

Department of English & Writing Studies

English 3321F (001)**Paradise Lost**

Fall 2023

Antirequisites: The former English 3224E, the former English 3228F/G.

Prerequisites: At least 60% in 1.0 of English 1020-1999 or permission of the Department.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Description

See Timetable below.

Objectives:

By the end of the course, successful students will be able:

- To develop an appreciation of *Paradise Lost* that unites historical observation and literary analysis. Emphasis will be placed on style, genre (the epic), and interpretative issues.
- To hone analytical and critical skills in both oral and written work.
- To develop confidence and competence in research practice.

Course Materials

John Milton, *Paradise Lost*, edited by John Leonard (Penguin, 2000).
Required.

Methods of Evaluation

The grade for the course will be arrived at as follows:

Short Essay, 1500 words	25%	DUE 19 OCTOBER
Long Essay, 2500 words	40%	DUE 21 NOVEMBER
Quizzes (best 3 out of 5)	15%	
Participation	10%	
In-class debate/presentation OR work of creative art with brief paragraph	10%	

This class meets twice a week. Students should come to lecture prepared to participate in group discussion: read the assigned portions of the text in advance of class, and always bring the right text to class with you.

Quizzes (15%): We will have five quizzes. The best three will count. There are extra quizzes to accommodate people who miss one or even two due to sickness. In other words, **accommodation is built into the course, so do not seek academic accommodation if you miss a quiz. MAKE-UPS ARE BUILT INTO THE SYSTEM.** Quizzes will be unannounced (to encourage attendance) but distributed more or less equally throughout the term. Quizzes will cover our current work and may be based on readings for the day the quiz is given (so be prepared for class).

In-class presentation (10%): There will be THREE (at most FOUR) in-class debates in which teams of students (3 or 4 per side) will make a presentation of about 20 minutes arguing opposite sides of a question. After each side has made its case, there will be approximately 20 minutes of class discussion. The debates will take place on days when we have a 2-hour class (see timetable below). Powerpoint presentations are encouraged. I recognize that shy students find it stressful to make oral presentations, so you may, if you wish, substitute an artistic work for an oral presentation. If you choose this option, you should write a brief paragraph describing the work you have created. All art is welcome too, but you will need to discuss your “prompts” in the accompanying paragraph. More details will be given later, depending on student interest in this option.

Note: there is no final exam for the course. DO NOT SEEK ACCOMMODATION FOR AN EXAM THAT DOES NOT EXIST.

Students are fully responsible for looking at and being familiar with the information posted on the department website at <http://www.uwo.ca/english/undergraduate/Student%20Information.html>.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory in all classes and tutorials. In cases of excessive absenteeism (e.g. more than 9 unexcused hours for a half course, 18 for a full course), which are not accounted for by either academic consideration or accommodation, students may be debarred from taking the final examination, and will receive an official warning to this effect by or before the course drop date (see Senate policy). In classes with or without final exams, students who do not attend class will receive 0% for course participation grades. Unless other policies dictate a different set of penalties in specific English and Writing Studies programs, this will apply to all department programs.

Intellectual Property/Copyright

All instructor-written materials (e.g. PowerPoints, lecture notes, oral lectures) for this course are created solely for students' personal use within the course, and remain the instructor's intellectual property. Further reproduction, fixation, distribution, transmission, dissemination, communication, or any other uses, without securing the consent of the copyright owner (the course instructor) may be an infringement of copyright. You may not distribute, email, or otherwise communicate these materials to any other person. These limitations extend to recording, photographing, or sharing lectures (online or in-person) and lecture material without permission. Posting the instructor's content from this course to online course sharing sites like OneClass or Course Hero without permission is both an infringement of intellectual property law and a violation of academic integrity guidelines. The instructor will pass these cases on to the Western University Ombudsperson or their Department Chair as appropriate.

Additional Information

Laptops are permitted if there is an academic need for them (they can be useful for quickly accessing material relevant to the course), but Facebook and texting in class will not be tolerated.

LATE PAPER POLICY

Late assignments. If you submit a paper after the due date but within two weeks of it, the paper will be counted as late and the following procedures will apply:

- The paper will not be read until all the assignments handed in on time have been read and returned (all papers are read in order of receipt).
- The paper will be read and a grade given, but **NO COMMENTS OR CORRECTIONS** will be made on it.
- The grade will be reduced by a penalty of two marks (2%) for each calendar day that it is late. Note that when a paper is late, every day counts (including weekends); however, the arrangements for date-stamping essays in the Department of English essay box are accepted for late essays.

PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED IF SUBMITTED MORE THAN TWO WEEKS AFTER THE DUE DATE UNLESS PRIOR ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE.

VERY IMPORTANT: I BEGIN RETIREMENT ON 1 JANUARY 2024. IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL THAT YOU COMPLETE ALL ASSIGNMENTS BY THE END OF THE SEMESTER. NO WORK WILL BE GRADED OR ACCEPTED AFTER DECEMBER 2023.

Accommodation Policies

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

Accommodation for Students on Medical Grounds:

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth (either alone or in combination) 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Dean of the student's Faculty of registration, together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. The Student Medical Certificate (SMC) can be found at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

The full policy is set out here:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

Religious Accommodation:

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

Plagiarism Checking:

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

All instances of plagiarism will be reported to the Chair of Undergraduate Studies. Proven cases of plagiarism will result in a grade of zero for the assignment. Subsequent offences will result in failure for the course.

Statement on Gender-Based and Sexual Violence

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced gender-based or sexual violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts, [here](#). To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

Support Services

Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>

Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Academic Support & Engagement <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Timetable

7 Sep	Introduction
12, 14 Sep	Milton's Grand Style. Epic invocations, catalogues, similes.
19, 21 Sep	Books I and II. The Multiverse. Chaos.
26, 28 Sep	Books I and II. Satan and Epic Heroism.
3, 5 Oct	Books II and III. Debate in Hell. Council in Heaven. Student Debate #1.
10, 12 Oct	Book IV. Satan's first three soliloquies. Innocence and Experience in Paradise.
17, 19 Oct	Books V and VI. Satan's Rebellion and the War in Heaven. ESSAY #1 DUE 19 OCTOBER
24, 26 Oct	Books VII and VIII. Creation. Astronomy. Eve's creation.
30 Oct - 5 Nov.	READING WEEK.
7, 9 Nov	Book IX. The Argument about Working Separately. Eve and Safe Space. Student Debate #2.
14, 16 Nov	Book IX. Fall of Eve. Fall of Adam.
21, 23 Nov	Books IX and X. Aftermath of the Fall. ESSAY #2 DUE 21 NOVEMBER
28, 30 Nov	Book X. Milton and Women. Student Debate #3.
5, 7 Dec	Books XI and XII. An "untransmuted lump of futurity?" Conclusions. Last chance to make an oral presentation.