, you'll have the option to revise and resubmit for a higher grade. Revisions (first and second drafts submitted together) will be due by the beginning of the next class meeting. Your commonplace book and research paper will receive letter grades.

Note on attendance: For each unexcused absence your overall grade in the class will be reduced by -0.5.

Note on plagiarism: Students are expected to submit original work for all assignments. Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic F in the course.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Bowerbank, Sylvia, and Sara Mendelson, eds. *Paper Bodies: A Margaret Cavendish Reader*. Toronto: Broadview Press, 2000. ISBN: 155111173X
Damrosch, David, et al, eds. *The Longman Anthology of British Literature*, Vol. 1B: The Early Modern Period. New York: Longman, 2010. ISBN: 9780205655328
Rivers, Isabel. *Classical and Christian Ideas in English Renaissance Poetry*. New York: Routledge, 1994. ISBN: 0415106478

Also: One paper notebook to serve as your Commonplace Book to include all of your handwritten work in response to prompts that will be announced spontaneously during class. Some of this writing—individual and collective work—will take place during class meetings; and some of this—individual work—will take place outside of class meetings.

Recommended Texts:

Brayman Hackel, Heidi, and Ian Frederick Moulton, eds. *Teaching Early Modern English Literature from the Archives*. New York: MLA, 2015. ISBN: 9781603291569
Milton, John. *Paradise Lost*. Ed. John Leonard. London: Penguin, 2000. ISBN: 0140424393

Calendar: (subject to changes)**Week One: *Civil Liberties, Gender Politics, Free Speech***

T 1/5 *Areopagitica* (1644) by John Milton,
 [https://www.dartmouth.edu/~milton/reading_room/areopagitica/text.shtml]
Vindication of the Rights of Woman (1792) by Mary Wollstonecraft,
 [<https://scholarsbank.uoregon.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/1794/785/vindication.pdf>]
 "Milton's *Areopagitica* and the Modern First Amendment" (1995) by Vincent Blasi,
 [http://digitalcommons.law.yale.edu/ylsop_papers/6/]

R 1/7 *Areopagitica* (1644) by John Milton,
 [https://www.dartmouth.edu/~milton/reading_room/areopagitica/text.shtml]
 Also in Damrosch: 1716-26
Vindication of the Rights of Woman (1792) by Mary Wollstonecraft,
 [<https://scholarsbank.uoregon.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/1794/785/vindication.pdf>]
 Also in Damrosch: 1976-78
 "Milton's *Areopagitica* and the Modern First Amendment" (1995) by Vincent Blasi,
 [http://digitalcommons.law.yale.edu/ylsop_papers/6/]
 Damrosch: Introduction, 622-35, 644-48
 Damrosch: *Tracts on Women and Gender*, 1445-66

Week Two: Milton's shorter poems and *Paradise Lost*

T 1/12 Essay 1 due
 Damrosch: Introduction, 636-44, 649
 Damrosch: Milton's shorter poems, 1698-1716

R 1/14 Damrosch: Introduction, 636-44, 649
 Damrosch: Milton's shorter poems, 1698-1716
Paradise Lost: Books 1-2
 Rivers: chapters 1, 2, 3

Week Three: *Paradise Lost*

T 1/19 *Paradise Lost*: Books 1-4
 Rivers: chapters 6, 8, 9
 Damrosch: *The Civil War, or the Wars of Three Kingdoms*, 1678-98

R 1/21 Essay 2 due
Paradise Lost: Books 1-4
 Rivers: chapters 6, 8, 9
 Damrosch: *The Civil War, or the Wars of Three Kingdoms*, 1678-98

Week Four: *Paradise Lost*

T 1/26 *Paradise Lost*: Books 5-8
 Rivers: chapters 7, 11, 12
 Damrosch: Sidney, "The Apology for Poetry," 998-1032
 Damrosch: *The Apology and its Time*, 1032-40

R 1/28 Essay 3 due
Paradise Lost: Books 5-8
 Rivers: chapters 7, 11, 12
 Damrosch: Sidney, "The Apology for Poetry," 998-1032
 Damrosch: *The Apology and its Time*, 1032-40

Calendar: (subject to changes)**Week Five: *Paradise Lost***

T 2/2 *Paradise Lost*: Books 9-12
 Rivers: chapters 4, 5, 10, 13
 Damrosch: Lanyer, "Description of Cookham," 1085-90
 Damrosch: Jonson, "To Penshurst," 1569-72

R 2/4 Essay 4 due
Paradise Lost: Books 9-12
 Rivers: chapters 4, 5, 10, 13
 Damrosch: Lanyer, "Description of Cookham," 1085-90
 Damrosch: Jonson, "To Penshurst," 1569-72

Week Six *Civil Liberties, Gender Politics, Free Speech*

T 2/9 Bowerbank & Mendelson: Introduction, 9-37
 Cavendish: *Birth, Breeding, and Self-fashioning*, 39-93
 Cavendish: *Gender and Serious Play*, 95-147

R 2/11 Research Paper Proposals due
 Bowerbank & Mendelson: Introduction, 9-37
 Cavendish: *Birth, Breeding, and Self-fashioning*, 39-93
 Cavendish: *Gender and Serious Play*, 95-147

Week Seven *New Science, New Worlds*

T 2/16 Essay 5 due
 Cavendish: *Women and the New Science*, 149-251

R 2/18 Cavendish: *Women and the New Science*, 149-251

Week Eight *New Science, New Worlds*

T 2/23 Cavendish: *Women and the New Science*, 149-251, 252-327
 Damrosch: *England, Britain, and the World*, 1173-99

R 2/25 Essay 6 due
 Cavendish: *Women and the New Science*, 149-251, 252-327
 Damrosch: *England, Britain, and the World*, 1173-99

Week Nine *Poetry & Poetics*

T 3/1 Damrosch: selections TBA

R 3/3 Damrosch: selections TBA

Week Ten *The Anatomy of the World*

T 3/8 Essay 7 due
 Commonplace Books due
 Damrosch: Marlowe, *The Tragical History of Dr. Faustus*, 1110-60
 Damrosch: Lewis, from *The Screwtape Letters*, 1161-2

R 3/10 No meeting / Winter Quarter exams 3/10-13

F 3/11 Research Papers due