**Professor Amy Tigner**

**Course meets Tuesday, 2-5 p.m.**

**622 Carlisle Hall**

**Office Hours: T/Th 1-2 and by appointment**

[**atigner@uta.edu**](mailto:atigner@uta.edu)

English 6335: Early Modern Women Writers and Readers

In this course, we will be reading early modern texts written by women to consider the cultural and political nodal points of gendered writing in a highly patriarchal society. Most women’s writing courses have been primarily concerned with tradition literature: poetry, non-fiction prose, plays, and novels written by women who have formed the canon in this period, as established by feminist scholars in the 1980s and 90s. These writers include: Elizabeth I, Elizabeth Cary, Mary Sidney Herbert, Mary Sidney Wroth, Elizabeth Cary, Aemelia Lanyer, Margaret Cavendish, and Aphra Behn. These genres and authors we will be reading, but also next to this canonical view of women’s literature we will also be exploring other kinds of writing, such as receipt books (what the early moderns called cook books), books of midwifery, astrology, and polemical tracts to investigate a larger sense of literacy, writing and the concerns of women in this period. We will therefore be considering writers such as Rachel Speght, Hannah Woolley, Sara Jinner, Jane Sharp, Elizabeth Grey, and Althea Talbot. As we are examining these works by women, we will also be studying the readers who read the texts, how they were read, and how specifically women were using texts written by other women.

This course is also designed so that graduate students will be working on their own writing throughout the course. We will culminate the course with seminar papers, and we will pay particular attention how they might be developed into full scholarly articles. Successful papers will be invited to be submitted to *Early Modern Studies Journal*’s special volume, “Early Modern Readers and Writers,” to compete for the UTA graduate student prize essay contest. The winner of the contest will receive $100.00 and will have his/her essay published in the journal.

**This syllabus is subject to change; no (public) whining allowed if the professor adds any texts to the list.**

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| Date | Primary Reading | Secondary Reading | Assignments |
| Week 1  Tues. Aug 28 | Queen Elizabeth I | Bell, Ilona. “Elizabeth I—Always Her Own Free Woman.”  Mueller, Janet. “Queen Elizabeth I”  Kelly-Gadol, Joan. “Did Women Have a Renaissance?” |  |
| Week 2  Sept 4 | Queen Elizabeth I | Orlin, Lena Cowen. “The Fictional Families of Elizabeth I.” Summit, “A Ladies Penne”  Shenk, Linda “Turning Learned Authority into Royal Supremacy: Elizabeth I’s Learned Persona and Her University Orations.” | Commentary Due: (Groups A and B) |
| Week 3  Sept 11 | Mary Sidney Herbert, Countess of Pembroke  *Anthony and Cleopatra* | Collection on Mary Sidney, Countess of Pembroke | Commentary Due  (Group A) |
| Week 4  Sept 18 | Mary Sidney Wroth  *Urania*, Abridged | Frye “Mary Sidney Wroth: Clothing Romance.”  Calabresi, “ ‘you soe, Ill read’…”  Essays from Margaret P. Hannay’s collection on Mary Wroth;. | Commentary Due  (Groups B) |
| Week 5  Sept 25 | Aemilia Lanier’s *Salve Deus Rex Judaeroum* | McGrath, Lynette, “Let Us Have our Libertie Againe”: Amelia Lanier’s 17th-Century Feminist Voice” (available through Library database-see MLA Bib)  Elizabeth M. A. Hodgson, “Prophecy and Gendered Mourning in Lanyer's ‘Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum’" (available through JSTOR)  Jennifer Munroe “Inheritance, Land, and the Garden Space for Women in Aemilia Lanyer’s *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum*. (Library Reserves) | Commentary Due  (Group A) |
| Week 6  Oct 2 | Elizabeth Cary *The Tragedie of Miriam* | Belllin, Elaine. “ Elizabeth Cary and *The Tragedie of Mariam.”*  Other article or two from Karen’s book. | Commentary Due  (Group B) |
| Week 7  Oct 9 | Joseph Swetnam “Araignment of Lewde, Idle, Froward, and Unconstant Women (1615)  Rachel Speght  *A Mouzell for Melastomus* (1617) | Jones, Ann Rosalind. “Counter-attacks on ‘the Bayter of Women’….”  Lewalski, Barbara. “The Female Text, Male Reader Response....”  Luckyj, Christina, “*A Mouzell for Melastomus* in Context: Rereading the Speght Debate.” (Available through MLA Bib) | Commentary Due: (Group A) |
| Week 8  Oct 16 | Margaret Cavendish *The Blazing World* | Essays from Sarah Mendelson’s collection on Margaret Cavendish | Commentary Due  (Group B) |
| Week 9  Oct 23 | Elizabeth Grey *A Choice Manual of Rare Conceits* (1653)  Althea Talbot *Natura Exenterara* (1655) | Lynette Hunter “Women and Domestic Medicine…” | Commentary Due  (Group A) |
| Week 10  Oct 30 | Hannah Woolley, *The Queen-like Closet and A Supplement* | Tigner, “Preserving Nature…”  Goldstein, “Woolley’s Mouse…”  Wall, “Familiarity and pleasure in the English household guide” | Commentary Due  (Group B) |
| Week 11  Nov 6 | Sara Jinner, | Thauvette, Chantell. “Sex, Astrology, and the Almanacs of Sarah Jinner.” | Writing Workshop  Abstract (250 words due) |
| Week 12  Nov 13 | Jane Sharp *The Midwives Book* 1671 | Hobby, Elaine. “Gender, Science, and Midwifery…”  Bicks, Carolyn. “Stones like Women’s Paps…” (Available through JSTOR) | Writing Workshop  Annotated Bibliography (10 sources) |
| Week 13  Nov 20 |  | Writing Workshop | Writing Workshop |
| Week 14  Nov 27 | Aphra Behn  *The Rover* |  |  |
| Week 15  Dec 4 | Class conference | 5-9 pm |  |
| Finals  Dec. 11 |  |  | Final paper due  9 am |

