Tentative Reading List and Course Outline

- 17th century cultural, social, historical, political and literary background.
- Introduction to metaphysical poetry and its place in the literary tradition with particular emphasis on some key terms.
- John Donne and his poetry. His use of metaphysical conceit.
- A study of his early poetry; major themes, motifs, thematic and technical qualities.
- A study of his religious poetry; major themes, motifs, thematic and technical qualities.
- George Herbert and his poetry.
- Richard Crashaw and his poetry.
- Henry Vaughan and his poetry.
- Thomas Traherne and his poetry.
- Andrew Marvell and his poetry.
- Robert Herrick and other poets.
- Metaphysical poets and the 20th century.