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ENG 3803-001: Renaissance and Seventeenth English Literature

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English 3803-001—Renaissance and Seventeenth English Literature
Spring 2012

Dr. Campbell
CH 3572, 581-6974
Office hours TTH 9:30:00-11:00; 12:30-1:30; and by appointment
TTH 11:00-12:15
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Texts
Wroth, The Countess of Montgomery’s Urania.
Shakespeare, Othello, Much Ado, Merchant of Venice.

E-Reserves
--Machiavelli, The Prince, chapters
--Anger, “Jane Anger, her Protection for women…”
--Gosynhill, “Mulierum Paean”
--Gosynhill, “Schoolhouse of Women”

E-Book
--Sidney, The Countess of Pembroke’s Arcadia
http://books.google.com/books?id=C4o4AAAAIAAJ&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_summary_r&cad=0#v=onepage&q&f=false
See pp. 1-23; 35-39; 51; 63-78; 88-97; 121-126; 187-190; 331-334; 339; 372-378; 474-476.

Note: To see a period edition of any of our English texts, see Early Books Online (EEBO) via Both Library site.

Course Description
English literature of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries is a rich amalgam of English concerns and Continental styles. In this course we will explore the poetry, drama, and prose of a wide variety of writers from this period, including Queen Elizabeth, Philip Sidney, Mary Sidney Herbert, Edmund Spenser, Mary Wroth, Ben Jonson, William Shakespeare, and others. We will examine how these English writers adopted and adapted the literary trends of Continental Europe to ameliorate their own national literature. By the end of the semester, you should have both a broad understanding of the shaping forces of the period upon English literature and plenty of experience analyzing key texts from our selection of writers. The exciting developments in literary history during this period make it one of critical interest to scholars today. They give us fascinating insights into “the big picture” of English literature as we have received it, and they beckon us to explore connections between the early modern world and our own.

Policies
--The English Department statement on plagiarism stipulates that any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—“The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author and representation of them as one's original work” (Random House Dictionary of the English Language)—has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an
appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of F for the assigned
eSSay and a grade of NC for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.
--Hand papers in and have reports prepared on time. If you're having problems, let me know.
We'll do our best to work the reports into our schedule, but I cannot guarantee that there will be
time for them at any time other than that for which they are scheduled. Papers more than a week
late without a University-approved excuse will not be accepted at all.
--If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please
contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.
--Be prepared for class. You'll get a lot more out of class discussions if you are participating in
them, and I'll notice if you do not seem prepared to participate.

Requirements and Grades

--Three exams ......................... 45% (15% each of final grade)
--One 7-10 page research paper ........ 20%
--One research report with annotated
    bibliography .......................... 15%
--One presentation ........................ 10%
--Response writings ........................ 10%

The three exams will cover the three units of study.

The paper topic will be chosen from the assigned texts and issues related to them. I will give you
a list of possible areas of study to consider early in the semester because you will be expected to
select a topic and begin research early on. The paper will be 7-10 pages long. You will use at
least 3-5 outside sources to support your arguments, and they should consist of scholarly books,
journal articles, and Internet sources of well-known scholarly repute—no citations from
Wikipedia will be accepted. You will use MLA Parenthetical Style, with a Works Cited page, for
documentation. Around midterm, you will have a preliminary research report with an annotated
bibliography due to show the progress that you have made regarding your research project. Do
not worry that we haven't covered the topic that interests you in class—this portion of our study
is meant to be independent exploration of a topic that may be completely new to you. It is my
hope that your independent study will augment for you what is eventually covered in class and
will broaden the scope of the course as a whole for you.

The research report and annotated bibliography will cover the research that you do for your
research paper and presentation. The report will address the topic, why you chose the topic, and
the avenues of research that you chose to explore. The annotated bibliography will consist of
bibliographic citations of at least five sources with your notes on each work that describe the
document, summarize why it may be useful to your project, and include possible quotations that
you might use in the paper.

