

Fall 8-15-2017

# ENG 2950 002: Transatlantic Literary History I

Olga Abella  
*Eastern Illinois University*

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ENGLISH 2950.002

Dr. Olga Abella  
3325 Coleman (6297)

Office Hours: TR 11-12:30, F 11-1  
and by appointment.

I. TEXTS:

The Book History Reader (BHR)  
Norton Anthology of English Lit, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. (NAEL)  
Norton Anthology of American Lit, Vol A, 8<sup>th</sup> ed. (NAAL)  
Silko, *Ceremony*  
Various xeroxed handouts

II. ASSIGNMENTS (with appropriate grade % for each):

1. Reading Quizzes: These will be unannounced short in-class writings given at the beginning of a class, lasting around 5 minutes. They should pressure you to keep up with the reading, to have some background for discussions. 6-7 quizzes will be given. The 5 highest grades will be averaged into one. Missed quizzes cannot be made up. (10%)
2. Critical Papers: **Paper #1**: 5% for performance, 10% for written (Mystery Plays). **Paper #2** should be an exploration of critical ideas that occur as you read the literature, but will also require secondary sources to support your argument/perspective (15%). Papers must be typed, double-spaced, with one-inch margins to allow for comments. Both papers 4-6 pages.
3. Midterm: An open-book exam covering the readings up to that point. (20%)
4. Final: This examination will cover most of the semester's readings. Any readings that are excluded will be specified before the exam date. This exam will be open-book and given during the final exam week. (30%)
5. Class Participation: Discussion is a very important part of this course. Expressing your reactions to the literature will help you to think critically about it and about your reactions to it, and that will help make writing the papers less intimidating. So, you will be expected to voice your thoughts. (10%)

III. Course Purpose: Together we will study the history of orality, literacy and print technology, and how writing transformed our consciousness "from primary oral cultures to literate ones" (Walter Ong). If language has the potential to shape us as individuals, and thereby our culture, then we need to ask the question posed by Roger Chartier: "...: in the societies of the ancien régime, how did increased circulation of printed matter transform forms of sociability, permit new modes of thought, and change people's relationship with power?" We will examine the literature of various periods to understand what may have inspired their creation, how they shaped the times in which they were created, and how their words reverberated into the future. The issues are inexhaustible. The readings and writings (yours) and the discussions (ours) in this course should raise fundamental questions for you to think about critically.

IV. ATTENDANCE: Without regular attendance, you will probably not know enough about how the course readings have been examined and explained. A significant part of various test questions will be based on lectures and discussions. Without knowing about these, you may well be unable to cope with the exams. Therefore, each student is responsible for **all** of those parts of the classroom experience. **More than 4 unexcused absences will result in a failing participation grade.**

V. LATE WORK: All assignments are due on the dates specified. Late papers are not allowed. If you cannot complete an assignment on time, you must see or contact me **before** it is due.

## VI. FINAL NOTES:

- 1) **Students with disabilities**—If you are a student with a documented disability in need of accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services (OSDS). All accommodations must be approved through OSDS. Please stop by Ninth Street Hall, Room 2006, or call 217-581-6583 to make an appointment.
- 2) **Academic integrity**—Students are expected to maintain principles of academic integrity and conduct as defined in EIU's Code of Conduct. (<http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>). Violations will be reported to the Office of Student Standards.
- 3) **The Student Success Center**—Students who are having difficulty achieving their academic goals are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center (<http://www.eiu.edu/~success>) for assistance with time management, text taking, note taking, avoiding procrastination, setting goals, and other skills to support academic achievement. The Student Success Center provides individualized consultations. To make an appointment, call 217-581-6696, or go to 9th Street Hall, Room I302.

