ENGL 5115: Renaissance Literature
Spring 2014 / TR 9:30-10:50 am / HUM 231

Dr. Meg Pearson
TLC 2240
megp@westga.edu
678-839-4892
Office Hours: TR 12:30-2pm, 3:30-4:30 pm; W 10am-2pm

Description: A survey of early modern English literature. We begin with the rollicking poetry and drama at the court of Henry VIII, move into the witty and romantic age of sonnets, spend some quality time with Elizabethan drama, experience the English Civil War in verse and prose, and finish with the naughty pleasures of the Restoration.

Graduate Course Goals

- Students will be able to demonstrate an in-depth understanding of selected texts from British Renaissance literature in its European and world historical and social context.
- Students will develop an understanding of how those specific contextual details affect literary history.
- Students will show comprehension and an application of theoretical and critical foundations for the interpretation of literature of the period through an annotated bibliography and/or oral presentation of 10-12 secondary sources.
- Students will recognize the implications of different critical and theoretical readings as culturally invested products.
- Students will understand the points of congruence between literature and other disciplines.
- Students will reveal in both oral and written work a discipline-specific critical facility through convincing and well-supported analysis of course-related material.
- Students will display their command of academic English and of the tenets of sound composition by means of thesis-driven analytical prose, including at least 12-15 pages of research-based writing.
- Students will be capable of conducting independent and meaningful course-related research and of synthesizing it in the form of a correctly documented research paper prepared according to current professional standards.

Graduate Program Goals

- This course prepares students to complete successfully the comprehensive oral examination that is required for all M.A. degree candidates.
- This course provides students with literary, historical, and critical contexts related to texts on the department's required reading list.
- Oral presentations in the course strengthen students' presentation skills and prepare them further for the oral comprehensive examination which is required for the M.A. degree.
- Gaining further knowledge of texts in this area strengthens students' content area knowledge, prepares them for taking nationally recognized standardized examinations (such as the advanced GRE subject examination in English), and further prepares them for careers in teaching, writing, and business or advanced graduate-level study.
Texts and Materials

1. *Broadview Anthology of British Literature Vol. 2: The Renaissance and Early Seventeenth Century*
2. Secondary criticism, which will be available online via library GALILEO databases.
3. CourseDen Page: a number of our readings both primary and secondary will be available here.
   All your written work will be submitted here or via email to megp@westga.edu (NOT mpearson!)

Requirements

Participation & Discussion (20%): Students will come to class having read the material and having prepared questions and comments for the group: these may be a series of questions, an opinion, a need for clarification, or a comparison. All must be informed by careful reading.

Short Papers (15% x 2 = 30%) Four to six page essays which are analytical and text-driven with secondary critical support.

Conference Paper & Presentation (50%) A 8-10 pp. conference paper on a specific topic which will be presented orally the last week of class. Bibliography of ten sources minimum.

Course Policies

Attendance:
You are expected to attend every class session regularly. What we cover in class is what you need to know. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to contact another student for an explanation of what was covered (in other words, not me). I offer you 4 absences to do with as you like—use them wisely for the inevitable "stuff" that will mess up your semester: illness, traffic, death in the family, etc. I do not care whether they are excused or not. If you miss 5 classes for whatever reason, however, you will not pass this class. You’re responsible for counting.

Miscellaneous classroom notes:
- I don’t want computers in my classroom unless it’s a peer-review day. They bring nothing to our learning environment except distraction. This includes laptops, tablets, smart phones and whatever other new technologies may appear by the time this class takes place. If you have a proposal, come and see me.
- If your phone rings/chirps/buzzes during class, I cannot guarantee my response or your safety.

Deadlines and Late Papers:
All papers and drafts are due online via Course Den (or via email in case of server trouble) at a deadline established on the syllabus. Every day that passes after the due date means that your paper loses a letter grade. I will only accept essays electronically this semester. Extensions will be granted only in cases of verifiable emergency and/or if we have spoken about it beforehand.

Formatting and Submitting Papers:
All take-home papers will be turned in using our CourseDen page. However, they should still have all the appropriate formatting required by MLA standards. All papers should be typed in a simple font in 10-12 point typeface. Always leave one-inch margins on each side. Papers are always to be double-spaced. Always cite your sources. And finally, always make a back-up copy of every paper you write.

You will sometimes find it necessary to email me your papers, such as when you would like me to look over your draft. Please send papers to megp@westga.edu or, if that’s not working, to
mfpearson@gmail.com. When I receive your email with an attachment, I will email you back right away to say “Got it.” If you submit something to me, not to CourseDen, and I do not email you back within 24 hours, I have not received your paper. Resend it.

