

ENGL 7/8254-001 English Literature of the 17th Century

Tuesday 5:30–8:30 p.m.

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Seventeenth-Century Poetry: Donne, Herbert, Milton, Marvell

England's turbulent Seventeenth Century saw the overthrow and death of a monarch (Charles I, 1649) and subsequent establishment of the republican Commonwealth under Oliver Cromwell (1653-58), the Restoration of the monarchy with Charles II (1660-85), the Glorious Revolution (1688-89) and the deposition of another monarch (James II) with the ascension of William and Mary (1689). In a time of enormous political, social, and cultural upheaval, some of the best English lyric poetry was written. Our attention will be on four amazing poets; we will give special consideration to close readings of their work as well as to their contemporary moment.

Course requirements include an in-class presentation, a book review, two papers or projects, and engaged participation.

Required texts:

Donne, *Complete Poems*, Robin Robbins (Longman Annotated, 2010) 978-1408231241

Herbert, *The English Poems of George Herbert*, ed. Helen Wilcox (Cambridge, 2007) 978-0521177207

Milton, *Paradise Lost*, ed. Barbara Lewalski (Blackwell, 2007) 978-1405129299

Marvell, *Complete Poems*, ed. Nigel Smith (Longman Annotated) (Routledge) 978-1405832830