

This assignment is designed to give you an opportunity to learn about women writers, primarily from the Renaissance, and discuss the challenges they faced entering into the literary arena.



In your small groups, your first job is to experiment on the Women Writers Online database available on the Lavery Library website.

Next, the group will choose an author from the database with the following parameters: the author must not be included on our syllabus and her writings must date from **before** 1700. To avoid repeat presentations, I will ask for your **chosen author on** and will ask groups to switch if there is any duplication.

(As a reminder, the women writers included on our syllabus are: Marie de France, Julian of Norwich, Margery Kempe, Mary Wroth, Katherine Philips, Aemilia Lanyer, and Margaret Cavendish.)

- Groups will submit your author choice and date preferences by **Wednesday, Nov. 12** to a Blackboard journal under assignments.
- Once you have chosen your writer and read her materials, the group will prepare a **5 minute presentation**. While you are welcome to research and **briefly** discuss your writer's biography, make sure that the focus of the presentation is her literary work. You should choose one texts to discuss.
- Individually, each member of the group will write a **1200-1500 word paper** in which you analyze a work of your chosen author and comment on any conclusions you have made about women writers during this time period based on your perusal of the WWO database. The paper is due electronically for everyone on November 24<sup>th</sup>.
- *At the time your paper is due, each group member will also post to Blackboard a reflection journal that answers questions about the presentation and everyone's contribution. Those questions will be posted in the Journal space on Blackboard.*