**Textbooks**.

Behn, Aphra. *The Rover*. London: New Mermaid Series, A & C Black, 2002.

* **ISBN-10:** 0713666714;**ISBN-13:** 978-0713666717
* Bowerbank, Sylvia, and Sara Mendelson, ed. *Paper Bodies: A Margaret Cavendish Reader*: Broadview Press, 2000.
* **ISBN-10:** 155111173X; **ISBN-13:** 978-1551111735

Cerasano, S.P., and Marion Wynne-Davies, ed. *Renaissance Drama by Women: Texts and Documents*. London and New York: Routledge, 1996.

* **ISBN-10:** 0415098076; **ISBN-13:** 978-0415098076

Elizabeth I. *Collected Works*. Edited by Leah S. Marcus, Janel Mueller, and Mary Beth Rose. Chicago: The Unviersity of Chicago Press, 2000.

* **ISBN-10:** 0226504654;**ISBN-13:** 978-0226504650

Lanyer, Aemilia. *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum*. Edited by Susanne Woods. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 1993.

* **ISBN-10:** 0195086538; **ISBN-13:** 978-0195086539
* Woolley, Hannah. *The Queen-Like Closet; or Rich Cabinet (1670)*: EEBO Editions, Proquest, 2010.
* **ISBN-10:** 1171342985; **ISBN-13:** 978-117134298
* Wroth, Mary. *Mary Wroth: The Countess of Montgomery's Urania*. Edited by Mary Ellen Lamb. Tempe, AZ: Medieval & Renaissance Texts & Studies, 2011.
* **ISBN-10:** 0866984518; **ISBN-13:** 978-0866984515

**Course requirements:**

5 one-page (300-350 word) commentaries (50%)

2 class presentations (5%)

Abstract and annotated bibliography—10 sources (min); 1 (5000-6000 word) final research paper with sources (40%)

Oral presentation of final research paper (5%)

* **Attendance Policy:** Perfect attendance is expected in a graduate class, though unforeseen events do occur. If you are ill or are unable to attend, you should contact me via email ASAP to work out the details of your make-up work.
* **Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance**. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.
* **Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.
* **Academic Integrity:** It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. According to the UT System Regents’ Rule 50101, §2.2, "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts."
* **Student Support Services Available**:The University of Texas at Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. These resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals to resources for any reason, students may contact the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107 or visit [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources) for more information.
* **Electronic Communication Policy** The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University “MavMail” address as the sole official means of communication with students. MavMail is used to remind students of important deadlines, advertise events and activities, and permit the University to conduct official transactions exclusively by electronic means. For example, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation are now sent to students through the MavMail system. All students are assigned a MavMail account. ***Students are responsible for checking their MavMail regularly.*** Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/email/>. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active even after they graduate from UT Arlington.

Behn, Aphra. *The Rover*. London: New Mermaid Series, A & C Black, 2002.

Bell, Ilona. "Elizabeth I—Always Her Own Free Woman." In *Political Rhetoric, Power, and Renaissance Women*, edited by Carole Levin, and Patricia A. Sullivan, 57-84. New York: State University of New York Press, 1995.

Bellin, Elaine. "Elizabeth Cary and the Tragedie of Mariam." In *Elizabeth Cary*, edited by Karen Raber, 3-22. Surrey: Ashgate Publishing, 2009.

Bicks, Carolyn. "Stones Like Women's Paps: Revising Gender in Jane Sharp's *Midwives Book*." *Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies* 7, no. 2 (2007): 1-27.

Bowerbank, Sylvia, and Sara Mendelson, ed. *Paper Bodies: A Margaret Cavendish Reader*: Broadview Press, 2000.

Calabresi, Bianca F. C. "'You Sow, Ile Read': Letters and Literacies in Early Modern Samplers." In *Reading Women: Literacy, Authorship, and Culture in the Atlantic World, 1500-1800*, edited by Heidi Brayman and Catherine E. Kelly Hackel, 79-104. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008.

Cerasano, S.P., and Marion Wynne-Davies, ed. *Renaissance Drama by Women: Texts and Documents*. London and New York: Routledge, 1996.

