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ENG 3805-051: The Eighteenth-Century British Novel

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English 3805: The Eighteenth-Century British Novel  
Summer 2010, May 17-June 11 / M-F 10:15-12:15 / 3170 Coleman

Professor Suzie Park  
Office: 3030 Coleman, 217-581-6285  
Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description  
This course examines the development of the British novel over the course of the eighteenth century. The sheer versatility and experimental nature of novels in the period resist any neat accounting of its rise. Rogues exist alongside virtuous ladies, bourgeois mercantilism next to aristocratic romance. Representative novels (or selections) from Defoe, Haywood, Richardson, Sterne, Walpole, Burney, and Austen will give us a picture of the multi-faceted, historical rise of the novel, its reincarnations and admixtures of older forms.

Texts

BEFORE YOU COMMIT TO TIDS CLASS, NOTE THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS

PARTICIPATION: This means more than simply being present in class. It means being on time, prepared (BRING CORRECT TEXTBOOKS AND HANDOUTS TO EVERY CLASS), thoughtful, respectful of others, engaged, and fruitfully open to criticism. It means that you contribute copiously and regularly to class discussion. While you're in class, act like it and respect your professor and fellow students: no cell phones on, ABSOLUTELY NO TEXT-MESSAGING (RECEIVED OR DELIVERED), no iPods or headphones.
LATE POLICY: For the purposes of your class participation grade, being late for class is the same as being absent. In addition, all take-home papers and assignments are due at the beginning of class. You will NOT be able to make up any missed in-class assignments and quizzes. More details:
1) Late final versions of assignments will be marked a full grade lower for every day late.
2) In-class writing assignments must be turned in by the end of class, and cannot be made up at a later date.

ABSENCE POLICY: When you are absent—especially when you are frequently absent—two things happen. First, your participation grade drops substantially. Second, you naturally fall behind in understanding course material and neither the class nor the professor can catch you up on everything missed in a day’s class. It bears repeating: you cannot make up missed work and late assignments will be penalized. Whether these are excused or unexcused absences does not matter for this course. Informing the professor of an absence makes no difference: an absence is an absence. You must complete your Mid-Term and Final Exams on the scheduled dates. NO MAKE-UP EXAMS.

PLAGIARISM (using another writer’s written words or ideas without giving properly documented credit) will not be tolerated and will result in a FAILING GRADE on the assignment, if not for the course. I will follow the departmental policy on plagiarism:

“Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—‘The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one’s own original work’ (Random House Dictionary of the English Language)—has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignments, of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.”

***Always submit your assignments using correct MLA (Modern Language Association) format.***

EMAILING POLICY: I want to get to know you and your work in the short time allotted to us. Thus I ask that you call me or stop by my office during a scheduled office time so that we can talk. DO NOT EMAIL ME TO ASK FOR AN “UPDATE” ON MISSED ASSIGNMENTS, OR TO EXPLAIN AN ABSENCE.

ESSAY FORMAT: Your paper should be paper-clipped or stapled. It must include page numbers. Format: 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with one-inch margins.

GRADES

Participation (20%)
Midterm exam (20%)
Final exam (30%)
Quizzes and other writing assignments (30%)
English 3805: Schedule of Classes
H = handout or pdf
Broadview = Anthology of British Literature: The Restoration and the Eighteenth Century

WEEK ONE
M 5/17 Introductions; The Rise of the Novel
T 5/18 Daniel Defoe, Roxana, Preface through page 56
W 5/19
  • Daniel Defoe, Roxana, pp. 80-94 (SKIP 57-79)
  • Daniel Defoe, from “The Great Law of Subordination Consider’d” (H)
  • David Hume, Selected Essays: Of Essay Writing (1), Of the Middle Station of Life (5), Of the Delicacy of Taste and Passion (10)
  [OPTIONAL: Eliza Haywood, from A Present for a Servant-Maid (Broadview, pp. 529-530)]
Th 5/20
  • Delarivier Manley, Introduction to The Secret History of Queen Zarah (H)
  • Adam Smith, from The Theory of Moral Sentiments (H)
F 5/21
  • Daniel Defoe, “A True Relation of the Apparition of One Mrs. Veal”
    (Broadview, pp. 244-248)
  • Edward Young, from Night Thoughts (H)

WEEK TWO
M 5/24
  • Daniel Defoe, Roxana, pp. 265-330 (SKIP 122-264)
  • Samuel Richardson, from Familiar Letters (H)
T 5/25 Samuel Richardson, Clarissa, Letters 1-19, pp. 3-50
W 5/26
  • Samuel Richardson, Clarissa, Letters 99-110, pp. 153-166
  • Alexander Pope, from The Rape of the Lock, Canto 3 (Broadview, pp. 449-451)
Th 5/27
  • Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, Selected Letters, Letters 109, 110, 111, 112, 115, 125, 126 (pp. 158-189)
  • Montagu, “Saturday. The Small-Pox” and “A Plain Account of the Inoculating of the Smallpox” (Broadview, pp. 486 and 494)
  • Daniel Defoe, from A Journal of the Plague Year (Broadview, pp. 273-282)
  • Michel Foucault, “Panopticism,” from Discipline and Punish (H)
F 5/28 Eliza Haywood, Fantomina; or, Love in a Maze (Broadview, pp. 514-529)
WEEK THREE
M 5/31 Midterm Exam


W 6/2  Laurence Sterne, *Tristram Shandy*
       Volume I  pp. 25-57
       Volume II  Chapters I-III (pp. 58-64)
       Volume III  Chapters XVI-XVIII (pp. 136-137)
       Chapters XVI-XXVIII (pp. 155-171)

Th 6/3  Laurence Sterne, *Tristram Shandy*
       Volume IV  Chapters X-XIV (pp. 203-210)
       Volume V  Chapters II-XIII (pp. 243-260)
       Chapter XVIII (p. 264)
       Volume IX  Chapters XXVI-XXXII (pp. 449-457)

F 6/4  Horace Walpole, *The Castle of Otranto* (pp. 17-59)

WEEK FOUR

M 6/7

- Thomas Gray, "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard" (Broadview, pp. 607-609)
- Frances Burney, *Evelina*, "Dedication" through Volume I Letter 18 (p. 61)


       Volume III Letters XX-XXIII (pp. 321-337)

F 6/11  Final Exam