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

Instructor: Dr. Misty Krueger
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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


**COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADE DETERMINATION**

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<tr>
<th>Discussion Board Posts</th>
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<td>Reading Responses</td>
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<td>Student Presentation</td>
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<td>Papers (2 @ 25% each)</td>
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**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 Oronoko, pp. 2137-2178  
Thomas Southerne’s Oronoko 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 Shakespeare and D-v-d G-r-r—k* (located on Blackboard)

**Week 11:**

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

**Friday, 11/11**  *Cambridge Companion to English Literature 1740-1830*, 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