DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

ENGLISH 350A -- SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY NON-DRAMATIC LITERATURE I
Fall 1996            Instructor: Dr. Marianne Micros
office hours -- Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1 - 2 p.m.
E-mail address -- mmicros@uoguelph.ca

TEXTS


Di Cesare, Mario, ed. George Herbert and the Seventeenth-Century

Maclean, Hugh, ed. Ben Jonson and the Cavalier Poets. Norton
Critical Editions.

Roberts, Josephine A., ed. The Poems of Lady Mary Wroth.
Louisiana State University Press.


COURSE OUTLINE

Sept. 10
Introduction to course and historical background

Sept. 12, 17,
19, 24
'The Good Morrow'; 'Song' ('Goe and catch a
falling star'); 'Woman's Constancy'; 'The
Undertaking'; 'The Sun Rising'; 'The Indifferent';
'Love's Usury'; 'The Canonization'; 'Air and
Angels'; 'The Anniversary'; 'A Valediction:
Of My Name, in the Window'; 'A Valediction:
Of Weeping'; 'Love's Alchemy'; 'The Flea';
'The Curse'; 'A Nocturnal Upon St. Lucy's
Day'; 'Witchcraft by a Picture'; 'The Bait';
'The Apparition'; 'A Valediction: Forbidding
Mourning'; 'The Ecstasy'; 'The Blossom';
'The Relic'; Elegies I (Jealousy), III (Change),
VIII (The Comparison), XIX (To His Mistress
Going to Bed).
Holy Sonnets I - XIX (pp. 112-120).
'Good Friday, 1613. Riding Westward'.

Sept. 26,
Oct. 1, 3
pp. 3 - 14; 21-32; 57-66.
Seminar, Oct. 3

Oct. 8, 10,
15
Introduction, pp. xv - li.
Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum,  
(including "To the Vertuous Reader"  
and "The Description of Cooke-ham"),  
pp. 48 - 139.  
Seminars, Oct. 10 and 15

Oct. 17, 22  
Herrick, Maclean edition.  
pp. 103 – 148.  
ESSAY NO. 1 DUE OCT. 17  
Seminar, Oct. 22

Oct. 24, 29, 31  
Mary Wroth, Roberts ed.,  
Introductory material, pp. 3 – 49.  
Pamphilia to Amphilanthus, pp. 85 – 145.  
Seminar, Oct. 29

Nov. 5, 7, 12  
Andrew Marvell, Di Cesare edition.  
pp. 93 – 137.  
Seminar, Nov. 7  
TAKE-HOME QUIZ DUE NOV. 7

Nov. 14, 19, 21, 26  
George Herbert, Di Cesare edition.  
pp. 3 – 70.  
Seminars, Nov. 19 and 21  
MAJOR ESSAY DUE NOV. 26

Nov. 28  
Henry Vaughan and Richard Crashaw,  
Di Cesare edition.  
Vaughan -- 'Regeneration'; 'The World';  
'The Retreat'; 'Man'; 'I walked the other  
day . . .'; 'The Knot'; 'The Seed Growing  
Secretly'; 'The Night'; 'The Waterfall'.  
Crashaw -- 'Saint Mary Magdalene or The  
Weeper'; 'A Hymn to the Name and Honor of the  
Admirable Saint Teresa'; From 'The Flaming  
Heart'.

Dec. 3  
Finish the above and review  
for exam.

FINAL EXAM -- DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED

GRADE BREAKDOWN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group oral presentation</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Nov. 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Take-home Quiz</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Oct. 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay #1</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Nov. 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Major Essay</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>Nov. 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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GROUP ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Each student will sign up for a group of between 2 and 4 people (depending on the size of the class). For your presentation, discuss some aspect of the author's or authors' works. The presentation may be conducted as individual speeches, a panel discussion, a play or a series of skits, a debate, an interview, a mock television show -- but the content must have depth and include analysis. You may focus on the author's life, as well as his/her work, and/or may interpret one or two poems. A discussion of the poetry in relation to the politics/religion/social situations of the time would be useful. Don't try to do everything, but select something not done in class (talk to me beforehand for help) and focus on some aspect or on certain poems. Plan to take about 15 minutes, depending on the size of the group and the nature of the performance. You may choose to have individual grades or a group grade.


3. Oct. 3 -- Ben Jonson

4. Oct. 10 -- Aemilia Lanyer -- a woman's view of religion

5. Oct. 15 -- Aemilia Lanyer -- a comparison of Lanyer's "Description of Cooke-ham" with Jonson's "To Penshurst"

6. Oct. 22 -- Robert Herrick

7. Oct. 29 -- Mary Wroth

8. Nov. 7 -- Andrew Marvell

9. Nov. 19 -- George Herbert

ESSAY #1 -- DUE OCTOBER 17 -- 2-3 PAGES.

Choose one of the following topics, and write a focused, analytical essay. Use at least two recent periodical articles to show that you are aware of current thinking on this topic (do not do too much research -- most of the essay should consist of your own analysis and conclusions). Use the MLA style of documentation, with title and bibliography. Double-space, and wordprocess or type your essay.

1. Choose one poem by Donne, Jonson, or Herrick which has not been discussed in class. Analyze it in relation to the society in which the poet lived. What does the poem tell us about the author's religious beliefs, political beliefs, social standing, or philosophy of life?

2. Do you think that Aemilia Lanyer was Shakespeare's Dark Lady? Compare Susanne Woods' analysis with that of A.L. Rowse and any other critic that you find. Come to some conclusions of your own.

3. Analyze one of Lanyer's dedicatory poems (found in Woods' text preceding the long poem). Find historical information about the woman and then compare Lanier's description of the woman with the facts. Also, analyze the poem.

4. Give your opinion of Donne's portrayal of women -- sexist, misogynistic, or idealistic -- by comparing two or three of his poems.

5. Compare style and subject matter of Donne and Jonson. Refer to specific poems, one or two by each poet. Which poet do you prefer and why?

6. Analyze Donne's use of principles of alchemy and magic in his poetry. Be sure to research beliefs and practices relating to alchemy and magic during the 16th and 17th centuries. Select two or three poems.