

English 329
Milton
Spring 2006
T - Th, 3:00-4:20
Hoover 113

Prof. Wendy Furman-Adams
Office: Hoover 211
Phones: 907-4896; 693-1809
Office Hours: M, 1:30-3; W, 1:30-2;
T-Th, 4:30-6:00; and by appointment
E-mail: wfurman@whittier.edu

"I was confirmed in this opinion that he who would not be frustrate of his hope to write well hereafter in laudable things, ought himself to be a true poem, that is, a composition and pattern of the best and honorablest things--not presuming to sing high praises of heroic men or famous cities, unless he have in himself the experience and the practice of all that is praiseworthy." (*Apology for Smectymnuus*, 1642)

Required Texts:

Roy Flannagan, ed. *The Riverside Milton*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1998. (Referred to below as *RM*.)

Any edition of the Bible (preferably KJV).

A number of readings and hand-outs.

On Reserve:

Thomas N. Corns, ed. *A Companion to Milton*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2003. (Referred to below as "Corns.")

Dennis Danielson, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Milton*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1989. (Referred to below as Danielson.)

Wendy Furman, Christopher Grose, William Shullenberger, eds. *Riven Unities (Milton Studies 28)*. U of Pittsburgh P, 1992.

Barbara K. Lewalski, "Innocence and Experience in Milton's Eden," from *New Essays on Paradise Lost*, ed. Thomas Kranidas (U of California P, 1969), 86-117.

Resources: Be sure to note the bibliography of works on *Paradise Lost* in *RM*, 335-47 and the Consolidated Bibliography in Corns, 499-520.

Required Work:

1. Reading assignments to be completed before the dates for which they are assigned (i.e. in time for class discussion. Although this course may feature more lecture than some other courses, I will always assume your familiarity with the text, and nothing I say will make much sense without that familiarity on your part).
2. Prompt and regular attendance at all class sessions. (More than two absences will affect your final grade. More than six may be regarded as grounds for failure of the course.)
3. A reading and class journal in which you keep notes and generate questions on each day's readings, as well as on each day's lecture and discussion. This journal will be due at the end of the course, but may be checked in between as needed.
4. One paper (about six pages) dealing with a critical issue in Milton's earlier poetry (1645) or in his prose.
5. One longer paper (about ten pages) on a topic having to do with *Paradise Lost*.
6. A midterm and a comprehensive final exam--objective and essay.

Grading Factors:

1. Attendance, preparation and discussion	10
2. Journal	15
3. Shorter paper	15
4. Midterm	15
5. Longer paper	20
6. Final exam	<u>25</u>
	100%

Grading Options:

- (1) A - F
- (2) Credit/No-credit (non-majors only)

Note: Late work will be accepted, but will be marked down one half grade for each school day (not class day) after the due date. Under extraordinary circumstances, I will consider an extension without penalty--provided that I am consulted in advance and that the circumstances seem serious enough to warrant such an extension. Even if a piece of work should be so late that it would technically receive a failing grade, all work must be turned in and be of passing quality (whatever the grade) in order for a passing grade to be earned in the course.

Manuscript Style:

Papers are to be typed double-space in a 12-point font (this syllabus serves as an example), and printed on a laser-quality printer. They should be handed in on separate sheets of 8 1/2 X 11

bond paper, stapled in the upper left-hand corner. Margins should be one inch; paragraphs are to be indented five spaces. Spaces should not be skipped between paragraphs. Notes and bibliography must follow the *MLA Handbook*, copies of which are available in both the library and the bookstore. (You can also find the form neatly laid out in your good old *Random House Handbook*.)

Always keep hard-copies of all your work. Documents can get lost--both from my desk and from your disk, whether hard or floppy. Should this occur, I will expect you to be able to produce a copy immediately; otherwise, I will be forced to count the paper as late beginning with the original due date. (See above for general policy on late papers.)

Note: Electronically submitted work will not be accepted. It is your responsibility to leave enough time to submit a clean hard copy for evaluation.