- Aug. 22 Introduction
- 24 "The Persistence of English," p. xvii-lxi (NAEL); "The Middle Ages" & Timeline, p. 1-22 (NAEL); Caedmon's *Hymn*, p. 23-6; "The History of English" (xerox)
- 29 Widgeot, "Native American Oral Narrative" (xerox); "Beginnings to 1700," p.3-8 (NAAL); Iroquois and Navajo Creation Stories, p. 23-34 (NAAL); "The Well-Baked Man," (xerox); Ong, "Writing Restructures Consciousness," p. 105-114 (BHR); Ventres, "The Creation of the World" (xerox)
- 31 *Beowulf*, p. 29-60 (NAEL)
- Sept. 5 *Beowulf*, p. 60-99 (NAEL)
- 7 Marie de France, p. 126-7; 140-41 (NAEL); "Native American Trickster Tales," p. 100-01; 111-120 (NAAL)
- 12 Chaucer & "The General Prologue," p. 210-35 (NAEL)
- 14 Chaucer, "The Nun's Priest Tale," p. 296-310 (NAEL)
- 19 Malory, "Morte Darthur," p. 419-39 (NAEL)
- 21 "Literature of the Sacred" & "The English Bible," p.538-42; "Mystery Plays," p. 379-80; **Group 1 Performance** of "Noah's Flood," p. 380-91; **Group 2 Performance** of "The Second Shepherd's Play," p. 391-419 (NAEL)
- 26 *Everyman*, p. 445-67 (NAEL)
- 28 Margery Kempe, p. 366-79 (NAEL)
- Oct. 3 Chartier, p. 118-40; Müller, p. 143-50; Eisenstein, p. 151-64 (BHR)
- 5 "The Sixteenth Century," p.469-98 (NAEL); Sir Thomas Moore & *Utopia*, p. 503-23 (NAEL)
- 10 "Voyages of Discovery," p.8-13 (NAAL); "First Encounters," p. 52-4 (NAAL); Columbus, p. 34-8 (NAAL); De Las Casas, p. 38-42 (NAAL); Cortés, p. 54-59 (NAAL); De Champlain, p. 59-64 (NAAL); Maps (xerox)
- 12 "The Wider World," p.889-90 (NAEL); Hariot, p. 901-06 (NAEL); Hakluyt, "The Principle Navigations..." (xerox); Montaigne, "On Cannibals" (xerox); "The Science of Self and World," p. 1528-30; Bacon, 1544-48; "Of Truth," p. 1531; "Of Marriage," p. 1532; "Of Studies (1625)," p.1541(NAEL); **PAPER #1 DUE** (Mystery Plays)
- 17 Shakespeare, p. 1026-7; *King Lear*, p. 1106-09; Acts 1-3 (NAEL)
- 19 *King Lear*, Acts 4-5
- 24 "The Early Seventeenth Century," p. 1209-32 (NAEL); "English Civil War and Propaganda" (xerox); "4 Innovations in Propaganda" (xerox); Milton, *Areopagitica*, p. 1802-11 (NAEL); Lilburne, Winstanley and Trapnel, p. 1734-47 (NAEL)
- 26 **MIDTERM**

- 31 Milton, *Paradise Lost*, "The Verse" and Book I, p. 1815-36; "To the Lord General Cromwell," p. 1813 (NAEL)
- Nov. 2 "Pilgrim and Puritan," p. 13-20 (NAAL); *New England Primer*, p. 361-3 (NAAL); *The Bay Psalm Book*, p. 186-92 (NAAL); Donne, p. 1233-35; Sonnet 1, p. 1268; Sonnet 14 & 17, p. 1271; "A Hymn to God the Father," p. 1275 (NAEL); Bradstreet, p. 207; "The Prologue," p.208; "The Poem," p. 210; "Contemplations," p.215-22; "To My Dear Children," p.235 (NAAL)
- 7 Bradstreet (cont.); Aphra Behn, p. 2165-7; *Oroonoko*, p. 2170-2215 (NAEL)
- 9 *Oroonoko* (cont); "American Literature, 1700-1820," p. 365-78 (NAAL); "Native Americans: Contact and Conflict," p. 442-3; Pontiac, Occom, Logan, Tecumseh, p. 443-55 (NAAL)
- 14 Rowlandson, p. 265-88 (NAAL); Franklin, p. 476-80 (NAAL)
- 16 Jefferson, p. 659-77; Equiano, p. 687-721 (NAAL)
- 21 THANKSGIVING BREAK  
23 THANKSGIVING BREAK
- 28 "The Restoration and Eighteenth Century," p. 2045-70 (NAEL); Addison and Steele, p. 2470-2502 (NAEL); Pope, "An Essay on Man," p. 2554-62 (NAEL); Paine, 639-47 (NAAL); Wheatley, p. 762-74 (NAAL);
- 30 Silko, *Ceremony*, p. 1-82
- Dec. 5 *Ceremony*, p. 82-152
- 7 *Ceremony*, p. 153 to end; **PAPER #2 DUE**
- 11 (Monday) **Final Exam**: 12:30-2:30

## ENG 2950 Calendar Revised

- 31 Lady Elizabeth Cary, *The Tragedy of Mariam*
- Nov. 2 *The Tragedy of Mariam*; "Pilgrim and Puritan," p. 13-20 (NAAL); *New England Primer*, p. 361-3 (NAAL); *The Bay Psalm Book*, p. 186-92 (NAAL); Donne, p. 1233-35; Sonnet 1, p. 1268; Sonnet 14 & 17, p. 1271; "A Hymn to God the Father," p. 1275 (NAEL);
- 7 Aphra Behn, p. 2165-7; *Oroonoko*, p. 2170-2215 (NAEL)
- 9 *Oroonoko* (cont); "American Literature, 1700-1820," p. 365-78 (NAAL); "Native Americans: Contact and Conflict," p. 442-3
- 14 Rowlandson, p. 265-88 (NAAL); Franklin, p. 476-80 (NAAL)
- 16 Equiano, p. 687-721 (NAAL)
- 21 THANKSGIVING BREAK  
23 THANKSGIVING BREAK
- 28 "The Restoration and Eighteenth Century," p. 2045-70 (NAEL); Paine, 639-40, 653-59 (NAAL); Wheatley, p. 762-74 (NAAL);
- 30 Silko, *Ceremony*, p. 1-82
- Dec. 5 *Ceremony*, p. 82-152
- 7 *Ceremony*, p. 153 to end; **PAPER #2 DUE**
- 11 (Monday) **Final Exam**: 12:30-2:30