

**ENGC33H: Deceit, Dissent, and the English Civil Wars**  
Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00-10:30, HW 308

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**Course Description**

This course focuses on poetry, prose, and drama written in England between the death of Queen Elizabeth in 1603 and the Restoration of the monarchy in 1660. These politically tumultuous years witnessed the outbreak of the Civil Wars, the execution of Charles I, and the establishment of a republic in England. The period also saw English writers grappling with fascinating questions about scientific investigation, the relationship between God and humanity, and the nature of introspection and self-understanding.

We will focus on the close analysis of texts by writers such as Francis Bacon, John Donne, Ben Jonson, Aemilia Lanyer, Mary Wroth, George Herbert, Thomas Hobbes, Margaret Cavendish, Andrew Marvell, and John Milton, among others. As we read, we will examine how these writers contributed to seventeenth-century debates concerning personal and political sovereignty, censorship, religious toleration, gender and social hierarchies, nationhood, and race. We will also consider how the literature of this period challenged established generic, structural, and stylistic conventions. Most broadly, this course will invite you to consider the relationship between literary production and the wide sweep of political and social change.

**Required Text**

*The Norton Anthology of English Literature*, Ninth Edition, Volume 1. Ed. Stephen Greenblatt, George Logan, Katharine Eisaman Maus, and Barbara K. Lewalski.  
ISBN-10: 0393912477 | ISBN-13: 978-0393912470

**Recommended Text**

Joseph Gibaldi, *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th ed.  
ISBN-10: 1603290249 | ISBN-13: 978-1603290241

Course texts are available from the UTSC bookstore and are on reserve at the UTSC library.

**Online Resources** (Links to these resources can be found on our course Blackboard site.)

**Norton Literature Online:** A wealth of resources, including timelines, glossaries, author portraits, practice quizzes, and writing tips, designed by the editors of the Norton Anthology. A registration access code can be found in the front inside cover of your textbook. <http://www.wwnorton.com/literature>

**Early English Books Online (EEBO):** Digital facsimiles of nearly all works printed in English between 1473 and 1700. <http://eebo.chadwyck.com/home>

**Women Writers Online (WWO):** An electronic database featuring an excellent collection of early modern women's writing (Renaissance Women Online).  
<http://www.wwp.brown.edu>

## **Course Requirements**

### **Participation (10%)**

I expect you to attend class regularly, to prepare for each class by carefully and thoughtfully completing the assigned readings, and to be an active participant in class discussion. If you have to miss class due to illness or another extenuating circumstance, you **must** inform me in writing before the class session in order for the absence to count as excused. No more than two excused absences are allowed before your grade will be affected.

***Extra Credit Option:*** Performance of a monologue or scene from Ben Jonson's *Volpone* on Tuesday, February 4, or Thursday, February 6. A sign-up sheet will be circulated in class. This option can boost your participation mark by up to 5% (e.g. from 70% to 75%). However, it cannot substitute for attendance.

### **Essay (25%)**

The essay, six to eight pages in length, invites you to draw connections between two or more of the texts encountered in the course. There is no research component for this essay. Your analysis should focus on your critical reading of your chosen texts. There are two options for submitting this assignment. If you would like to explore the texts encountered during the first half of term, your essay will be due by **5 p.m. on Tuesday, February 25**. If you would like to focus on the texts we will be discussing during the second half of the term, your essay is due by **5 p.m. on Thursday, April 3**. Essay topics will be posted on the Blackboard site in advance of each due date. The essay must be submitted to me in hard copy and submitted to Turnitin.com.

### **Short Critical Responses (30%)**

Over the course of the semester, you will be required to submit three critical responses of 300-400 words each. You may submit these responses at any time during the semester; however, you may not submit more than one response in a single week, and all three responses must be submitted before the last day of class. Each response should include a close reading and analysis of a passage from the week's assigned reading. You should also pose two or three critical questions in your response, perhaps at the end. A document providing guidelines for writing short critical responses is available on Blackboard, and will be distributed in hard copy.

### **Final Exam (35%)**

The final exam will consist of short answer/identification, passage identification and analysis, and an essay. Date TBA. More details will be provided closer to the end of term. We will devote our final class meeting to exam preparation and review.

## **Course Policies**

**Late Submission of Work.** No short critical responses will be accepted after the last day of class, and no late essays will be accepted. If a serious medical or personal crisis arises, please contact me **in advance** of the due date. A note from your doctor or the registrar will normally be required. **It is your responsibility to ensure that your assignments are submitted on time.**

**Academic Integrity.** I expect that all work you submit will be your own, prepared specifically for this class. If you incorporate the ideas of other individuals into your work, those references must be properly acknowledged and cited. **Plagiarism is a serious**

**academic offense and will be treated as such by me and by the University of Toronto.**

If you have questions about how to avoid plagiarism, please speak with me during my office hours. Margaret Proctor's article "How Not to Plagiarize" is also an excellent resource. It can be accessed at the following site: <http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html>

**Turnitin.com.** Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.

**Email Policy.** All emails to me **must** be sent from your University of Toronto email account and include your first and last name. The use of a professional tone is expected. In return, I pledge to respond to your e-mails within 48 hours on weekdays. I do not respond to e-mails on weekends.