Academic Honesty:

Plagiarism occurs whenever the true author of a piece of prose, of an idea, or of a line of thought is not the person who claims to be the author. Plagiarism can occur in varying degrees, and will be penalized--in this class as in all others at the College--in proportion to its severity. Papers in which plagiarism is sufficiently serious will receive an F, and student's name will be turned in to the Dean of Students. A repeated act of plagiarism will result in an automatic F in the entire course, in addition to any action taken by the Office of Student Life (which can include suspension from the College). A number of such serious sanctions have been imposed in recent years.

A particularly common and egregious form of plagiarism is the down-loading of materials from papers posted by others on various websites. Please be aware that faculty have the tools to identify any work unfairly borrowed from the internet--as well as other sources.

If you are in doubt about the need for documentation of borrowed material, please feel free to consult me or any other professor on campus. Also be sure that you have mastered the material in the 2005-2007 College Catalog, 29-34. Ignorance of this material will not be regarded as an excuse.

ADA Policy:

If you have any disabling condition that may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements, please begin by contacting the Disabilities Office in CAS (extension 4835). I will be happy to provide any accommodations regarded by the Director as appropriate, but am not in a position to offer such accommodations independently. Short of actual accommodations, however, please feel welcome to talk with me about anything I can do to help you succeed in the course.

The Final Exam:

The final examination will be given only at the published time (Friday, May 19, 1:00 to 3:00), so plan your departure for the summer accordingly. Plane tickets purchased by students not consulting the schedule (or not informing their families of the schedule) will not be accepted as an excuse for missing (or rescheduling) the exam. If you should find yourself scheduled for three final exams on a single day, you are (as the catalogue notes) entitled to request an adjustment from your professors.

Projected Schedule (subject to change as necessary):

Feb. 9 Introduction to the course and to Milton. Hand-outs: (1) Evil in the popular press (three articles); (2) Milton's role in seventeenth-century political and religious conflicts; Doctrinal differences in seventeenth-century English Theology.

14 Milton on Milton (1). Read the Invocations to *Paradise Lost*, Books III and VII, *RM*, 415-17 (to l. 55) and 537-38 (to l. 39); *Second Defense of the English People*, 1106 (beginning upper-left column)-1109 (ending top-left column); and 1115 (bottom-right column)-1118 (end).

Recommended: John Shawcross, "The Life of Milton," Danielson, 1-19.
(Also note and continue to refer to the chronology in *RM*.)

16 Milton on Milton (2): The Sonnets. Read Sonnets 7 (85), 12 (251-52), 15 and 16 (289-91), 18 (254-55), 19 (255-56), 22 (293), and 23 (258-59). Hand-out: (3) The Sonnet: Pre-Petrarchan, Petrarchan, and Anti-Petrarchan.

hand- 21 Milton at 21--Self-Consecration as Poet and Prophet. "Ode on the Morning of Christ's Nativity" (1629): Some Traditions Behind the Poem. Slide lecture. Read out (4) The Nativity in English; Matt. 1.18-2.23; Luke 1.26-2.40; John 1.1-5, 9-14; Colossians 1.15-20; and Philippians 2.6-11. Also read Virgil's Eclogue IV from hand-out (5): Pastoral before Milton.

RM, 23 Milton's Nativity Ode. Read Flannagan's Introduction, 33-36. Then read the poem, 38-47.

28 Milton's Nativity Ode, continued. Courtly Entertainment and the Self-Fashioning of the Virtuous Soul: Milton's Ludlow Mask (1634). Read Flannagan Introduction, 109-19; *A Mask* (Comus), 120-171.

Mar. 2 Milton's Ludlow Mask, continued. Review the poem and read Leah Marcus, "John Milton's *Comus*," *Corns*, 232-45.

