

**EN 4/6713: Seventeenth-Century English Literature:
Women's Writing and the Creation of Literary History**
Dr. Lara Dodds
Spring 2020: Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30-1:45

During the last two decades, scholars researching early modern women's writing have created a completely new picture of women's literary activities. Not only have scholars discovered a greater number and diversity of women writing than had previously been thought, but they have also begun to rethink the entire landscape of Renaissance literature. New discoveries about women's writing have led to rethinking of topics such as the nature of authorship, the circulation and dissemination of texts, and the relationship between literature and social and political change. In this course we will examine works by women (and some men) in order to explore how our understanding of literature changes when we base our histories on a more diverse and inclusive representation of writing and writers.

Requirements for this course include occasional quizzes and writing assignments, two exams, one short essay, an annotated bibliography, and a long research paper.

Readings may include:

Margaret Cavendish, John Donne, Elizabeth Cary, Ben Jonson, George Herbert, Hester Pulter, Amelia Lanyer, Mary Wroth, Lucy Hutchinson, John Milton, Katherine Philips, and others.