**AccessAbility Services.** Students with a disability or health consideration are encouraged to contact Tina Doyle, Director, and/or the AccessAbility Services Office at (416) 287-7560. You can also drop by the office, S302, inside the Resource Centre. The Director is available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals, and arrange appropriate accommodations.

### Course Schedule

**Tuesday, January 7** Introductions

#### Unit I: Meditation, Investigation, Inwardness

**Thursday, January 9** Excerpts from "The Early Seventeenth Century" introductory essay in the *Norton Anthology* (pp. 1341-1358); Francis Bacon, excerpts from *The Advancement of Learning* (pp. 1675-1677) and the *Novum Organum* (pp. 1677-1681)

**Tuesday, January 14** Excerpts from "The Early Seventeenth Century" introductory essay in the *Norton Anthology*: (pp. 1358-1369); Foucault, "The Prose of the World" from *The Order of Things* (BB)

**Thursday, January 16** Mary Sidney, Psalms 13 and 17 (BB); Donne, *Holy Sonnets* 1, 5, 10, 11, 13, 14, 19 (pp. 1410-1415)

**Tuesday, January 21** Donne, "Meditation 4" from *Devotions upon Emergent Occasions* (pp. 1419-1420); Herbert, poems from *The Temple*: "The Altar," "Redemption," "Easter," "Easter Wings," "Jordan (1)" (pp. 1707-1712)

**Thursday, January 23** Crashaw, poems from *Steps to the Temple*: "To the Infant Martyrs," "I Am the Door," and "On the Wounds of Our Crucified Lord" (pp. 1745-1756); Crashaw, "In the Holy Nativity of Our Lord God" from *Carmen Deo Nostro* (pp. 1747-1749); Marvell, "The Coronet," "A Dialogue Between the Soul and Body" (pp. 1791-1793) and "The Mower Against Gardens" (pp. 1800-1801)

**Tuesday, January 28** Vaughan, “Corruption,” “The World,” “The Night,” “The Waterfall” (pp. 1732-1740); Traherne, excerpt from *Centuries of Meditation* (pp. 1880-1881); “Wonder,” “On Leaping Over the Moon” (pp. 1881-1884).

**Thursday, January 30** Milton, “On the Morning of Christ’s Nativity” (pp. 1901-1909); “When I Consider How My Light Is Spent,” “On the Late Massacre in Piedmont,” “Methought I Saw My Late Espoused Saint” (pp. 1942-1943)

***Unit II: Performing Disguise and Dissent***

**Tuesday, February 4** Ben Jonson, *Volpone*, Acts 1 & 2 (pp. 1445-1481)

**Thursday, February 6** *Volpone*, Acts 3 & 4 (pp. 1482-1516); In-class performances of scenes from *Volpone*

**Tuesday, February 11** *Volpone*, Act 5 (pp. 1516-1539); In-class performances of scenes from *Volpone*

**Thursday, February 13** Jonson, *The Masque of Blackness* (BB); Bacon, “Of Masques and Triumphs” (pp. 1672-1673)

**Tuesday, February 18 and Thursday, February 20: Reading Week – No Class**

***Unit III: Politics, Poetry, and the Self***

**Tuesday, February 25** Morrill, Manning, and Underdown, “What Was the English Revolution?” (BB); Cavendish, from *The Blazing World* (pp. 1891-1897); Filmer, from *Patriarcha* (pp. 1843-1846); **Deadline for Essay Option 1**

**Thursday, February 27** Hobbes, from *Leviathan* (pp. 1855-1867); excerpts from *The Moderate* (pp. 1836-1838) and *A Perfect Diurnal* (pp. 1838-1841)

**Tuesday, March 4** Hutchinson, from *Memoirs* (pp. 1869-1871); Philips, “Upon the Double Murder of King Charles” (p. 1785); Clarendon, from *The History of the Rebellion* (pp. 1871-1874)

**Thursday, March 6** Charles I, excerpt from *Eikon Basilike* (BB); Milton, *Tenure of Kings and Magistrates* (pp. 1846-1849); Marvell, “An Horatian Ode” (pp. 1806-1811)

**Tuesday, March 11** Genesis 2:1 through 3:24 (BB); Milton, *Paradise Lost*, Book 1 (pp. 1945-1964)

**Thursday, March 13** *Paradise Lost*, Book 2 (pp. 1964-1986) and Book 3, lines 56-134 (pp. 1988-1989)

**Tuesday, March 18** *Paradise Lost*, Book 3, lines 56-134 (pp. 1988-1989) and Book 4, lines 1-130, 288-535, and 776-819 (pp. 2003-2005, 2009-2014, 2019-2020)

**Thursday, March 20** *Paradise Lost*, Book 5, lines 1-93 (pp. 2024-2026), and Book 9, lines 1-493 (pp. 2091-2102)

**Tuesday, March 25** *Paradise Lost*, Book 9, lines 493-1189 (pp. 2102-2116) and Book 12, lines 469-649 (pp. 2171-2175)

**Thursday, March 27** No class

**Tuesday, April 1** Dryden, *Absalom and Achitophel* (pp. 2212-2236); **Deadline for Essay Option 2**

**Thursday, April 3** Final class