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ENG 5003-001: Alchemy and Magic in 17th Century English Literature

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ENGLISH 5003.001
ALCHEMY AND MAGIC IN 17TH CENTURY ENGLISH LITERATURE
FALL SEMESTER 2005

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Office hours: 10-12 T-Th
and many other times by appointment

Texts:

Browne, Sir Thomas. The Major Works, ed. Patrides
Mish, Charles C. Short Fiction of the Seventeenth Century.

Also assorted handouts, web sites, and other miscellaneous materials.

Policies and Procedures:

1. The course is a graduate seminar, for which substantial independent study, original research, and participation are expected—but you already knew that. All the usual rules apply: keep up with the reading, get to class ready for discussion, if you have any problems with the work let me know as soon as possible—before assignments are due.

2. Academic honesty—you should be familiar with the English Department’s statement on plagiarism, and with principles of citation and internal documentation. MLA format is, of course, required.

3. Attendance—required, of course. Exams are based on questions and topics generated by class discussion.

Grading:

Based on 100% as follows:

30% class participation, including your oral report on a scholarly issue or controversy affecting our period and topic.
30% two written exams, a mid-term October 12, and a final December 14 from 5:15-7:15 p.m.
40% (10% for the oral presentation on your topic and 30% for an original scholarly paper of at least 15 pages involving one of the major issues with which the course is concerned and a 17th Century author or authors. We may consider taking one or more panels based on these papers to Illinois Philological association. Times for presentations will be determined by lot. Papers are due the last week of class.

Grade breakdown: 91-100 A, 81-90-B, etc.

Reading Assignments

Week 1 August 24 Introductions

Week 2 August 31
The Honorable Historie of Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay (on handout) and Christopher Martowe, The Tragical History of Dr. Faustus (in Norton) including note on the two texts
Week 3  Sept. 7
Ben Jonson, *The Alchemist* (online or in any available edition) and Shakespeare’s *The Tempest*
in your casebook edition

Week 4  Sept. 14 in Mish, *The History of Morindos*
*To be continued...*