Ki Deus ad duné escïence
E de parler bon’ eloquence
Ne s’en deit taisir ne celer,
Ainz se deit volunters mustrer.
--Marie de France

[Whoever has received knowledge
and eloquence in speech from God
should not be silent or secretive
but demonstrate it willingly.
(Hanning & Ferrante, trans. ]

A survey of works written by several women who lived in England (with one exception) from the 12th through the 17th centuries. The first part of the course will focus on medieval women writers, the medieval tradition of misogynist literature, the rise of courtly love, and female mysticism. The second part will focus on Renaissance women writers, both secular and religious, and debates about the role and status of women.

English majors: If you would like this course to count toward your pre-1800 requirement, you need to file a petition with your advisor stating that all the materials covered in this section of 422 pre-date 1800.

University Disability Statement: If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a documented disability or if you have emergency information to share, please contact the Office of Disability Services at 191 Hoskins Library at 974-6087. This will ensure that you are properly registered for services.

Plagiarism: PLEASE TAKE NOTE
Plagiarism is the intentional or unintentional use of other people's written work without the proper acknowledgments of the work's original source. Plagiarism is a very serious offense and is punishable at UTK by (1) failure of the assignment, (2) failure of the course, and/or (3) expulsion from the university. Therefore, it is your responsibility to learn how to acknowledge properly other people's work (your instructors are always willing to help you figure this out), and it is your responsibility never to hand in work as your own that someone else has done. This means, for example, that you should not hand in a paper you have gotten off an internet site, or a paper you have borrowed from one of your
classmates or other friends, or a paper written for you by someone else, even if you have paid that
person to do the work for you. One of the most important things you can learn in college is how to
think and write for yourself. You will never have the opportunity to practice these crucial skills again.
When you graduate, your thinking and writing skills will get you jobs or lose you jobs, will get you
promoted or demoted, will help you climb the ladder of your chosen career or allow you to be
downsized, laid off, fired. Here, you will earn a letter grade for your work, which is just a fraction of
your final course grade. You will receive useful comments about your ideas and your writing skills. If
you don't put yourself through this kind of training, if you instead choose to rely on work done by
others, then you won't be ready for the "big game" once you leave college.

Required Texts:

Aughterson, Kate, ed. Renaissance Women: Constructions of Femininity in England. NY: 


Weller, Barry and Margaret Ferguson, eds. The Tragedy of Mariam the Fair Queen of Jewry.


Writing Requirements:

Quizzes (20%); Midterm and Final Exams (25% each); one 7-10 pp. paper (30%).

Class Schedule:

W Aug. 22 Introduction to the course; Marie de France’s “Prologue” (hand-outs)
F Aug. 24 MEDIEVAL COURTLY LOVE: 12th century
Marie de France, “Prologue” and “Guigemar” (Hanning, pp. 28-59)

M Aug. 27 Marie de France, “Equitan,” “Le Fresne,” “Bisclavret” (Hanning, pp. 60-104)
W Aug. 29 Marie de France, “Lanval,” “Les Deus Amanz,” “Yonec” (Hanning, pp. 105-54)
155-233)

[M Sept. 3 Labor Day Holiday – No Class ]
W Sept. 5 PILGRIMAGE & AUTOBIOGRAPHY: 14th century
**The Book of Margery Kempe**, Intro. - section 2 (Staley, pp. vii - 10)

F Sept. 7  
*Margery Kempe*, sections 3-23 (Staley, pp. 10-41)

M Sept. 10  
*Margery Kempe*, sections 24-45 (Staley, pp. 41-81)

W. Sept. 12  
*Margery Kempe*, sections 46-66 (Staley, pp. 81-119)

F Sept. 14  
*Margery Kempe*, sections 67-89 (Staley, pp. 119-160)

M Sept. 17  
“Contexts” section in Staley, pp. 187-222

W Sept. 19  
**IN DEFENSE OF WOMEN: 15th century**

Christine de Pisan (Lawson, pp. 31-62)

F Sept. 21  
Christine de Pisan (Lawson, pp. 62-105)

M Sept. 24  
Christine de Pisan (Lawson, pp. 109-41)

W Sept. 26  
Christine de Pisan (Lawson, pp. 145-80)

F Sept. 28  
Review Class

M Oct. 1  
***MIDTERM EXAM***

W Oct. 3  
**RENAISSANCE WOMEN: 15th - 17th centuries**

“Theology” (Aughterson pp. 1-25)

[F Oct. 5  
No class--Prof. Howes at conference]

M Oct. 8  
“Theology” (Aughterson, pp. 26-40)

W Oct. 10  
“Physiology” (Aughterson, pp. 41-66)

[F Oct. 12  
Fall Break – No Class]

M Oct. 15  
“Conduct” (Aughterson, pp. 76-101)

W Oct. 17  
“Sexuality and Motherhood” (Aughterson, pp. 103-132)

F Oct. 19  
“Politics and Law” (Aughterson, pp. 133-163)

M Oct. 22  
“Education” (Aughterson, pp. 165-191)

W Oct. 24  
“Work” (Aughterson, pp. 193-227)

F Oct. 26  
“Writing and Speaking” (Aughterson, pp. 229-260)

M Oct. 29  
“Proto-feminisms” (Aughterson, pp. 261-2900)

W Oct. 31  
Queen Elizabeth I (selection to be handed out)

F Nov. 2  
Mary, Queen of Scots (selection to be handed out)

M Nov. 5  
**A COURT POET: 17th century**


W Nov. 7  
Lanyer (Woods, pp. 17-50)

F Nov. 9  
Lanyer (Woods, pp. 51-70)

M Nov. 12  
Lanyer (Woods, pp. 71-92)
W Nov. 14   Lanyer (Woods, pp. 92-129)
F Nov. 16   Lanyer, “Description of Cook-ham” (Woods, pp. 130-139)

M Nov. 19   **A FEMALE DRAMA:**
            Elizabeth Cary, *The Tragedy of Miriam* (Waller, pp. 63-88)
W Nov. 21   Cary (Waller, pp. 88-105)
[F Nov. 23  Thanksgiving Break – No Class]
M Nov. 26   Cary (Waller, pp. 105-116)
W Nov. 28   Cary (Waller, pp. 116-139)
F Nov. 30   Cary (Waller, pp. 139-149)

M Dec. 3    *** PAPERS DUE ***
W Dec. 5    Review class

**Final Exam:** Saturday, 8 Dec., 2:45 - 4:45