

Western University
Department of English Writing Studies
English 3224E (001): Renaissance Literature

Monday 3.30-5.30, Wednesday 3.30-4.30
Physics Astronomy Building, Rm. 150

INSTRUCTOR: James Purkis

CONTACT: Arts and Humanities 3G01; jpurkis@uwo.ca; ext. 85835.

OFFICE HOURS: Wed 1.30-2.30, Fri 12.30-1.30, and by appointment

EMAIL POLICY: Weekdays within 24 hours; weekends occasional. It is almost always better to discuss intellectual questions in person (see Office Hours).

TEACHING ASSISTANT: David Carlton

OFFICE HOUR: TBA

TEXTBOOK:

, gen. ed. by Stephen Greenblatt, is available from the Campus Bookstore.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: Students will learn to:

read the literature as participant in the culture in which it was first written, addressing matters of subjectivity, sexuality, nationality, "race", revolt, gender, history, and literary tradition;
develop writing skills, including the formulation of arguments, the use of textual support and analysis, and the incorporation of critical work into essays;
improve oral communication skills through class discussion.

ASSIGNMENTS (see below for descriptions):

Essay One	20%	due Dec 1
Essay Two	25%	due Apr 6
Discussion points	15%	4 over the year
Commonplace book	5%	compiled over the year; submitted Oct8, Feb 11, April 8
Final Exam (3 hrs)	35%	final exam period

REQUISITES, PLAGIARISM, ACCOMMODATION, C.:

Senior courses numbered 2200 and above require a 1.0 course in English at the first-year level.

Students must pass term work and the final examination (in courses with final examinations) in order to pass the course. Students who fail the final examination (regardless of their term mark) automatically fail the course.

The Academic Calendar states: "Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course."

PROGRAMME (WHICH MAY BE SUBJECT TO MINOR REVISION):

Sep 8 Introductory class.

Sep 10 **A** , **3** , **:**
EARLY LYRIC AND SONNETS: WYATT AND HOWARD

OTHER 'METAPHYSICAL' POETS AND/OR NEO-PLATONIC
LOVE

Jan 19 'To His Coy Mistress'*; 'The Bermudas', 'A Dialogue
Between the Soul and Body*'.
'Corinna's Going A-Maying*', 'To the Virgins, to Make
Much of Time', 'Upon the Nipples of Julia's Breast',
'A Rapture*'
'The Retreat*'

Jan 21

COUNTRY HOUSES, AGRICULTURE, HOSPITALITY

Jan 26 'To Saxham'*
'The Hunting of the Hare*'
'The Hock-Cart, or Harvest Home*', 'Fresh Cheese
and Cream'
'To Penshurst*', 'Inviting a Friend to Supper*', 'The
Praises of a Country Life'.
'The Mower Against Gardens*', 'The Nymph
Complaining for the Death of Her Fawn'

Jan 28

Feb 2

3	3	3
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FAITH AND DEVOTION

Feb 4 'The Pilgrimage*', 'The Holdfast', 'The Flower*'
'Regeneration*', 'The Retreat'
Feb 9 'Easter Wings*', 'The Alter*', 'Jordan (I)', 'The
Windows'
Holy Sonnets: 1*, 5*, 7, 9, 10*, 11, 13, 14*, 17*, 18*, 19*

Feb 11

{Feb 16 – 20 READING WEEK. NO CLASSES}

FEMALE AND FAMILIAL DEVOTION

Feb 23 : 'A Married State*', 'Upon the Double Murder of King
Charles', 'Friendship's Mystery, To My Dearest 6

Coursework Assignments:

ESSAY ONE:

A 2,000 word essay. Questions will be given in class four weeks into the semester. Your essay must draw critically on one piece of secondary reading that is relevant to your topic of discussion. Spark notes and its equivalents on the market or internet may be consulted (and if consulted, should be included in your bibliography), but you must fulfil this assignment's secondary reading requirement. Please note the warning about plagiarism elsewhere in the course guide (under 'positioning your work') and discuss it with your instructor.

The essay must include a bibliography; don't forget to cite your primary reading. While demonstrating a knowledge of relevant criticism is important, formulating a cogent argument, supported with close readings of the text, is essential.

ESSAY TWO:

A 2,500 word essay. Requirements are as above except that your second essay must draw critically on TWO pieces of secondary reading that are relevant to your topic of discussion.

CLASS DISCUSSION:

On four occasions – October 6th, November 3rd, February 2nd, and March 16th – an hour of class time will be devoted to group discussion of written responses. A week before each discussion, I shall set a question arising from the assigned reading. Students will write a short (500 words) response for discussion the following week. In class, students will read their responses to one another and discuss them in a collegial and constructive manner. Students will submit

It is appropriate to list the same quotation under different topical headings if it is relevant to more than one, but that quotation does not count twice towards the total number of quotations you are expected to gather.

You must submit your commonplace book for evaluation October 8th, February 11th and April 8th. The commonplace exercise is worth 5% of your final grade. You will be assessed based upon the number and variety of your quotations and their appropriateness to their assigned topic. I will return your commonplace book at the final exam, where it may be used as a memory aid, quotation reference, etc. Please remember: no individual commonplace should be longer than four lines.

SUBMISSION OF ASSIGNMENTS:

Essays and commonplace books may be submitted in class, given to me in person, sent to me (at the Department) by post or courier, or may be submitted in the Department of English office (Arts and Humanities Building, 2G02). Note that items submitted before 8:30 a.m. in the essay box are stamped with the previous day's date and I accept those datings.

Do not put assignments under my office door or email or fax assignments. Assignments submitted in these ways will not be accepted.

Please keep a copy of all assignments submitted

GRACE DAYS:

You are each given THREE grace days, which you can use all at once, or allocate between your assignments. *PLEASE NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT I AM UNABLE TO ACCEPT ANY ASSIGNMENTS AFTER WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8TH.*

When your grace days are gone, they are gone, and you are faced with a late assignment (see next section).

In view of these days and of the advance notice given for each assignment, further extensions will only be given in accordance with the statement on academic accommodation on the first page of this guide.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS.

If you submit an assignment after the due date (plus whatever grace days you have remaining) but within two weeks of it, the grade will be reduced by a penalty of two marks (2%) for each calendar day that it is late. The arrangements for date-stamping essays in the Department of English essay box are accepted for late essays.