Fall 9-1-2000

ENLT 431.01: Senior Seminar - Metaphysical Poetry

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ENLT 431.01
Senior Seminar: Metaphysical Poetry
Autumn 2000
TR 12:40-2:00, LA 334

Primary texts:

Schedule of reading assignments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assigned Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 5</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 7</td>
<td><em>Donne</em> Miscellaneous poems t.b.a. Essays by miscellaneous poets (Jonson, Carew, Dryden, Johnson, Coleridge, Eliot) in NCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Pico Browne</td>
<td>Excerpts from Oration on the Dignity of Man Excerpts from Religio Medici ({\text{reserve, &quot;Man the Microcosm&quot;}})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Donne</td>
<td>The Indifferent Community Confined Love Love's Alchemy Elegy XVI. Love's Progress (handout) Elegy XIX. To His Mistress going to Bed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Donne</td>
<td>Elegy X. The Dream Sappho to Philaenis (handout) Satire I Satire III To Sir Henry Wotton To Mr Roland Woodward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Donne</td>
<td>Lovers' Infiniteness Love's Growth The Dream The Primrose A Lecture upon the Shadow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Donne</td>
<td>Air and Angels The Ecstasy Negative Love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 No class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 3</td>
<td><em>Donne</em> The Good-Morrow The Sun Rising The Canonization The Anniversary A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><em>Donne</em> A Fever A Valediction: Of Weeping A Nocturnal upon St. Lucy's Day, Being the Shortest Day The Dissolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Donne</td>
<td>Holy Sonnets XIV, I, V, XVII, XVIII, XIX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Donne</td>
<td>An Anatomy of the World: The First Anniversary Good Friday, 1613. Riding Westward</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(Oct. 16=last day to drop or change grading option.)

17 Donne  To Mr Tilman after he had taken orders
          A Hymn to Christ, at the Author's Last Going into Germany
          Hymn to God my God, in my Sickness
          A Hymn to God the Father
19 Herbert  The Altar
           Easter Wings
           The Holy Scriptures (II)
           Anagram
           Iesu
           The Bunch of Grapes
           Paradise
           The Son

24 Herbert  Prayer (I)
           Church Monuments
           Church Music
           The Windows
           Virtue
           Aaron
           The Elixir
           Death
           Doomsday
26 Herbert  The Agony
           Redemption
           Holy Baptism (II)
           The Holy Communion
           Church Lock-and-Key
           Vanity (I)
           Man
           The Bag

31 Herbert  Affliction (I)
           Jordan (I)
           Employment (II)
           The Pearl
           Jordan (II)
           The Collar
           The Forerunners
Nov. 2 Herbert  The Temper (I)
               The Temper (II)
               The Flower
               The Pulley

7  No class
9 Herbert  Denial
           Dialogue
           Artillery
           Judgement
           Love (III)

14 Crashaw  To the Infant Martyrs
           Upon the Infant Martyrs
           I Am the Door
           Upon Lazarus His Tears
And He Answered Them Nothing
Upon Our Saviour's Tomb Wherein Never Man Was Laid
Saint Mary Magdalene, or The Weeper

16 Crashaw
A Hymn to the Name and Honor of the Admirable Saint Teresa
from The Flaming Heart
To the Noblest and Best of Ladies, The Countess of Denbigh

21 Marvell
The Coronet
Eyes and Tears
To His Coy Mistress
The Definition of Love
An Horatian Ode Upon Cromwell's Return

23 No class

28 Marvell
On a Drop of Dew
Bermudas
The Picture of Little T.C. in a Prospect of Flowers

30 Marvell
The Nymph Complaining for the Death of Her Fawn

Dec. 5 Marvell
A Dialogue Between the Soul and Body
The Mower Against Gardens
The Garden

7 Marvell
Upon Appleton House

12 Vaughan
Distraction
Vanity of Spirit
The World
Mount of Olives (II)
Man
The Waterfall

14 Vaughan
The Retreat
The Morning Watch
Corruption
They are all gone into the world of light
Cock-crowing
The Seed Growing Secretly
The Night

19 Minor writers (finals hour, 10:10-12:10 Tuesday)

In addition to the primary readings listed, some scholarly and critical reading will be assigned at various points during the semester—from the Norton Critical Editions, as handouts, and on reserve at the library.

The goals of the course are for you to gain facility in reading the intensely dramatic, highly compressed, and intellectually coherent poetry written in the "metaphysical" style; to become aware of the ways in which poems written in this style can be conceived as "microcosmic" or "hieroglyphic"; and to articulate the intellectual drama created in particular poems by poets pursuing these microcosmic strategies.

Your success in achieving these goals will be evaluated primarily through a long (15-20 pp) argumentative paper due on Friday, Dec. 15; and secondarily through class participation and three or four short (1 p.), informal response papers which you will xerox and distribute to all the members of the class. I will circulate a sign-up sheet for days to write the response papers, and I will assign a due date to turn in a short draft of the long paper.

More than three unexcused absences will lower your course grade.