CourseDen will let you know when you’ve submitted, and you can double check it yourself. If you have having troubles with CourseDen, please get in touch with the University ITS people or Distance Learning (http://uwgonline.westga.edu/). I cannot help you, sadly. Plan for such technological failures. They are part of life.

The departmental grading rubric for all upper-division written work may be found on the website. I have lots of writing tips and terms and links on my website, too: http://www.westga.edu/~megp.

**Academic Honesty:**
The Department of English and Philosophy defines plagiarism as taking personal credit for the words and ideas of others as they are presented in electronic, print, and verbal sources. The Department expects that students will accurately credit sources in all assignments. An equally dishonest practice is fabricating sources or facts; it is another form of misrepresenting the truth. Plagiarism is grounds for failing the course. Not sure about something? ASK ME!

*If an idea does not come fully-sprung from your own skull, you need to figure out whose idea it is and give them credit through citation. If you cheat in my class, you will receive an automatic F for the class. Do not test this.*

**Extra Help:**
If you need help or if you have any questions regarding the class, please come by my office, Room 2240 in the TLC. I will always be in my office and prepared to offer assistance during my office hours. If for some reason you are unable to see me during my office hours, we will arrange an alternative meeting time. Contact me via email to set up an appointment. Also, do not forget about the Writing Center where the instructors and staff work to assist writers at any point in the writing process. For more information or to make an appointment, e-mail the Writing Center at writing@westga.edu.

**Contacting Me:**
I am most easily tracked down using email: megp@westga.edu. (Please note that mpearson@westga.edu is NOT ME.) You may also contact me using the email function in CourseDen. Please e-mail me from your university account; I am only permitted to correspond with students via official student accounts!

**Special Needs:**
The University of West Georgia adheres to the Americans for Disabilities Act, known as ADA, which requires that all programs at the university be accessible to people with disabilities. If you have a registered disability that will require accommodation, please see me in my office at the beginning of the semester. If you have a disability that you have not yet registered through Disability Services Office, please contact them in 272 Parker Hall at (678) 839-6428.
# Course Schedule (always subject to change)

Readings and Assignments are due on the date they are listed.

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<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
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| 1/7 Intro, what’s the Renaissance READ: Broadview Intro (xxxv-lxxxvi)  
*Grad: Sidney’s Defense of Poesy*  
Reformation intro | 1/9 The Reformation  
More’s Response to Luther (online)  
Anne Askew pp. 88-92  
John Foxe pp. 96-102 |
| 1/14 Court Poetry of Henry VIII  
Sir Thomas Wyatt, 107-116  
Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, 117-120 | 1/16 The Virgin Queen  
Elizabeth I (all; 292-300)  
*Secondary* Rose, Mary Beth. "The Gendering Of Authority In The Public Speeches Of Elizabeth I."  
| 1/21 FAERIE QUEEN  
Book 1, Cantos 1-2 | 1/23 FQ Book 1, Canto 7 |
| 1/28 FQ Book 1, Canto 8 | 1/30 FQ, Book 1, Canto 9 |
| 2/4 FQ, Book 1, Cantos 11-12 | 2/6 Marlowe, Doctor Faustus In Context (445-49)  
Intro to Drama  
PAPER ONE DUE (Grads will include 2ndary criticism) |
| 2/11 Faustus Scenes 1-5 | 2/13 Faustus Scenes 6-end |
| 2/18 Elizabethan Sonnets  
Spenser from *Amoretti* (244-47); Sidney from *Astrophil and Stella* (256-59) | 2/20 Sonnets  
Shakespeare (all) |
| 2/25 Stuart Dynasty Intro  
Webster, *Duchess of Malfi* (Acts 1-3)  
W day is 2/26 | 2/27 Malfi, (Acts 4-5) |
| 3/4 Stuart Prose  
*Querelle de Femmes*  
Contexts: 556-68  
Lanyer, from *Salve* (329-30)  
PAPER TWO DUE | 3/6 Stuart Prose  
Milton, *Areopagitica* |
| 3/11 Verse  
GRAD: Herbert (all) | 3/13 Verse  
John Donne, from *Songs and Sonnets* (651-59);  
*Elegy 19*  
Lady Mary Wroth, from *Pamphilia to Amphilanthus* (745-47) |
| **3/18 SPRING BREAK** | 3/20 |
| 3/25 Milton Verse  
GRAD: Read “The Verse” |
| 4/1 *Paradise Lost* Book 9 (885-98) | 4/3 Restoration Verse  
Herrick (755-61)  
Marvell, “To His Coy Mistress” |
<p>| 4/8 Research/Meetings | 4/10 Research/Meetings (Virtual) |
| 4/15 Grad Conference Papers | 4/17 Final Exam Discussion |</p>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>FINAL Thursday, Apr 24, 8:00-10:30 am</strong></td>
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