

8:219 Milton
Prof. Huston Diehl
Fall 2007

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will provide the opportunity to study intensively the poetry and prose of John Milton, one of England's most influential, controversial, and compelling poets. Readings will include some of Milton's early lyric and dramatic poetry; selected prose tracts; *Paradise Lost*; *Paradise Regained*; and *Samson Agonistes*. In addition to analyzing Milton's poetics, the class will examine the historical and cultural forces that shaped Milton; consider his revolutionary politics and radical thought; discuss a range of recent critical responses to his writing (including formalist, feminist, historicist, and materialist); and attend to the reception of his works over time.

Requirements will include a series of short written and oral exercises, one 12-page critical paper, and active and engaged participation in class.

TEXTS

The Riverside Milton. Edited by Roy Flannagan. Houghton Mifflin, 1998. (IMU Bookstore)

The Cambridge Companion to Milton. Edited by Dennis Danielson. Cambridge UP, 1999.
(IMU Bookstore)

Course-pack with critical essays. (Zephyr Copies, 124 E. Washington Street).

CALENDAR

INTRODUCTION: MILTON'S LIFE AND TIMES

- August 27 Orientation
- 29 Sonnets, pp. 77-88, 250-259; especially #7, 11, 12, 18, 19, 17, 23
Dobranski, A Milton's social life, @ in *CCM*, pp. 1-24
- September 3 **Labor Day**
- 5 Sonnets (from 8/29);
Lewalksi, A How radical was the young Milton? @courseBpack.
Wittreich, A Milton's Transgressive Maneuvers, @courseBpack.

1645 POEMS

- 10 A On the Morning of Christ's Nativity, @ pp. 38-47;
AL=Allegro @ and All Penseroso, @ pp. 65-77;
- 12 >Lycidas, @ pp. 94-107
J. Martin Evans, ALycidas, @ *CCM*, pp. 39-53.
- 17-19 A Comus, @ pp. 109-171.
Cedric Brown, A Milton's Ludlow Masque, @ *CCM*, pp. 25-38.

PROSE

- 24 A Areopagitica @
- 27 Reports on additional Prose Tracts

PARADISE LOST 1667 (REVISED 1674)

- October 1 *Paradise Lost* I: Hell and Satan
Fish, A The Harassed Reader in *Paradise Lost*, @ courseBpack.
- 3 *Paradise Lost* II: Parliament of Hell, Sin and Death
Achinstein, A Milton and the Fit Reader: *Paradise Lost* and the Parliament
of Hell, @ courseBpack.

- 8 *Paradise Lost* III: Prologue to Light, God
On Christian Doctrine, Chapters 2 and 4, pp. 1161-1168
 Danielson, A *The Fall and Milton=s theodicy*, *CCM*, pp. 144-59.
 Bryson, A >His Tyranny who reigns,=@ *Milton Studies* 43 (2004): 111-44.
- 10 *Paradise Lost* III: The Son, Satan=s Journey
On Christian Doctrine, Chapter 5, pp. 1168-1174
 Rumrich, A *Milton=s Arianism*,@ course-pack.
- 15 *Paradise Lost* IV: Eden, Adam and Eve
 Froula, A *When Eve Reads Milton*,@ *Critical Inquiry* 10 (1983): 321-47.
- 17 *Paradise Lost* IV and V.1-450: Adam and Eve, Raphael
 Kerrigan & Braden, A *Milton=s Coy Eve*,@ *ELH* 53 (1986): 27-51.
- 22 *Paradise Lost* V. 451ff. and VI: The War in Heaven
 Lowenstein, A *An Ambiguous Monster*,@ *Huntington Library Quarterly* 55 (1992): 295-315.
- 24 *Paradise Lost* VII: Creation
 Boehrer, A >Female for Race,=@ *South Atlantic Review* 62 (1996): 23-37.
- 29 *Paradise Lost* VIII: Adam and Eve, Knowledge and Temptation
 Gregerson, A *Fault lines: Milton=s mirror of desire*,@ course pack.
- 31 *Paradise Lost* VIII and IX: Adam and Eve, Knowledge and Temptation
 Martin, A *Demystifying Disguises: Gender, Hierarchy, and the Allegory of Desire*,@ course pack.
- November 5 *Paradise Lost* IX and X: The Fall
 Schwartz, A *Rethinking Voyeurism and Patriarchy*,@ *Representations* 34 (1991): 85-103.
- 7 *Paradise Lost* X: The Fall and its Consequences
 Trubowitz, A *Body Politics in Paradise Lost*,@ *PMLA* 121 (2006): 388-404.
- 12 *Paradise Lost* XI and XII: Human History
 Grossman, A >Till the Day/ Appear of Respiration to the Just,=@course-pack
- 14 *Paradise Lost* XI and XII: Human History
 Swaim, A *Lapsarian Structures*,@ course-pack.

