

English 344 ~ Eighteenth-Century British Literature

Mondays and Fridays 8:40 a.m.-10:20 a.m.

Fall 2011

Division of Humanities—English
University of Maine at Farmington

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Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays: 2:30 p.m.-3:15 p.m. & Fridays: 10:40 a.m.-12:40 p.m.

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Welcome to “the long 18th century.” Why so long? “The long 18th century” refers to the period of English history and literature that defies conventional temporality. As far as the literary canon is concerned, the long 18th century begins with the “Restoration” of the Stuart monarchy and typically ends with the novels of Jane Austen. Hence, this century spans 1660 to about 1800. Why study the English 18th century? In this period you will find the birth of new genres, the professionalization of female actors and women writers, and exciting moral and social commentary on a plethora of topics. The literature of this period is culturally and historically informative, and it is simply a lot of fun to read. . .plus there is so much of it to read!

You will notice that this course is *reading intensive*. I want you to gain a sense of the breadth that this period has to offer by way of authors and genres. Therefore, you will read many writers’ works and different genres, including drama, poetry, and prose fiction, and essays. In order to fully appreciate the literature that you are about to read, you will learn more about the culture(s) that influenced the authors. As a supplement to our primary texts, we will take up scholarly conversations about these works, and for the purpose of this course these conversations are located primarily in two Cambridge editions covering 1650-1740 and 1740-1830.

You will notice that this course is built on the idea of *conversation*. Conversation is an important element of 18th century culture, and it is an important element of a reading community such as ours. To facilitate discussions about the assigned literature, you will take part in online discussions with your classmates outside of class. (You will post to Blackboard on assigned days and in response to assigned prompts.) You will write reading responses outside of class as a kind of quasi-formal discussion with yourself. (Think of these assigned, typed responses a way to converse with yourself, if you will, your thoughts on a particular aspect of our readings.) You will give a formal class presentation in one of our class periods, and on this day you will share your ideas about course material and some direction for research with the class. You will finally write two formal papers, and one of these papers will include secondary research.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Austen, Jane. *Northanger Abbey*. Ed. Susan Fraiman. New York: Norton, 2004.

Defoe, Daniel. *Moll Flanders: A Norton Critical Edition*. Ed. Albert J. Rivero. New York: Norton, 2004.

Keymer, Thomas, and Jon Mee, eds. *The Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1740-1830*. New York: Cambridge UP, 2004.

Sherman, Stuart, ed. *Longman Anthology of British Literature: The Restoration and the Eighteenth Century*, Vol. 1C. 4th ed. New York: Pearson Longman, 2010.

Richardson, Samuel. *Pamela*. Ed. Thomas Keymer and Alice Wakely. Oxford: Oxford's World Classics, 2001.

Zwicker, Steven N., ed. *The Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1650-1740*. New York: Cambridge UP, 1998.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADE DETERMINATION

Discussion Board Posts	10%
Reading Responses	20%
Student Presentation	20%
Papers (2 @ 25% each)	50%

Tentative English 344 Course Schedule

Fall 2011
Dr. Krueger

You are responsible for completing readings and assignments *before* each class date listed below. Please be aware that you must *bring to class* the assigned reading and work due for each day. Unless otherwise noted, the readings are located in our Longman anthology. Read only the pages assigned for each day.

Reading responses will respond to a prompt that I create, and they will cover all reading materials assigned between response dates; i.e., response 1 will cover readings from 9/2-9/23, response 2 will cover 9/26-10/7, and so forth. As for discussion board posts, I will start the conversation—by this I mean that I will add a discussion board thread on our Blackboard—and then students will respond to that thread initially and then to other students' responses thereafter. Students will sign up for presentations at the beginning of the semester, and I will add student names to the schedule later. Students will want to meet with me to discuss their presentations.

Week 1:

Friday, 9/2 Course Overview
Introduction to "The Long 18th Century" (handout)

Week 2:

Monday, 9/5 Labor Day Holiday!

Friday, 9/9

Discussion Board Post 1

Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1650-1740, pp. 3-10
Samuel Pepys's *Diary* excerpt, pp. 2010-2038

Week 3:

Monday, 9/12 John Wilmot, The 2nd Earl of Rochester's poetry, pp. 2203-2207
Aphra Behn's "The Disappointment," pp. 2126-2129
Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1650-1740, pp. 204-221

Friday, 9/16 William Wycherley's *The Country Wife*, pp. 2215-2283
Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1650-1740, p. 69 (par. 2) and pp. 82-92
 Student Presentation: _____

Week 4:

Monday, 9/19 John Dryden's *Absalom and Achitophel*, pp. 2077-2102
 John Dryden's *All for Love* excerpt (located on Blackboard)
Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1650-1740, pp. 185-194; 202; 94-100; and 64-70
 Student Presentation: _____ Gracey _____

Friday, 9/23

Reading Response 1

Aphra Behn's *Oroonoko*, pp. 2137-2178
 Thomas Southerne's *Oroonoko* excerpt, pp. 2178-2183
Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1650-1740, pp. 225-243
 Student Presentation: _____

Week 5:

Monday, 9/26 Katherine Phillips' "A Married State" (located on Blackboard)
 Lady Mary Chudleigh's "To the Ladies," pp. 2184-2185
 Mary Astell's *Reflections upon Marriage* excerpt, pp. 2284-2293
Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1650-1740, pp. 70-73; 126 (par. 2); and 276-284
 Student Presentation: _____ Courtney _____