7 Slide Lecture: The Uses of Enchantment: Artists' Re-visions of *A Mask*.

- 9 The Crisis of Vocation--Milton's Pastoral Elegy: "Lycidas" (1638). Read Flannagan Introduction, 94-99; the poem, 100-107. Also read Theocritus, Moschus, and Spenser in hand-out (5).
- 14 "Lycidas," continued. Review the poem and read Stella Revard, "Lycidas," Corns, 246-60. **Recommended:** Martin Evans' essay in Danielson, 35-50.
- 16 Midterm.
- 21 "Simple, Sensuous, and Passionate: Milton the Idealist and Reformer. Read *Of Education* (1644), 977-86. Also read "L'Allegro and Il Penseroso," 65-77. **Recommended:** Georgia Christopher's essay in *Riven Unities*, 23-36.
- 23 "Three Species of Liberty": Milton the Idealist and Radical. Read *Second Defense of the English People* (1654), 1117 (top left) to 1118 (bottom right); *Doctrine and Discipline of Divorce* (1644), Flannagan's Introduction, 926-29; and Book I, 934-49; *The Tenure of Kings and Magistrates* (1649?), 1057-1075; and *Areopagitica* (1644), Flannagan's Introduction, 987-94; and the text, 997-1024. **Recommended:** Martin Dzelzainis, "Republicanism," Corns, 294-308.
- 28 *Paradise Lost*: Biblical Iconography Before Milton. Slide Lecture. Read Flannagan Introduction to the poem, 297-345. **Recommended:** Barbara K. Lewalski, "The Genres of *Paradise Lost*," Danielson, 79-95. First paper due.
- 30 *Paradise Lost* (1674), Book I, 349-378. Also see Romans 5.12-21. Hand-outs (6 and 7): Epic before Milton; *Paradise Lost* outline. **Recommended:** Lewalski, "Milton: Divine Revelation and the Poetics of Experience," *Riven Unities*, 3-22.

Spring Break April 1-9.

- Apr.** 11 *Paradise Lost*, Book II, 381-412. **Recommended:** Stephen Buhler, "Kingly States," *Riven Unities*, 49-68.
- 13 *Paradise Lost*, Book III, 415-38. Also see Psalm 2; review Colossians 1.15-20 and Philippians 2.5-11.
- 18 *Paradise Lost*, Book IV, 441-73. **Recommended:** Diane McColley, "Milton and the Sexes" in Danielson, 147-166; essays by Ilona Bell and Wendy Furman in *Riven Unities*, 91-161.
- 20 *Paradise Lost*, Book V, 475-504. **Required:** Barbara K. Lewalski, "Innocence

and Experience in Milton's Eden," from *New Essays on Paradise Lost*, ed. Thomas Kranidas, 86-117 (on reserve in Wardman Library. If you would like a copy to keep, you may photocopy one of the copies before returning it to the reserve desk.).

25 *Paradise Lost*, Book VI, 507-535. **Recommended:** Michael Schoenfeldt, "Obedience and Autonomy in *Paradise Lost*," *Corns*, 363-79. Proposal for final paper due.

27 *Paradise Lost*, Book VII, 537-59. Also read Genesis 1 and 2. **Recommended:** Diane K. McColley, "Milton and Ecology," *Corns*, 157-73.

May 2 *Paradise Lost*, Book VIII, 561-81.

4 *Paradise Lost*, Book IX, 583-621. Also read Genesis 3.1-19. **Recommended:** Dennis Danielson's "The Fall of Man and Milton's Theodicy," Danielson, 113-29.

May 9 *Paradise Lost*, Book X, 623-57. Also read Genesis 3.20-21.

11 *Paradise Lost*, Books XI and XII, 659-710. Also read Romans 8.26-27; Genesis 4.1-16; 6.1-8; 7; 8.1-19; 11.1-9; Hebrews 11 and 12.1-4; Luke 1.26-38; and Genesis 3.22-25. **Recommended:** Georgia Christopher, "Milton and the Reforming Spirit," Danielson, 197-205; Regina M. Schwartz, "Milton on the Bible," *Corns*, 37-54.

16 Re-Visions: Artists interpreting *Paradise Lost*, 1688-1992. Final paper due.

May 13 (Thursday) **Final Exam, 10:30 to 12:30.** Journals collected at the beginning of the exam. Any not returned by the end of the exam period will be placed in campus mailboxes, along with your paper and final exam.

