

ENGL 497, Senior Seminar--Milton's *Paradise Lost*

David Strong, Ph.D., Office Hours: Thursday before & after class, by appt., and via Canvas e-mail.

Required Text: *Paradise Lost: A Norton Critical Edition*, ed. Gordon Teskey, 3rd revised edition, ISBN: 978-0393924282

Aim of Course:

In this course, we will delve into the poetic genius of John Milton and read his masterpiece, *Paradise Lost*. His depiction of Satan, God, and our progenitors, Adam and Eve, define Western thought's perception of these beings so much so that people often confuse the text's portrayal Satan's temptation of Eve with that of the Bible. In fact, the seduction only occupies seven verses in the Book of Genesis whereas Milton dedicates roughly a thousand lines to this event. Our interpretation and explanation of these characters will illuminate their religious, philosophical and literary import. In pursuit of this goal, we will examine their interaction with one another and employ various critical approaches to assess their line of reasoning and notion of what defines happiness.

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Read, analyze, and interpret a number of passages in light of the text's dominant themes.
2. Demonstrate an awareness of the cultural or historical significance of the texts.
3. Explain how literary genres determine a text's construction.
4. Synthesize a detailed knowledge of literary works belonging to a specific time period.
5. Write informed, compelling literary arguments.

Since honing one's analytical skills requires active participation in classroom discussion, attendance is required. You are allowed three absences; every other absence lowers the final grade by one full letter grade. The final grade consists of a series of written tasks, which must be completed by the assigned time in order to receive credit for the work and to pass the course. Specifically, they involve one homework assignment, two exams, and a research paper. The breakdown of points is as follows:

Assignments	10 points
Research Paper	30 points
Exams	<u>2 x 30 points = 90 points</u>
	100 points

A = 100-90 B = 89-80 C = 79-70 D = 69-60 F = 59-0

Course Expectations:

Lectures are the intellectual property of the instructor and may not be recorded under any circumstance. No voice recorder, camera or any type of electronic device can be used unless

documentation of a disability which requires such a device has been provided. Cell phones must be turned off and put away before class begins. Texting and talking on the phone is prohibited. According to the university's policies on academic misconduct and non-academic misconduct, you will not engage in any academic misconduct in this course, including, but not limited to, plagiarism, use of unattributed sources, and cheating on exams. Any kind of cheating and/or plagiarism will result in my being turned into the student disciplinary committee and automatically failing the class.

Please note: a college education is meant to teach students to think outside of their own viewpoints—to expose them to multi-faceted ways of thinking and knowing. That is intellectual growth and exploration. A student will not be excused from class discussion or assignments simply because they do not agree with the text. Topics such as religion, sex, and politics are fundamental in literary studies and, thus, will be examined in detail in this course.

ENGL 4397

Week 1: Jan. 10-12 Book 1

Week 2: Jan. 17-19 Book 1

Week 3: Jan. 24-26 Book 2; *Census Date is Monday, Jan. 23.*

Week 4: Jan. 31-Feb. 2 Book 2; Assignment 1 due.

Week 5: Feb. 7-9 Book 3

Week 6: Feb. 14-16 Book 3

Week 7: Feb. 21-23 Book 4

Week 8: Feb. 28- Mar. 2 **Mid-Term Exam**

Week 9: Mar. 7-9 Book 8, lines 452-653

Week 10: Mar. 14-16 **Spring Break**

Week 11: Mar. 21-23 Book 9; Last day to withdraw from course is Thursday, March 23.

Week 12: Mar. 28-30 Book 9

Week 13: Apr. 4-6 Book 10

Week 14: Apr. 11-13 Book 10

Week 15: Apr. 18-20 Book 11

Week 16: Apr. 27 **Final Exam**

Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php> Links to an external site.[Links to an external site.](#)

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar> Links to an external site.[Links to an external site.](#) . Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.

- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date.)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade).
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment.
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid.

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the 12th day of class (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability Services

In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodation must provide documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services counselor. If you have a disability, including a learning disability, for which you request an accommodation, please contact the Disability Services office in UC 3150, or call (903) 566-7079.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Covid

Students are expected to wear face masks covering their nose and mouth in public settings (including classrooms and laboratories). The UT Tyler community of Patriots views adoption of these practices consistent with its [Honor Code Links to an external site.Links to an external site.](#) and a sign of good citizenship and respectful care of fellow classmates, faculty, and staff. Students who are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, or a higher than normal temperature should stay at home and notify their faculty. Students are also encouraged to use the [UT Tyler COVID-19 Information and Procedures website Links to an external site.Links to an external site.](#). This website also provides information about our Vaccination Mobile Clinic. Students needing additional accommodations may contact the Office of Student Accessibility and Resources at University Center 3150, or call (903) 566-7079 or email saroffice@uttyler.edu.