

ENGL 8346 Non-Dramatic Literature of the 17th Century

Instructor: Wyman Herendeen
Wednesday 2:30 – 5:30

In this seminar, we will explore the art of the seventeenth-century lyric and the cultural history and context of some of the single-author collections of the period. In the course of the semester, we will discuss some of the social, political, and literary forces at work that influenced writers of the period and that fostered the transition from manuscript to print publication. We will review the major seventeenth-century authors and their work (including Jonson (*Epigrammes; Forrest*, 1616; *Underwoods*, 1640), Donne (*Poems* 1633), Aemelia Lanyer (*Salve Rex Judaeorum*, 1611), Mary Wroth (*Pamphilia to Amphilanthus*, 1621) Herbert (*The Temple*, 1633), Milton (*Poems*, 1645), Herrick, (*Herperides*, 1648), and then we will examine the form, content, design, and publication context of select “first books.” The goals of the seminar are to enhance our appreciation of some of the finest writers of the English lyric, and to increase our understanding of the historical contexts of their poetry.

First class: Bring to class three of your favorite lyric pieces of the period.