



English 4221/5221—Seventeenth-Century Literature | CRN 80373 (Upper Division XL) / 80433 (Graduate Seminar)
Section 01/01—T 6:00-8:30 | Fall 2019

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Office Hours: MW 12:30-2:00; T 5:00-6:00; R 1:00-2:00—and by appointment

Please read and understand this document, save a digital copy, and bring a printed copy with you to every class meeting.

Course Content This course will survey seventeenth-century English literature across a variety of genres, with emphasis on spiritual autobiography, the poetry of the English Civil War, Restoration drama, and John Milton's *Paradise Lost*. Three credit hours.

Outcomes

- Students will develop skills to read and interpret seventeenth-century literature.
- Students will develop skills to discuss and write about seventeenth-century literature.
- Students will develop skills to apply historical and critical approaches to seventeenth-century literature.

Required Texts

Aphra Behn, *Oroonoko, The Rover and Other Works* (Penguin)
John Bunyan, *Grace Abounding, with Other Spiritual Autobiographies* (Oxford)
John Milton, *Paradise Lost* (Hackett)
Seventeenth-Century British Poetry (Norton)

The required course texts are quality editions which offer good value for money—these are standard college and scholarly editions. Each text offers clearly written and useful introductions to the literature and extensive notes. Please examine your books' apparatuses and learn to use the available features to read more efficiently and effectively. I expect everyone to have the required texts from the start of the semester and bring the correct text for the day to each class meeting. Please check with me if you intend to use an electronic version or alternate edition of any of these books.

Attendance and Requirements Be present and in good time for each class meeting. Please do not make late or down-to-the-minute arrival a habit. No make-up work will be given in cases of elective absence or tardiness. Any student absent from 50% or more of class sessions by mid semester will be subject to administrative withdrawal. If you are a university athlete, please let me know if this will affect your attendance.

Computer Policy All students are required to have access to a computer in proper working order with functional word processing software and access to a business-quality laser printer. All students must have access to Clayton State e-mail and maintain regular electronic availability for notifications throughout the semester. Computers are not to be used for multi-tasking or general browsing and communication during class time unless by the instructor's request or for specific class purposes.

D2L This is a seated section not taught over D2L—no grades or assignments for this course will be distributed over D2L.

Student Conduct As a Clayton State University student and as a student in this class, it is your responsibility to read, understand, and abide by the Student Code of Conduct, outlined in the Clayton State University Catalog as "Basic Undergraduate Student Responsibilities" at <https://www.clayton.edu/Portals/47/docs/student-code-of-conduct.pdf>.

Classroom Department

- Respect my responsibility to conduct a good, orderly class.
- Be prepared and be involved in a positive way.
- Silence and set aside devices. I recommend airplane mode.
- Be reasonable with attire and accessories.
- Be reasonable with food and drink.

Classroom Deportment, cont'd

- Do not enter or exit the classroom inappropriately or unnecessarily.
- Recorders or cameras are not to be used in class without permission.
- If you have private or confidential questions or concerns, please check with me discreetly.

Special Needs If you have a documented disability or special needs and require any assistance, please do not hesitate to speak with me as soon as possible. All information will be kept confidential. Students who suspect they have a disability that has not been documented or sufficiently accommodated for should contact the Disability Services Coordinator, 255 Edgewater Hall, 678-466-5445, disabilityservices@clayton.edu.

Personal Problems Please remember that your professors are primarily responsible for helping you master specific subject matter within certain legal, professional, and ethical guidelines. If you are experiencing personal problems—including intellectual or social frustrations—and need help, there is a counseling service available on campus in addition to various offices addressing health and public safety. These services are for your benefit and are freely available to you and confidential.

Communication I am usually available for a few minutes before and after class for quick questions. Feel free to stop me on campus if you see me and have a question. Please see me at office hours or schedule an appointment if your questions or concerns require several minutes of consideration or are grade-related. My e-mail is available for standard clarification questions or inquiries regarding missed classes or scheduling matters. Please do not e-mail me with questions about grades—see me in person.

E-Mail Occasionally I will send out e-mail to the class which may contain observations or instructions for which you are individually responsible and which may be time sensitive. You are responsible for checking your CSU e-mail account regularly. For reasons of confidentiality and liability, I am also required to inform you that e-mail you send to me should be from your CSU account: I am prohibited from responding to student e-mail not from a valid CSU account.

