

English 351 BRITISH RENAISSANCE AND NEOCLASSICISM

I. The object of this course is the study of selected poetry, prose, and non-Shakespearean drama of the Renaissance and Neoclassical periods of English literature, 1500-1800.

II. Students will read representative works of poetry, prose, and drama, participate in class discussions, lead two class discussions, and write a research paper of between ten and fifteen pages on a topic approved in advance. In addition to the above, there will be mid-term and final examinations.

III. The final grade will be based upon a consideration of the examinations, discussions, and paper by a formula announced in advance.

IV. All students are expected to attend showings of theater or video performances of one to four plays, depending on availability, and a public event related to the course: times and dates will be announced after the term begins.

V. Attendance policy for English 351 is based on the attendance statement on the Moravian College Catalog: read, date, sign, and submit the accompanying paper.

VI. Papers and examinations are expected to adhere to a minimum quality of standard English and adhere to the Statement on Academic Honesty, found in both the college catalog and the student handbook.

Texts:

Volume B, *The 16<sup>th</sup> Century, The Early 17<sup>th</sup> Century*. The Norton Anthology of English Literature, Eighth Ed.

Volume C, *The Restoration and the 18<sup>th</sup> Century*. The Norton Anthology of English Literature, Eighth Ed.

Useful Websites:

<http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~rbear/links.html>

Renaissance Editions;

[http://www.dartmouth.edu/~milton/reading\\_room/](http://www.dartmouth.edu/~milton/reading_room/)

John Milton Reading Room;

<http://www.andromeda.rutgers.edu/~jlynch/Lit/ren.html>

Literary Resources-Renaissance;

<http://www.andromeda.rutgers.edu/~jlynch/Lit/misc.html>

Literary Resources-Miscellaneous;

<http://www.luminarium.org/renlit/index.html>

Renaissance English Literature (with music)

<http://literaryexplorer.blondelibrarian.net/>

The Literary Explorer-Links to periods and authors;

<http://www.victorianweb.org/previctorian/nc/neoclassov.html>

Neoclassicism-an Overview

1. M Ja 14 Course Introduction; The Renaissance; the Sixteenth Century, 485-513.

2. W Ja 16 **Skelton, 514-518; More 518-524, 569-574.**

3. F Ja 28 Wyatt 592-606.

4. W Ja 23 **Surrey 687-692; Queen Elizabeth 687-692, 699-702.**

5. F Ja 25 Sidney, 947, 958-963, 975-992.

6. M Ja 28 Sidney.  
7. W Ja 30 **Spenser, 708-714; 719-732; 903-917.**  
8. F Fb 1 Spenser.
9. M Fb 4 The Renaissance of Drama.  
10. W Fb 6 **Christopher Marlowe Doctor Faustus [1592], 1001,1022-1057.**
11. F Fb 8 Marlowe, 1022; Raleigh, 917& selected works; Mary Herbert, 993-997.
12. M Fb 11 Shakespeare, 1058-1076.  
13. W Fb 13 **Shakespeare.**
14. F Fb 15 Ben Jonson Volpone [1606], 1334 and selected poems.
15. M Fb 18 Ben Jonson; Early 17th Century, 1235-1260.  
16. W Fb 20 **Campion, 1228-1231; Aemilia Lanier, 1313-1323; Mary Wroth, 1451-1460.**
17. F Fb 22 John Webster The Duchess of Malfi [1613], 1461-1535 .
18. M Fb 25 Donne, 1260, & selected poems.  
19. W Fb 27 **Donne.**
20. F Fb 29 Selected Metaphysical Poets.
21. M Mr 10 Selected Metaphysical Poets.  
22. W Mr 12 **Marvell, 1695-1710 & Selected Cavalier Poems.**
23. F Mr 14 Examination I.
24. M Mr 17 Milton, 1785, 1805-1811, & selected poems.  
25. W Mr 20 **Milton.**
26. M Mr 24 The Restoration and the 18th Century, 2057-2082.  
27. W Mr 26 **William Wycherly, The Country Wife [1675],handout.**
28. F Mr 28 Dryden, 2083 & selected works; Research Paper Subject Due In Writing.
29. M Mr 31 Pope, 2493-2496, 2532-2940, .  
30. W AP 2 **Swift, 2301, 2303, 2462-2468.**
31. F Ap 4 Research Paper Library Visit.
32. M Ap 7 Pepys,2133-2137; Defoe, 2288-2294; Rochester, 2167-2171.  
33. W Ap 9 **Aphra Behn,2178-2183; Mary Astell, 2284-2287; Anne Finch, 2294-2297.**
34. F Ap 11 William Congreve, The Way of the World [1700] 2226-2283.
35. M Ap 14 Addison & Steele, 2468, 2470, 2481; William Hogarth,2656-2664.  
36. W Ap 16 **Johnson, 2664, 2749-2754, 2756-2759; Boswell, 2778, 2781-2786.**
37. F Ap 18 Lady Worth Montague, 2584-2586; Olaudah Equiano, 2850-2860.
38. M Ap 22 The Graveyard School; Grey, 2862, 2867-2870 .  
39. W Ap 24 **Goldsmith, "The Deserted Village," 2877-2886.**
40. F Ap 26 Course evaluation forms.

At the conclusion of English 351 the student should be able to:

1. Have a fundamental knowledge of the variety and breadth of literary works created during this period of three centuries;
2. Understand how the history of three centuries had a direct effect on the creation of literary work, sometimes on form but especially on content;
3. Understand how a conjunction of forces-political, economic, social, psychological, even environmental, and so forth-culminates in conditions amenable to the creation of great literature;
4. Understand how literary artists of exceptional ability emerged during this period, influenced each other, and left their mark on their own time and the times to come.
5. Have a fundamental knowledge of the variety and breadth of critical and philosophical works that define and analyze British Renaissance and Neoclassical works.
6. Demonstrate competence in devising perceptive oral and written analyses of British Renaissance and Neoclassical works by careful and exact reading and employing the tools of literary analysis and library research.