The Age of Aphra Behn: Restoration Literature

SYLLABUS

September 13: Introduction:
Rochester, “The Disabled Debauchee” (in DeMaria)

September 15: New Societies, New Forms, New Energies:
Dryden, “Mac Flecknoe” (in DeMaria)

I. The New Woman

September 20: The Status of Women:
The Marriage Service (handout)
Chudleigh, “To the Ladies” (handout)
Astell, A Serious Proposal to the Ladies (excerpt in DeMaria)
Defoe, “An Academy for Women” (in DeMaria)

September 22 & 27: Female Friendship:
Cavendish, “Female Orations” (in Bowerbank and Mendelson)
Philips, “To Mrs. Wogan, My Honoured Friend, on the Death of Her Husband,” “Orinda to Lucasia,” “Parting with Lucasia. A Song”
(in DeMaria)

September 29 & October 4: Liberated Women:
Behn, “An Epistle to the Reader, Prefixed to The Dutch Lover,”
“Epilogue to Sir Patient Fancy” (handout)
Cavendish, The Convent of Pleasure (in Bowerbank and Mendelson)

II. The Libertine

October 6 & 11: Future Passion:
Rochester, “The Imperfect Enjoyment,” “A Satyr on Charles II” (in Demaria)

Behn, “The Disappointment,” “To the Fair Clarinda,” “Ovid to Julia” (in DeMaria)

October 13 & 18: The Constraints of Desire:
Wycherley, The Country Wife (in Salgado)
October 20: Midterm

October 25 & 27: Sexual Modernism:
   Etherege, The Man of Mode (in Salgado)

November 1, 3, & 8: Women Who Rove with the Wolves:
   Behn, The Rover

III. The New Science

November 10 & 15: Genres of Science:
   Sprat, The History of the Royal Society (excerpt on handout)
   Dryden, “To My Honoured Friend, Dr. Carleton” (in DeMaria)
   Rochester, “A Satyr on Reason and Mankind” (in DeMaria)
   Behn, “Preface to Her Translation of Fontenelle’s Entretiens” (in
   Bowerbank and Mendleson)

November 17 & 22: Genders of Science:
   Pepys, Diary (excerpt on handout)
   Cavendish, The Blazing World (in Bowerbank and Mendleson)

IV. Anti-Colonialism

November 24 & 29: Noble, African, and Anti-Christian:
   Behn, Oroonoko (in DeMaria)

December 1: Conclusion and Review

NOTE: Scheduled dates for readings may vary slightly depending on class progress through the material.