Office Hours I hold regular office hours on campus for your convenience, and I encourage you to consult me during these hours if you are in need of assistance in the course or want to have a conference about a specific, course-related issue or discuss your grade.

Graded Work	Key Points (2 @ 10-12 minutes GS; 7-10 UDXL)	20%
	Focus Paper (1 @ 1200 words)	15%
	Short Essay (2500-3000 words GS; 1750-2000 UDXL)	25%
	Examinations (2 in-class)	40%

Key Points Each student in the class will be expected on two occasions during the semester to present a formal “Key Point” related to the scheduled reading for the day. Key Points must be prepared with a one-paragraph statement to be turned in to me on the day you make your point and must include a summary statement as well as a note of the evidence and location in the text from which you have drawn your observations. Key Points might identify a matter of character or plot development, some technical aspect of the text which deserves attention, some element of the historical context or a point of criticism. Key Points do not need to be scheduled in advance, but individuals are permitted only one presentation per meeting. Key Points must be original work and may not be taken from online summaries or similar—plagiarism here will be treated as all other Academic Dishonesty. Please adhere to time requirements.

Focus Papers Each student in the class will be expected on one occasion to present a formal Focus Paper related to the scheduled reading for the day. Focus Papers are more properly a writing assignment than the somewhat similar Key Points presentations, although they do need to be discussed on the day they are submitted. Focus Papers might expand on an idea explored in a Key Point, but in any case the Focus Paper will address a more expansive idea and do so with a broader body of evidence. Exploring a character or author’s motives or technique, looking closely at setting and mood, and examining parallel conflicts in a work are good examples of things that can be done in a Focus Paper. Students can choose any date within the range indicated on the syllabus to submit a Focus Paper. Each student submitting a Focus Paper will

Focus Papers, continued

describe the work to the class for about five minutes on the day of submission. Like all other written work, Focus Papers will be graded according to content, organization, and style and must be original and cite any sources appropriately.

Short Essay There will be one short essay assignment for which I will provide guidelines. This essay will be focused on close readings of the literature we are examining and will likely ask that you compare specific aspects of two or three works or sections of reading within a single work. As with exams, the short essays are to be original and well written. All essays must be products of a drafting process, and I require that you save and can provide upon request two stages of rough draft work in digital (in separately titled files) or handwritten (notebook or journal) form. Essays submitted without rough drafts in the author's possession are subject to forfeit—the rough draft is an integral part of the assignment even though it is not graded or submitted with the paper itself. Please meet the minimum number of required words and do not exceed the maximum.

Examinations Exams will be administered in class and will present you with an opportunity to demonstrate in writing your capacity for comprehension and interpretation of seventeenth-century literature. Exams will consist of two relatively short essays on different themes, incorporating a range of critical and theoretical perspectives. Naturally, it is my expectation that exams be completely original and written to the standard of an upper-division course in English, reflecting full mastery of skills taught in ENGL 1102, including adherence to MLA style. Please bring two clean and new blue books and two blue or black ink pens with you on exam days.

Doing the Reading This course is reading intensive and offers one of the richest educational opportunities you will have this semester. Doing the reading and coming to class is the best and most certain way of preparing for graded assignments and the surest way to achieve course outcomes. Doing the reading requires dedication to learning new skills and persistence. Consulting online summaries, encyclopedia pages, or study guides is not an acceptable substitute for doing the assigned reading and is insufficient preparation for class discussion. Further, reliance upon summaries and secondary sources and not doing the reading can lead to unnecessarily poor performance on graded assignments and even cheating out of desperation and the risk to grades and good standing associated with that behavior.

Written Work All written work submitted for this class must be original and presented in accordance with MLA style or similar. Proper spelling, grammar, and formatting are expected and work submitted which falls far outside these norms will be returned for revision or correction. All papers must be submitted with a proper heading and headers, a proper title, and a proper staple in the upper left-hand corner. Papers should be properly proofread and written in good style: I grade according to content, organization, and style, and presentation is a factor in each of these areas. If you have doubts about your capacity to write properly, I strongly encourage you to visit Writers' Studio 224 for assistance. Please do not risk your grades and good standing by submitting dishonest or plagiarized work.

