

Dr. Mark A. Pedreira
English 6457, Milton
LPM 308, Saturday 9:00-12:00
Fall term, 2003

Office: Edificio Pedreira, Rm. 2A
Office hours: Tues. & Thurs. 10:30-12:00 and by appointment
Office phone: 764-0000, ext. 3812

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES:

In this course, students will study Milton's Paradise Lost and Paradise Regained from a number of literary critical perspectives, focusing especially on the blend of biblical and classical learning that characterizes the Christian humanism of his writings. Given the fascinating history of Milton's readers, some of the most important early critics of Paradise Lost, particularly Johnson, Burke, Coleridge and Wordsworth, will be brought into a dialogue with more modern critics, such as C.S. Lewis, Stanley Fish, John Shawcross, and Christopher Ricks. Students will also have the opportunity to relate Milton's larger body of poetry and select prose works to the art of his epic writings.

TEACHING STRATEGIES:

This class includes lecture, dialogue, and student presentations. At the beginning of the semester, students will be given assignment dates for their oral and written work.

LAW 51: Los estudiantes que reciban servicios de **Rehabilitación Vocacional** deben comunicarse con el(la) profesor(a) al inicio del semestre para planificar el acomodo razonable y equipo asistivo necesario conforme a las recomendaciones de la Oficina de Asuntos para las Personas con Impedimentos (OAPI) del Decanato de Estudiantes. También aquellos estudiantes con necesidades especiales que requieren de algún tipo de asistencia o acomodo deben comunicarse con el(la) profesor(a).

TEXTS:

John Milton. Paradise Lost and Paradise Regained. Ed. Christopher Ricks. N.Y.: Penguin Books, 1968.

Milton. The Complete Poetry of John Milton. Ed. John T. Shawcross. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday and Co., Inc., 1971.

C.S. Lewis. A Preface to Paradise Lost. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1961.

Stanley Eugene Fish. Surprised by Sin: the Reader in Paradise Lost. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

John T. Shawcross. John Milton: the Self and the World. University Press of Kentucky.

Zoltan Kovecses. Metaphor: A Practical Introduction. Oxford: Oxford University Press,

2002.

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

LEY 51: Evaluación diferenciada a estudiantes con necesidades especiales. Esto significa que la evaluación que se utiliza para el estudiante con necesidad especial indentificada, responderá a la necesidad particular del estudiante (eg., prueba oral en lugar de escrita para un estudiante no-vidente).

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

Seminar Paper = 50%

Student presentations (includes written & oral component) = 30%

Homework & participation (including weekly *journal* on your reading of primary and secondary sources) = 20%

ATTENDANCE:

Students are expected to attend class regularly and to come to class on time. Failure to do so will affect a student's participation grade.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

As much as possible, students should refrain from making or taking phone calls during class. Unless there is an emergency situation, please turn off your phone (or put it on silent mode) during class.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

NOTE: This schedule is subject to revision, based on the needs of our class.

AUGUST

8/16 Introduction

8/23 Paradise Lost, Book I

8/30 Paradise Lost, Book II; C.S. Lewis, A Preface to Paradise Lost, Chapters I-VIII

SEPTEMBER

9/6 Paradise Lost, Book III; On the Morning of Christ's Nativity; C.S. Lewis, A Preface to Paradise Lost, Chapters IX-XV

9/13 Paradise Lost, Book IV; Lycidas; C.S. Lewis, A Preface to Paradise Lost, Chapters XVI-XIX

9/20 Paradise Lost, Book V; A Mask (Comus)

9/27 Paradise Lost, Book VI; Samson Agonistes

OCTOBER

- 10/4 Paradise Lost, Book VII; Stanley Fish, Surprised by Sin
10/11 Paradise Lost, Book VIII; Stanley Fish, Surprised by Sin
10/18 Paradise Lost, Book IX; Stanley Fish, Surprised by Sin
10/25 Paradise Lost, Book X; L=Allegro & Penseroso

NOVEMBER

- 11/1 Paradise Lost, Book XI; Metaphor & figurative language in Paradise Lost
(see Kovecses' Metaphor: A Practical Introduction)
11/8 Paradise Lost, Book XII; Metaphor & figurative language in Paradise Lost
(see Kovecses)
11/15 Paradise Regained, Books I-II
11/22 Paradise Regained, Books III-IV

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY:

* This is a highly select bibliography. Additional references will be provided upon request.

Bloom, Harold, ed. John Milton (Bloom's Major Poets Series). Philadelphia: Chelsea House Publishers, 2003.

Bradford, Richard. The Complete Critical Guide to John Milton. New York: Routledge. 2001.

Brown, Cedric C. John Milton: A Literary Life. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1995.

Corns, Thomas N. John Milton: The Prose Works. Twayne's Author Series. New York: Twayne Publishers, 1998.

Dickey, David N. Study of the Place of Women in the Poetry and Prose Works of John Milton. New York: Edwin Mellen Press, 2000.

Dobranski, Stephen B. and John P. Rumrich, editors. Milton and Heresy. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998.

Hope Nicolson, Marjorie. A Reader's Guide to John Milton. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1998.

Lewalsky, Barbara. The Life of John Milton: A Critical Biography. Oxford and Malden: Blackwell Publishers, 2000.

Miller, Timothy C., ed. The Critical Response to John Milton's Paradise Lost.

Westport:Greenwood Press, 1997.

Orgel, Stephen and Jonathan Goldberg, eds. John Milton. New York: Oxford University Press, 1994.

Patterson, Annabel M. John Milton. London and New York: Longman, 1992.

Phillips, Philip Edward. John Milton's Epic Invocations: Converting the Muse. New York: Peter Lang Publishing, 2000

Rogal, Samuel J. An Index to the Bibliographical References, Parallels, and Allusions in the Poetry and Prose of John Milton. Lewiston: Mellen Biblical Press, 1994.

Shawcross, John T. John Milton and Influence: Presence in Literature, History and Culture. Pittsburgh: Duquesne University Press, 2003.