I. **TEXTS:**
   Roy Flannagan, Ed. *The Riverside Milton*  
   Aemilia Lanyer, *The Poems of Aemilia Lanyer*

II. **ASSIGNMENTS** (with appropriate grade % for each):

1. **In-Class Writing:** These will be unannounced short writing exercises given at the beginning of class, lasting around 10 to 15 minutes in response to the reading assigned for that day. These should pressure you to keep up with the reading so you can participate in class discussions. If there are more than 5, the 5 highest grades will be averaged into one. (10%)

2. **Critical Papers:** Two papers (5-7 pages), due on Oct. 15th and Dec. 7th. Papers should be explorations of critical ideas that occur as you read the poetry and prose. Both shall be analytical arguments in which you examine Milton’s work in order to prove the point you are making. These are **NOT RESEARCH PAPERS.** You will **not** use secondary sources for either paper. Topics and assignments will be discussed more specifically in class. Papers must be typed, double-spaced, with one-inch margins to allow for comments. (25% each)

3. **Class Participation:** Discussion is a very important part of this course. Expressing your reactions to the literature will help you to think critically about Milton’s ideas, and that will help make writing the papers less intimidating. So, you will be expected to voice your thoughts. (10%)

4. **Final Exam:** This examination will cover most of the semester’s readings. Any readings that are excluded will be specified before the exam date. This exam will be open-book and given during the final exam week. (30%)

III. **ATTENDANCE:** Without regular attendance, you will probably not know enough about how the course readings have been examined and explained. A significant part of test questions will be based on lectures and discussions. Without knowing about these, you may well be unable to cope with the final examination. Therefore, each student is responsible for all of those parts of the classroom experience. In addition, having more than 3 unexcused absences will result in a failing class participation grade.

IV. **LATE WORK:** All assignments are due on the dates specified. Late papers will be graded down. If you cannot complete an assignment on time, you must see me before it is due.

V. **FINAL NOTE:** If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disabilities Services (6583) as soon as possible.
English 3804

Course Calendar:

Aug.
20 Introduction
22 Background; "At a Vacation Exercise in the College" p.261
24 "On the Death of a Fair Infant..." p.247; "On the Morning of Christ's Nativity" p.33;
"On the University Carrier" p.62
27 "A Mask" (Comus) p.109
29 Comus
31 Comus; "Ad Patrem" p.223

Sept.
3 Labor Day—NO CLASS
5 "Lycidas" p.94
7 "Lycidas"; "How Soon Hath Time" p.85
10 SONNETS: "When I Consider..." p.255; "To Mr. Cyriack Skinner..." p.29; "Methought I
Saw" p.258; "To the Lord General Cromwell" p.290
12 "On the Lord General Fairfax" p.289
14 "On the Late Massacre in Piedmont" p.254
17 Sonnets cont.
19 Of Education p.977
21 Of Education
24 Prolusions p.845,867,868,869,871 (in-class); The Reason of Church Government
p.902,918,921,922,925 (in-class)
26 The Doctrine and Discipline of Divorce p.926-942, 950-955
28 The Doctrine and Discipline of Divorce

Oct.
1 Areopagitica p.987
3 Areopagitica
5 Fall Break—NO CLASS
8 Areopagitica
10 Bible: Judges xiii-xvi (Samson story); Samson Agonistes p.783
12 Samson Agonistes
15 PAPER #1 DUE; Samson Agonistes; Bible: Genesis i-iii (creation story)
17 Paradise Lost, p.296 (intro), Books 1&2, p.353
19 Books 1&2
22 Books 2&3
24 Book 2
26 Book 3
29 Book 4
31 Book 4

Nov.
2 Book 5; end of Book 6
5 Book 7; Book 8
7 Book 8
9 Conference—NO CLASS
12 Book 9
14 Book 9
16 Book 10
19 Thanksgiving Break
21 Thanksgiving Break
23 Thanksgiving Break
26 Book 10
28 Book 11
30 Book 11

3 Book 12
5 Book 12
7 PAPER #2 DUE