English 330A: The Sixteenth Century

Section 1
TuTh 10-11:20; RCH 206
Fall 2002

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Office Hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 11:30-12:30, or by appointment

Isabella Whitney, Mary Sidney and Aemilia Lanyer: Renaissance Women Poets, ed. Clarke (Penguin Classics)
English 330A Course Readings (Courseware Solutions)

Aims of the Course
This class will introduce you to the short poetry written in sixteenth-century England. Though we will encounter many forms taken by the short poem in this century, we will concentrate on the role of the sonnet and of the psalm in shaping the early modern language of the self.

Methods and Requirements
The class will function primarily as a seminar, with some lecture. We will spend most class time discussing the readings, and regular contributions to the conversation will be expected from everyone. Graded work comprises:

1) Class participation. I will expect you to attend conscientiously and to participate in an informed and productive manner. Quality is generally more important than quantity, but I am impressed by a willingness to go out on a limb. I am also as interested in the courtesy and respect with which you listen and respond to what others say as in the sharpness of your own perceptions. Attendance and punctuality count. The occasional informal writing assignment--a poem, for example--will also count here. It is your responsibility to inform me promptly of the reasons for an absence if you wish it to be excused. Weight = 20%

2) A shorter paper, 1200-1500 words in length. Weight = 20%

3) A longer paper, 1800-2700 words in length. Weight = 30%

4) A two-hour, essay-style final exam. Weight = 30%

Late papers will be accepted without penalty only if prior permission has been granted. Otherwise, the penalty will be 2% per day.

The Faculty of Arts urges instructors to include the following “Note on avoidance of academic offenses” on all course syllabi: “All students registered in courses of the Faculty of Arts are expected to know what constitutes an academic offense, to avoid
committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for their academic actions. When the commission of an offense is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline). For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students are directed to consult with the summary of Policy #71 which is supplied in the Undergraduate Calendar (section 1; on the Web at http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infoucal/UW/policy_71.html). If you need help in learning how to avoid offenses such as plagiarism, cheating, and double submission, or if you need clarification of aspects of the discipline policy, ask your course instructor for guidance. Other resources regarding the policy are your academic advisor and the Undergraduate Associate Dean.” If I suspect that you have committed an academic offense in this class, I will report it to the Associate Dean; if the offense is confirmed, the normal result will be a failing grade on the assignment and academic probation.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Sept. 10  Tu  Introduction
12  Th  Wyatt, lyrics (26-28, 31-36, 38-39)
17  Tu  Wyatt, sonnets (29-30, 43-44, handout)
19  Th  Wyatt, political and philosophical poems (37, 40-42, 44-49, 51-54)
24  Tu  Wyatt, Paraphrase of Penitential Psalms (Reader)
26  Th  Lok, A Meditation of a Penitent Sinner (Reader)

Oct.  1  Tu  Crowley, all poems (Reader)
  3  Th  Gascoigne (114-120)
  8  Tu  Gascoigne, Certayne notes of Instruction (Reader)
10  Th  Whitney, selections
15  Tu  Whitney; Vaux 78-79; Googe 84-85; Dyer 187
17  Th  Marlowe (310); Raleigh (224-33, 239-41)
22  Tu  Mary Sidney, selections; first essay due, 10 a.m.
24  Th  Mary Sidney; Nashe (616)
29  Tu  Greville (209-222 and handout)
31  Th  Greville

Nov.  5  Tu  Constable (294, 296, 299); Alabaster (505-6, 510); Philip Sidney (154, 159, 176); Spenser (144)
  7  Th  Shakespeare (372-85)
12  Tu  Shakespeare (386-400)
14  Th  Shakespeare (401-13)
19  Tu  Shakespeare (342-4, 348, 353-56, 364)
21  Th  Campion (425, 428, 431); Madrigals (437-450)
26  Tu  Donne (458, 461-65, 468, 470-71)
28  Th  Donne (454)

Dec.  3  Tu  Review; second essay due, 10 a.m.

***Final TBA***