Friday, 9/28

Discussion Board Post 2

Joseph Addison's *The Spectator* No. 10, pp. 2326-2328
 Richard Steele's *The Spectator* No. 11, pp. 2333-2335
 Eliza Haywood's *The Female Spectator* Vol. 1, No. 1, pp. 2322-2323
Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1650-1740, pp. 26-28
Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1740-1830, pp. 10 and 28 (par. 1)
 Student Presentation: _____

Week 6:

Monday, 10/3 Daniel Defoe's *Moll Flanders*, pp. 1-84
 >>Suggested reading: Ellen Pollak's essay on incest, pp. 497-517

Friday, 10/7

Reading Response 2

Daniel Defoe's *Moll Flanders*, pp. 85-176
 >>Suggested reading: John Rietz's essay on criminal autobiography, pp. 472-484
 Student Presentation: _____ Hayden _____

Week 7:

Monday, 10/10 Columbus Day Holiday!

Friday, 10/14

Daniel Defoe's *Moll Flanders*, pp. 177-267
 >>Suggested reading: Paula Backscheider's essay on crime on pp. 460-471
 Student Presentation: _____ Kaitlin _____

Week 8:

Monday, 10/17

Paper 1 Due

Jonathan Swift's "The Lady's Dressing Room" pp. 2346-2349

Lady Mary Montagu's "The Reasons that Induced Dr. S. to Write a Poem Called The Lady's Dressing Room," pp. 2350-2352

Friday, 10/21 Alexander Pope's *The Rape of the Lock*, pp. 2471-2491
 Alexander Pope's *An Essay on Man* excerpt pp. 2502-2509
Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1650-1740, pp. 40; 311-314; and 323-324
Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1740-1830, pp. 8-9
 Student Presentation: Mike

Week 9:

Monday, 10/24 Jonathan Swift's "A Modest Proposal," pp. 2431-2737
 Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels* excerpt, pp. 2381-2426
Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1650-1740, pp. 250-269
 Student Presentation: Alison

Friday, 10/28 **Discussion Board Post 3**
 John Gay's *Beggar's Opera*, pp. 2557-2603
 William Hogarth's *A Rake's Progress*, pp. 2605-2612
Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1650-1740, pp. 16 (par. 1); 40 (par. 1); 99-100; and 113-114
 Student Presentation: _____

Week 10:

Monday, 10/31 **Reading Response 3**
 George Lillo's *The London Merchant* (located on Blackboard)

Friday, 11/4 *Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1740-1830*, pp. 100-116
Bell's Edition of Shakespeare's Works (located on Blackboard)
An Interview between The Ghost of Shakespear and D-v-d G-rr—k (located on Blackboard)

Week 11:

Monday, 11/7 Samuel Richardson's *Pamela*, pp. vii-xii and xliii-125

Friday, 11/11 Samuel Richardson's *Pamela*, pp. 125-249
Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1740-1830, pp. 139-149 and 176-177
 Student Presentation: Jennifer

Week 12:

Monday, 11/14 Samuel Richardson's *Pamela*, pp. 249-377

Friday, 11/18 Samuel Richardson's *Pamela*, pp. 377-503 and xxii-xxxiv

Week 13:

Monday, 11/21 **Reading Response 4**
 James Thomson's "Rule, Britannia," pp. 2655-2656
 James Thomson's "Winter. A Poem" excerpt, pp. 2646-2650
 Thomas Gray's "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard," pp. 2670-2673
 William Cowper's "The Cast-away," pp. 2643-2645
Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1740-1830, pp. 196-198

Friday, 11/25 Thanksgiving Break Holiday!

Week 14:

Monday, 11/28 Samuel Johnson's *Rambler* No. 4, pp. 2688-2691
 Samuel Johnson's Preface to *A Dictionary of the English Language* excerpt, pp. 2704-2707
 Samuel Johnson's Preface to *The Plays of William Shakespeare* excerpt, pp. 2727-2730
 James Boswell's *The Life of Samuel Johnson* excerpt, pp. 2765-2771
Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1740-1830, pp. 157-170
 Student Presentation: Matt

Friday, 12/2 Olaudah Equiano's *Interesting Narrative* excerpt (located on Blackboard)
 Ignatius Sancho's *Letters* excerpt (located on Blackboard)
Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1740-1830, pp. 45; 48-9; 77; and 90-91
 Student Presentation: _____

Week 15:

Monday, 12/5 **Discussion Board Post 4**
Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1740-1830, pp. 119-126
 Anne Radcliffe's *Mysteries of Udolpho* excerpt (located in *Northanger Abbey*, pp. 235-240)
 Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey*, pp. vii; ix-xii; and 5-87
 >>Suggested reading: Claudia L. Johnson's essay on men and books, pp. 306-325
 Student Presentation: Jess

Friday, 12/9 **Paper 2 Due**
 Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey*, pp. 88-117
 >>Suggested reading: Lee Erickson's essay on circulating libraries, pp. 325-338

Week 16:

12/12-12/15 **Reading Response 5**
 Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey*, pp. 117-174
Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1740-1830, pp. 244-260
 >>Suggested reading: Joseph Litvak's essay on the Tilney siblings, pp. 348-357