

ENGL 4113/5313 – Seventeenth-century Literature: *Paradise Lost*
Winter 2010

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course students will investigate current conversations on various aspects of Milton's *Paradise Lost*, in addition to studying the texts of both the original 10-book poem and the second, and more familiar, 12-book poem. Graduate students will be required to write three papers for this course: the first will be a conference-like paper on any aspect of either version of the poem, which they will deliver before the rest of the class; the second will be a class preparation which they will use to lead the rest of the class to a better understanding of one of the essays in vol. 2 of the Shawcross and Lieb edition of *Paradise Lost: A Poem Written in Ten Books*, and; the third will be a traditional academic paper developed out of the conference paper delivered earlier to the class. Honours students will not be required to write, deliver, or submit the conference-like paper.

The purpose of the class is to make students familiar with *Paradise Lost* and with three genres most common in the life of the academic: the conference paper & delivery, class preparation and delivery, and the publishable essay.

COURSE TEXTS

Required

Paradise Lost: A Poem Written in Ten Books. 2 vols. ed. John T. Shawcross and Michael Lieb. Pittsburgh: Duquesne UP, 2007. ISBN: 978-0-8207-0404-3.

Paradise Lost. ed. David Scott Kastan. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 2005. ISBN: 0-87220-733-1. (Any edition of the 12-book imprint will suffice.)

On Reserve

Empson, William. *Milton's God*.

Fish, Stanley. *Surprised by Sin*.

Wittreich, Joseph. *Feminist Milton*.

REQUIREMENTS

All submissions will be double-spaced, with approximately 2.5 cm (1 inch) margins, and on p. 2 forward a page number will be printed at the top right position on the page. Do not print a separate title page. Your title and name should be centered and single spaced at the top of your text, using no less than two lines. MLA formatting will obtain, wherever appropriate.

All students:

1) Attendance is required. In such a small class your absence will have a profoundly felt negative impact on the rest of us. Attendance is required not so you do not fail to take in new material, but so you can contribute to everyone else's learning experience. Thus, absence simply for the sake of convenience is a dereliction of your responsibilities to the rest of us. That said, sickness cannot always be avoided. Contact the professor immediately you become aware of an impending absence.

2) Your first writing assignment is to submit a statement of teaching philosophy. This should be double spaced, and no more than two pages. If you exceed that space your grade will suffer.

3) You will be required to assume the reigns of control for one period in which you will teach one of the essays from the course text.

4) One week later you will submit a two page prose text in which you **briefly** summarize the essay you taught, describe what thought was most important to get across, and explain how you set about ensuring the class learned those important elements of the essay. You are welcome to submit whatever point form or other notes you used to prepare and / or to deliver the class, but you are not required to do so. You are strongly encouraged to make use of computer-based technology to deliver the class, and, ideally, to provide your students with a subsequent and more or less permanent resource.

5) You will also be required to submit a research paper on one of the topics listed below. Alternative topics may be allowed, if you discuss it with the professor before Thursday, January 28.

Graduate students only:

6) Relatively early in the term you will present a conference paper of **no more than** 20 minutes. The topic will be attuned to your term paper. After presentation you will respond to at least ten minutes of questioning from the rest of the class.

7) You will be expected to respond thoughtfully to your colleagues' conference papers with intelligent, substantive questions.

GRADING

Activity	Honours	Graduate
Attendance	25%	20%
Teaching Philosophy	10%	10%
Teaching	20%	15%

Teaching Preparation	20%	10%
Research Paper	25%	25%
Conference Paper		15%
Response to Conf. Paper		5%

PAPER TOPICS

God in *Paradise Lost*; *Paradise Lost* and any aspect of feminism or women's studies; the character of Satan, Adam, or Eve; any aspect of the revision of *Paradise Lost* from ten to twelve books; any aspect of the printing history of *Paradise Lost*; the theme of "a fugitive and cloister'd virtue" and *Paradise Lost*; a discussion of *Paradise Lost* and any of Milton's prose works; topic of your definition discussed with professor by January 27.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

	11 / M	Introductions	
J	13 / W	<i>Areopagitica</i>	
a	18 / M	Genesis	
n.	20 / W	Short poems	Statement of Teaching Phil. due
	25 / M	<i>Paradise Lost</i>	
	27 / W	<i>Paradise Lost</i>	Self-defined topics discussed
	1 / M	1: Name	"Back to the Future": 1 – 23
	3 / W	Conference papers	
F	8 / M	2	"More and More Perceiving": 25 – 56
e	10 / W	Conference papers	
b.			Reading Week
	22 / M	3	"Simmons's Shell Game": 57 – 78
	24 / W	4	"Historical & Literary Contexts": 79 – 95
	1 / M	<i>Paradise Lost</i>	
	3 / W	5	"The Emperor's New Clothes": 97 - 122
	8 / M	6	"Now let us play": 123 – 139
M	10 / W	7	"New Laws thou see'st imposed": 141 – 158
a	15 / M	8	"Poetic Justice": 159 – 181
r	17 / W	Term Paper presentations	
c	22 / M	9	"Mysterious Darkness of Unknowing": 183 – 212
h	24 / W	10	"Light out of darkness": 213 - 27
	29 / M	<i>Paradise Lost</i>	
	31 / W	Term Paper presentations	
A	5 / M	Review	
p	7 / W	Review	
r.	12 / M	Review	