ENG 3805-001: Restoration and Eighteenth-Century Literature

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Description:

In 1660, emerging from a "world turned upside down" by the English Civil War, writers embarked on a century and a half voyage we now call the "Long Eighteenth Century." Along the way, Aphra Behn helped to tear down the barriers against public writing by women; Alexander Pope perfected the heroic couplet; Henry Fielding and Samuel Richardson fought it out over the proper agenda of the emerging novel form; and, just as the period closed, Jane Austen got in a last word about the relationship between sense and sensibility. Jumping off from modern points of contact and contrast (Frazier? Friends? the New York Times?), we will read selected poetry, drama, and prose of the period in order to explore both the dominant and marginal writer and themes of this complex and innovative period.

Engaged reading and active participation are essential to success in this course.

Texts:

2. Rogers and McCarthy, *The Meridian Anthology of Early Women Writers*
4. Fielding, *Joseph Andrews* [please check to be sure that you have the Norton Critical edition]
5. Austen, *Sense and Sensibility* [please check to be sure that you have the Penguin edition]

Course requirements and grading:

Library Reports (15%); exam #1 (15%); two out-of-class essays/projects (15%, 20%--a late essay will be graded down 1/2 letter grade for each class period it is late); a final exam (comprehensive but stressing material after exam #1) (20%); class participation and short writes (15%). Attendance required--more than three unexcused absences will lower the class participation grade (15%) to an F.

English 3805 is a Writing Intensive Course. If you plan to use one of the out-of-class essays for your Writing Portfolio, please talk with me by midterm. Seniors graduating this term should be aware of the deadline for final semester submissions—November 21, 2003.
3805 Syllabus--Part I: The Restoration

Week One
*Mon. Aug. 25: Introductions
*Wed. Aug. 27: General background Norton 2045-60 (all assignments are from Norton unless otherwise stated); Bunyan intro 2132 and The Pilgrim’s Progress 2137-45
*Fri. Aug. 29: Locke Intro and “An Essay Concerning . . .” 2145-50; Newton 2150-55; also, please skim the material in Norton pp. 2933-2959 for future reference use

Week Two
*Mon. Sept. 1: Labor Day—No classes
*Wed. Sept. 3: Cavendish “True Relation” & “Blazing World” 1759-1771; Pepys “The Diary” 2122-31
*Fri. Sept. 5: Denham intro and "Cooper's Hill”—handout; Discuss Library Groups--Skim Norton 2899-2901 & 2925-32

Week Three
*Mon. Sept. 8: Dryden intro 2071-2; "Annus Mirabilis" 2073-5
*Wed. Sept. 10: Dryden "MacFlecknoe" 2099-2105
*Friday Sept. 12: Finish Dryden; Killigrew Meridian 380-81; “Education: Modesty”—handout

Week Four
*Mon. Sept. 15: Behn 2165-70 and a handout of selected poems; Rochester intro. and "The Disabled Debauchee" 2162-3
*Wed. Sept. 17: Begin Man of Mode in British Dramatists; Library Groups/Project 1 due (Handbook, etc);
*Fri. Sept. 19: Continue Man of Mode

Week Five
*Mon. Sept. 22: Finish Man of Mode
*Wed. Sept. 24: Begin Oroonoko 2170-73 (through first paragraph)
*Fri. Sept. 26: Continue Oroonoko 2173-88 (through second full paragraph)

Week Six
*Mon. Sept. 29: Finish Oroonoko; Library groups/Project 2 due (Literary Histories)
*Wed. Oct. 1: Review
*Fri. Oct. 3: Exam #1