Summer 6-15-2003

ENG 5008-001: Colonial American Literature

P A. Boswell
Eastern Illinois University

Follow this and additional works at: http://thekeep.eiu.edu/english_syllabi_summer2003

Part of the English Language and Literature Commons

Recommended Citation
http://thekeep.eiu.edu/english_syllabi_summer2003/13

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the 2003 at The Keep. It has been accepted for inclusion in Summer 2003 by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact tabruns@eiu.edu.
English 5008: Colonial American Literature
The Revolutionaries
Summer, 2003

P.A. Boswell
Office: 3566 Coleman Hall
Office hours: MTW, 12 noon to 1 pm and by appointment
Phone: 581-6975 e-mail: cfpa@ciu.edu

TEXTS:

Allison, ed. The Interesting Narrative . . . of Olaudah Equiano.
Davis, ed. Western Literature in a World Context. Vol. II
Dillenberger, ed. John Calvin; Selections from His Writings.
Wollstonecraft. A Vindication of the Rights of Women.

REQUIREMENTS:

I ask that you do serious, close reading for each seminar session, and that you contribute to discussion regularly.

Written requirements: one scholarly research essay, 10-20 pages, on a topic of your own design, due on Monday, 4 August, 2003. There will be no exams in this seminar.

OH YES, SOME FINAL THOUGHTS:

We will read and discuss the primary texts during class time, but I expect that you will familiarize yourselves with secondary sources—books, articles, etc—as we move along through the term. I will always be happy to suggest titles, books, or ideas with you, but I expect you to do your own research in the library as well.

Written English of the 17th and 18th centuries shares more in common with Shakespeare's English than with our own 21st century American English, and these texts—some in translation—will challenge us with a significant language barrier from time to time. In other words, this is often difficult reading. If you let me know, we can slow down, go back, or change direction. I will always be happy to help you along the way.

I hope you will think of this seminar as an ongoing discussion among yourselves, me, and the texts we read. We are a community of scholars for the next eight weeks, so the more questions we ask (and there are no inappropriate questions here), the more rewarding this material will be for all of us.
English 5008: Colonial American Literature
The Revolutionaries
Tentative Schedule
Summer, 2003

June 16  Introduction to the Literature of Revolution
17   Thomas Paine: *Common Sense, The American Crisis*
18   John Adams; Abigail Adams; Thomas Jefferson
19   Benjamin Franklin

June 23  The French Wave: Voltaire, *Candide*
24   Voltaire
25   Rousseau, *Confessions*
26   Research day

June 30  Introduction to the English Separatists [Puritans]
July 1   John Calvin, *The Institutes*
2   John Winthrop
3   NO CLASS

July 7   William Bradford
8   Roger Williams
9   Anne Bradstreet
10  Research day

July 14  Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*
15  Wollstonecraft
16  *Africans in America***RESEARCH ABSTRACT DUE*
17  Research day

22  Equiano
23  John Woolman, Samuel Sewell
24  Research day

July 28  Beyond the Age of Revolution
29  Marx and Engels
30  Walt Whitman; Emily Dickinson
31  Research day

Aug  4   Final class ***RESEARCH PAPER DUE***