The response writings will be concerned with specific assignments and are meant to generate
class discussion. You will word process and turn in these assignments.
Important Reminder
This course is a writing intensive course. If you would like to submit the paper from this course for the EWP, please do so during the last two weeks of the semester.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE
Note: Readings may be shifted around during the semester to accommodate the class discussion.

T. Jan. 10—Discuss syllabus. Look at images of Renaissance art and Elizabeth.

Homework: Read Poetry Handout, as well as Wyatt, 525; Earl of Surrey, 569; Sidney, 916; Shakespeare, 1028; Wroth, 1428 (poetry only for these authors).

Unit One: European Influence and Queen Elizabeth

Note on Dates: 1533—Henry VIII is excommunicated by Clement VII; 1534—Henry VIII declares himself head of English church; 1547—death of Henry VIII; 1553—death of Edward VI; 1558—death of Mary, Elizabeth ascends the throne; 1567—Mary Q. of Scots is imprisoned in England; 1570—Elizabeth I is excommunicated by Pope Pius V; Edmund Spenser’s FQ, 1590, 1596.

Homework: Read Hoby and Castiglione’s Courtier, 577, Norton, and Machiavelli’s Prince (e-reserves); print the chapters to bring to class.

Th. Jan. 19—Hoby and Castiglione’s Courtier and Machiavelli’s Prince. How to rule? What to look for in a courtier?
Homework: Read Queen Elizabeth’s works, 595, Norton.

T. Jan. 24—Castiglione, Machiavelli, and Elizabeth. See also: handout on the Querelle des femmes.
Homework: Read Spenser’s Fairy Queen, 614

Th. Jan. 26—Discuss Fairy Queen. What do “the people” want from Elizabeth?

T. Jan. 31—Discuss Fairy Queen
Th. Feb 2 — Catch-up day. Response due. Review for Exam 1

T. Feb. 7—Exam 1
Homework: Read John Lyly, 906; Thomas Nashe, 1202; Sir Philip Sidney, Countess of Pembroke’s Arcadia, from e-book noted above. Review his life story, p. 909 of Norton.

Unit Two: Literary Circles and Cultural Notes

Note on dates: Spenser’s Shepherd’s Calendar, 1579, dedicated to Philip Sidney; Sir Philip Sidney’s grand tour, 1572-75; Mary Sidney marries William Herbert, second earl of Pembroke,
1577; Countess of Bedford (married to Edward, third earl of Bedford) becomes a patron for John Donne, 1607 or 1608. Mary Wroth and Bedford dance in The Masque of Blackness, 1605.

Th. Feb. 9—Discuss Lyly and Nashe on popular culture and attitudes toward the continent. Begin discussing Sidney’s Arcadia—its politics and its place in literary circle culture. Homework—continue reading Sidney’s Arcadia.

T. Feb. 14—Continue discussion of Sidney. (Discuss Research Projects) Homework: Read Spenser’s Shepheardes Calender 617; Mary Sidney Herbert’s verse and Psalms, 957; Samuel Daniel’s poetry, 964; and Fulke Greville’s poetry, 955. Th. Feb. 16—Discuss Sidney circle’s poetry. Homework: Begin reading Wroth’s Urania


Unit Three: Staging the English Renaissance

Note on dates: 1576, James Burbage builds The Theater; 1587, The Rose Theater is built by Philip Henslowe; 1599, The Globe Theater opens, built by Shakespeare’s company, The Lord Chamberlain’s Men, then burns in 1613 and reopens, 1614-1642, then is demolished in 1644; 1576-1584, Blackfriars’ Theater. Note: 1603, Elizabeth dies; James VI, I ascends the throne.


T. Mar. 13—Spring Break Th. Mar. 15—Spring Break


T. Apr. 3—Finish *Othello*.
Homework: Read *Much Ado*.
Th. Apr. 5—Discuss *Much Ado*. Sign up for Presentation times.
Homework: Work on Presentations.

T. Apr. 10—*Much Ado* Film.
Th. Apr. 12—*Much Ado* Film.

Th. Apr. 19—Presentations.

T. Apr. 24—Presentations.

Final Exam (Exam 3): T. May 1, 2:45-4:45pm