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ENLT 431.01: Senior Seminar - Metaphysical Poetry

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HUNT
ENLT
431.01

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

Prof. John Hunt
LA 133-B, x4062
Hours: TR 11-12 and 2-3, W 1-2
e-mail: hunt@selway.umt.edu

Primary texts: *John Donne's Poetry* (2nd ed.), ed. Clements (Norton Critical Ed.)
George Herbert and the Seventeenth Century Religious Poets, ed. DiCesare (NCE)

Schedule of reading assignments:

- Sept. 5 None
7 Donne Miscellaneous poems t.b.a.
Essays by miscellaneous poets (Jonson, Carew, Dryden, Johnson, Coleridge, Eliot) in NCE
- 12 Pico Excerpts from Oration on the Dignity of Man }
Browne Excerpts from Religio Medici } (reserve, "Man the Microcosm")
Traherne Excerpts from Centuries of Meditation }
- 14 Donne The Indifferent
Community
Confined Love
Love's Alchemy
Elegy XVI. Love's Progress (handout)
Elegy XIX. To His Mistress going to Bed
- 19 Donne Elegy X. The Dream
Sappho to Philaenis (handout)
Satire I
Satire III
To Sir Henry Wotton
To Mr Roland Woodward
- 21 Donne Lovers' Infiniteness
Love's Growth
The Dream
The Primrose
A Lecture upon the Shadow
- (Sept. 25=last day to drop classes with refund.)
- 26 Donne Air and Angels
The Ecstasy
Negative Love
- 28 No class
- Oct. 3 Donne The Good-Morrow
The Sun Rising
The Canonization
The Anniversary
A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning
- 5 Donne A Fever
A Valediction: Of Weeping
A Nocturnal upon St. Lucy's Day, Being the Shortest Day
The Dissolution
- 10 Donne Holy Sonnets XIV, I, V, XVII, XVIII, XIX
12 Donne An Anatomy of the World: The First Anniversary
Good Friday, 1613. Riding Westward

(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.