Frye, Susan. "Mary Sidney Wroth: Clothing Romance." In *Pens and Needles: Women's Textualities in Early Modern England*. Philadelphia: University of Pnnsylvania Press, 2010.

Goldstein, David. "Woolley's Mouse: Early Modern Recipe Books and the Uses of Nature." In *Ecofeminist Approaches to Early Modernity*, edited by Jennifer Munroe, and Rebecca Laroche, 105-27. New York: Palgrave, 2011.

Hobby, Elaine. "Gender, Science, and Midwifery: Jane Sharp, *the Midwives Book* (1671)." In *The Arts of 17th-Century Science: Representations of the Natural World in European and North American Culture*, edited by Claire Jowitt, and Diane Watt, 27-42. Aldershot: Ashgate Publishing, 2002.

Hodgson, Elizabeth M. A. "Prophecy and Gendered Mourning in Lanyer's "Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum" " *Studies in English Literature, 1500-1900* 43, no. 1 (2003): 101-16.

Hunter, Lynette. "Women and Domestic Medicine: Lady Experimenters, 1570-1620." In *Women, Science, and Medicine, 1500-1700: Mothers and Sisters of the Royal Society* edited by Lynette Hunter, and Sarah Hutton, 89-107. Phoenix Mill: Sutton Publishing, 1997.

Jones, Ann Rosalind. "Counter-Attacks on ‘the Bayter of Women’” Three Pamphleteers of the Early Seventeenth Century." In *The Renaissance Englishwoman in Print: Counterbalancing the Canon*, edited by Anne M. Haselkorn, and Betty S. Travistsky, 45-62. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1990.

Kelly-Gadol, Joan. "Did Women Have a Renaissance." In *Women, History and Theory*, 19-50. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1984.

Lanyer, Aemilia. *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum*. Edited by Susanne Woods. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 1993.

Lewalski, Barbara. "The Female Text, Male Reader Response: Contemporary Marginalis in Rachel Speght’s a Mouzell for Melastomus." In *Representing Women in Renaissance England*, edited by Claude J. Summers, and Ted-Larry Pebworth, 136-62. Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1997.

Luckyj, Christina. "A Mouzell for Melastomus in Context: Rereading the Speght Debate." *English Literary Renaissance* 40, no. 1 (2010): 113-31.

McGrath, Lynette. "Let Us Have Our Libertie Againe”: Amelia Lanier’s 17th-Century Feminist Voice." *Women's Studies* 20 (1992): 331-48.

Mueller, Janel. "Queen Elizabeth I." In *Teaching Tudor and Stuart Women Writers*, edited by Susanne Woods, and Margaret P. Hannay, 119-26. New York: The Modern Language Assocation 2000.

Munroe, Jennifer. "Inheritance, Land, and the Garden Space for Women in Aemilia Lanyer's *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum*." In *Gender and the Garden in Early Modern English Literature*, 75-96. Aldershot and Burlington: Ashgate Publishing, 2008.

Orlin, Lena Cowen. "The Fictional Families of Elizabeth I." In *Political Rhetoric, Power, and Renaissance Women*, edited by Carole Levin, and Patricia A. Sullivan, 85-112. New York: State University of New York Press, 1995.

Sharp, Jane. *The Midwives Book*. Edited by Elaine Hobby. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press.

Shenk, Linda. "Turning Learned Authority into Royal Supremacy: Elizabeth I’s Learned Persona and Her University Orations." In *In Elizabeth I: Always Her Own Free Woman*, edited by Carole Levin, Jo Eldridge Carney and Debra Barrett-Graves, 78-96. Aldershot: Ashgate Publishing, 2003.

Speght, Rachel. *The Polemics and Poems of Rachel Speght*. Edited by Barbara Kiefer Lewalski. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 1996.

Summit, Jennifer. "'A Ladies' Penne': Elizabeth I and the Making of English Poetry." In *Lost Property: The Woman Writer and English Literary History, 1380-1589*, 163-202. Chicago: The Unviersity of Chicago Press, 2000.

Thauvette, Chantell. "Sex, Astrology, and the Almanacs of Sarah Jinner." *Early Modern Women: An Interdisciplinary Journal* 5 (2010): 243-49.

Tigner, Amy L. "Preserving Nature in Hannah Woolley's *the Queen-Like Closet; or Rich Cabinet*." In *Ecofeminist Approaches to Early Modernity*, edited by Jennifer Munroe, and Rebecca Laroche, 129-49. New York: Palgrave, 2011.

Tudor, Elizabeth. *Collected Works*. Edited by Leah S. Marcus, Janel Mueller, and Mary Beth Rose. Chicago: The Unviersity of Chicago Press, 2000.

Wall, Wendy. "Familiarity and Pleasure in the English Household Guide, 1500-1700." In *Staging Domesticity: Household Work and English Identity in Early Modern Drama*, 18-58. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002.

Woolley, Hannah. *The Queen-Like Closet; or Rich Cabinet (1670)*: EEBO Editions, Proquest, 2010.

Wroth, Mary. *Mary Wroth: The Countess of Montgomery's Urania*. Edited by Mary Ellen Lamb. Tempe, AZ: Medieval & Renaissance Texts & Studies, 2011.