19-21 **Thanksgiving vacation**

PARADISE REGAINED AND SAMSON AGONISTES 1671

- 26 *Paradise Regained*, Books 1 and 2
Fish, *A Things and Actions Indifferent*, @ course-pack .
- 28 *Paradise Regained*, Books 3 and 4
Quint, *A David=s census*, @ course-pack.
- December 3 *Samson Agonistes*, lines 1-1060
Guillory, *A The father=s house*, @ course-pack.
- 5 *Samson Agonistes*, lines 1061-1758.
Lowenstein, *A >Casting Down Imaginations*, =@ course-pack.

CONCLUSION

- 10-12 Discussions and Defenses of Papers

ASSIGNMENTS DUE:

- September 27: Prose Tract Pedagogical Exercise
To be assigned: Response to Critical Essay on *Paradise Lost*
October 29: Primary Research Exercise
November 28: Critical Paper
December 10 or 12: Defense of Paper

General Information

Address and Phone:

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362 EPB
Phone: 335-0442
Email: huston-diehl@uiowa.edu

Office Hours:

Monday and Wednesday 2:30-3:30
By appointment

College Policies and Procedures

Students With Disabilities

Instructors will make reasonable accommodations for students with physical, mental or learning disabilities. Students with disabilities that may require some modification of seating, testing, or other class requirements should visit their instructor during his or her office hours so that appropriate arrangements may be made. It is the student's responsibility to contact Student Disability Services, 3100 Burge Hall (335-1462), and obtain a Student Academic Accommodation Request form (SAAR). This form specifies what course accommodations are judged reasonable for a given student. An instructor who cannot provide the accommodations specified, or has concerns about the accommodations, must contact the Student Disability Services counselor who signed the request form within 48 hours of receiving the form from the student.

Academic Policies

This course is given by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. This means that class policies on matters such as requirements, grading, and sanctions for academic dishonesty are governed by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Students wishing to add or drop this course after the official deadline must receive approval of the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Details of the University policy of cross enrollments may be found at http://www.clas.uiowa.edu/faculty/policy_undergrads_outside.shtml. Students should also assume, unless they are told otherwise, that all courses taken in the English Department employ plus-minus grading.

Departmental/Collegiate Complaint Procedures

A student who has a complaint against any member of the college's teaching staff is responsible for following the procedures described in the Student Academic Handbook, which is available on the web site of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences: www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/academic_handbook/ix.shtml/. The student should first attempt to resolve the issue with the faculty member or the teaching assistant involved. Lacking a satisfactory outcome, the student can turn to the Associate Chair of Undergraduate Programs, Douglas Trevor (douglas-trevor@uiowa.edu, 335-0472). If a satisfactory resolution remains unmet, the student may contact the English Department Chair, Jonathan Wilcox (jonathan-wilcox@uiowa.edu, 335-0454). If the complaint concerns a teaching assistant, the student should contact the supervising faculty

member first, then speak to the chair of undergraduate programs, and lastly approach the departmental chair. After these options have been exhausted, the student may turn to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and submit a written complaint to the Associate Dean for Academic Programs, 120 Schaeffer Hall (335-2633). Please note: in complaints involving the assignment of grades, it is college policy that grades cannot be changed without the permission of the department concerned.

Plagiarism And Cheating

You are expected to be honest and honorable in your fulfillment of assignments and in test-taking situations. Plagiarism and cheating are serious forms of academic misconduct. Examples of them are given in the Student Academic Handbook: www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/academic_handbook//ix.shtml. The English Department works with individual instructors to detect plagiarism and cheating and to ensure that appropriately serious punishments are applied. An instructor who suspects a student of plagiarism or cheating must inform the student (in writing) as soon as possible after the incident has been observed or discovered. Instructors who detect cheating or plagiarism may decide, in consultation with the departmental chair, to reduce the student's grade on the assignment or the course, even to assign an F. In either case, the instructor will write an account of the chronology of the plagiarism or cheating incident for the departmental chair, who will send an endorsement of the written report of the case to the Associate Dean for academic programs. A copy of the report will be sent to the student, who has the right to request a hearing within the Department and/or within the College.