Late Work Graded assignments are due at the beginning of class on the assigned due date—anything else is late unless I have agreed to other terms at least one full day in advance. Late submissions will be penalized one full letter grade. Submissions a week or more overdue will not be accepted, will be forfeit, and a mark of zero will be recorded. Class presentations are expected to be done at their scheduled times and dates and will be considered forfeit if this obligation is not met unless alternative arrangements have been made with me at least one class period in advance.

Midterm Grades Midterm grades will be posted for all students before the midterm date noted on the University Calendar. Midterm marks will most likely represent performance on about 40% of the total course requirements.

Grades in General I am committed to straightforward and fair grading by clear standards, and I frequently review grading guidelines and suggest study strategies in class. I will return graded work in a timely fashion and take responsibility for my findings. If you have a question about your grade for the course or specific grades for assignments, please ask to schedule a conference. I will not discuss individual grading matters or venture far into the philosophy of grading in the classroom, but I will announce trends and averages on exams and assignments when applicable. I am always happy to discuss your grade with you and offer suggestions, but please do not abuse this availability through manipulative action or inquiry or willful or pretended ignorance of grading standards and policy.

Academic Dishonesty In accordance with University policy, academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. All students are expected to understand and avoid plagiarism. Briefly stated, plagiarism may involve such practices as appropriating another person's words or ideas in an egregious manner or presenting borrowed words, phrasing, and/or ideas without following proper quotation and citation practices. Cheating includes dishonest or deceptive practices in preparing exams and other assignments and/or inappropriate forms or degrees of collaboration with fellow students or others—use of telephones or electronic devices applies here: any form of phone use during any graded activity will result in forfeit of the assignment. Students caught cheating or plagiarizing risk failure for the course further disciplinary consequences at the University level. Please see the Student Code of Conduct for further information. If you do not understand an assignment or feel incapable of adequate performance on an assignment or examination, seek legitimate academic support through me or through the Center for Academic Success or similar.

Acting Out Acting Out conduct violations can be disruptive and dangerous and these behaviors are taken seriously in all social and professional settings for obvious reasons. Please avoid behavior or demeanor that others might reasonably consider a serious or sustained distraction, imposition, or cause for concern. Encouraging others in disruptive behavior or antagonizing others in subtle or overt ways also violates the code of conduct and should be avoided.

Disclaimer There may be minor revisions to this syllabus over the course of the semester. Any changes will be announced in class and given with reasonable notice. As stated above, all students are expected to be or become aware of information disseminated in class or by e-mail, with absence from class being no excuse for unpreparedness. I will strive to present key information or changes in the schedule in a clear and timely fashion, and I am available to you through office hours and e-mail in the event you are absent or something is unclear.

Schedule of Assignments

- August 13 Introduction to the course.
- 20 Read from Bunyan, et al, *Grace Abounding* (1-94) and *A Relation of the Imprisonment of Mr. John Bunyan* (95-122).
- 27 Read from Bunyan, et al: Norwood, *Confessions* (123-55); *A Short History of the Life of John Crook* (156-69); Clarkson, *The Lost Sheep Found* (170-90); and *The Narrative of the Persecution of Agnes Beaumont* (191-224).
Begin Key Points and Focus Papers.
- Sept 3 Read Robert Herrick and George Herbert (*Norton* 179-224; 225-92).
- 10 Read Thomas Carey, James Shirley, and Mildmay Fane (*Norton* 293-317; 319-26; 327-34).
- 17 Read John Suckling and Richard Lovelace (*Norton* 409-29; 489-506). Read Milton, *L'Allegro, Il Penseroso*, and *Lycidas* (*Norton* 388-96; 398-403).
- 24 **First Examination.**
- October 1 Read Milton, *Paradise Lost*, Books 1 and 2.
- October 4 Last Day to Withdrawal w/ W
- 8 Fall Break
- 15 Read *Paradise Lost*, Books 3 and 4. Short Essay Topics.
- 22 Read *Paradise Lost*, Books 5 and 6.
- 29 Read *Paradise Lost*, Books 7 and 8.
- Nov 5 Read *Paradise Lost*, Books 9 and 10.
- 12 Read *Paradise Lost*, Books 11 and 12. **Short Essays Due.**
- 19 Read Behn, *The Rover*.
- 26 Read Behn, *Oroonoko*. **End Key Points and Focus Papers.** Last Day of Class.
- Tues Dec 3 @ 5:00 PM **Final Examination.**