English 578 Syllabus

Milton Studies

ISBN: 0-02-338235-X
*Milton: Complete Shorter Poems*, ed. John Carey
(London and New York: Longman, 1997)
ISBN: 0-582-01985-0

Recommended: *The John Milton Reading Room* (complete, annotated texts of poetry)
http://www.dartmouth.edu/~milton/

Week

1 Historical Context & Milton's Life
2 "Morning of Christ's Nativity" & Sonnets 7, 16, 19
3 "Comus"
4 *Paradise Lost* 1
5 *PL* 2
6 *PL* 3-4
7 *PL* 5-6 (Midterm Take-Home Exam)
8 *PL* 7-8
9 *PL* 9-10
10 *PL* 11-12
11 *Paradise Regained* 1
12 *PR* 2
13 *PR* 3-4
14 *Samson* THANKSGIVING
15 *Samson*
16 *Samson*

Attendance: Not mandatory. You may be absent as you see fit, with the exception of test days.

Grades: There will be a mid-term and a final. A term paper is required. The term paper will count 40% of your final grade, and each of the tests will count 30%. The mid-term will be an essay format, and the final will be objective. Prospective term paper topics will be distributed later.

Parallel Readings: You will be expected to read selections from Milton's prose for both the midterm and the final. For the midterm, two of the following must be prepared:
(1) *The Reason of Church Government*
(2) Of Education
(3) *Aeropagitica*
For the final, you can prepare either
(a) *The Tenure of Kings and Magistrates* and *The Second Defense of the English People* or
(b) *Eikonoklastes* and *The Ready and Easy Way*