ENGL 410B

Eighteenth-Century Literature
Instructor: Rebecca Tierney-Hynes
Phone: (519) 888-4567 x 35667
Email: rtierney@uwaterloo.ca
Office: HH 254
Office hours: TTh 1-2pm
Course website: on UW-ACE
TTh 2:30-3:50pm
DWE 1515

Course Description:

This course is designed to give a broad overview of eighteenth-century literature. We will be discussing literature in the context of eighteenth-century reimaginings of politics and civil society, new concepts of authorship and readership, the rise and fall of new genres, and the development of modern literary criticism.

Course Texts:

- *British Literature 1640-1789* (Blackwell)
- *Gulliver's Travels* (Penguin)
- Course website – UW-ACE
- Optional: Course reader (contents of reader may be found on the website)

The course anthology and *Gulliver's Travels* are available at the UW Bookstore (SCH). The website is required reading. You are responsible for all information posted on the course website.

Method of Evaluation:

Test #1: 15% (Oct 9)
Essay #1: 15% (due Oct 30)
Essay #2: 30% (due Nov 29)
Final Exam: 30%
Participation: 10%

One-hour in-class writing test (15%) – Week 5 (Oct 9)
- There will be a choice of six passages, four of which you will identify by author and title, and then describe the significance of the passage to the themes of the text as a whole.

1000-word paper (15%) – Week 8 (Oct 30)

2000-word paper (30%) – Week 12 (Nov 29)
• All essays must be typed, double-spaced, have 1 ½ inch margins, use 12pt Times New Roman font, include citations in MLA format, and meet the minimum word counts outlined above.
• Creative topics are exempt from the standard minimum page count, but they must match the specifications outlined in the essay question.
• You are welcome and encouraged to come and speak to me about your paper topics in advance. In addition to my office hours, I am always available by appointment. You can make an appointment by phone, email, or in person after class. While I do my best to see students at times that are convenient for them, I cannot always make time at the last minute for appointments. If you want to be guaranteed a meeting outside my office hours, you must contact me at least one week in advance. Otherwise, I will do my utmost to fit you in, but I cannot guarantee you an appointment.
• Late papers will be penalized at the rate of 2% per working day.
• Late essays should be submitted to the English Department office. The essays must be date-stamped by a department staff member in your presence. Essays submitted after the office closes will be stamped with the next day’s date. If your essay is lost because you did not ensure that either I or a department staff member received it personally, you will be held responsible for that loss.
• Please keep a copy of your work. In the case of a lost essay, I will require another copy.
• I do not accept emailed or other electronic submissions.
• A doctor’s note or a note from your registrar is required to avoid a late penalty. The note must document a serious illness or other serious crisis during the period immediately before and on the due date of the essay.
• You are permitted one extension of two business days on one essay, no questions asked. No other extensions will be given for any reason.

Exam (30%)
• There will be a choice of six passages, four of which you will identify by author and title, and then describe the significance of the passage to the themes of the text as a whole.
• There will be a choice of three essay questions, one of which you will write on for one hour.
• Your answer must engage with at least three of the course texts you have encountered.
• You may not discuss the same texts in your essay that you discussed in your short answers. If you discuss the same texts in both sections, you will receive an automatic zero on the short answer.

Participation (10%)
• Active, informed participation is essential to your individual success in this course, as well as to the success of the course as a whole.
• I do not give marks for attendance; while a small component of your participation mark is for attentive and respectful listening, you will not do well on participation if you do not speak in class.
• You cannot make up participation points. There is no substitute for your presence in the class.

Course Policies:

Appointments:
• You are welcome and encouraged to come and speak to me about the course material, difficulties with the course, tests and papers, plans for the future, or any other academic topic. In addition to my office hours, I am available by appointment. You can make an appointment by phone, email, or after class (rtierney@uwaterloo.ca).

Late Penalties:
• Late papers will be penalized at the rate of 2% per working day.
• Late essays should be submitted to the English Department office. The essays must be date-stamped by a department staff member in your presence. Essays submitted after the office closes will be stamped with the next day’s date. If your essay is lost because you did not ensure that either I or a department staff member received it personally, you will be held responsible for that loss.
• Please keep a copy of your work. In the case of a lost essay, I will require another copy.
• I do not accept emailed or other electronic submissions.
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• You are permitted one extension of two business days on one essay, no questions asked. No other extensions will be given for any reason.

Participation:
• I do not give marks for attendance.
• A small component of your participation mark is for attentive and respectful listening, but you will not do well on participation if you do not speak in class.
• I am always available to discuss strategies for effective participation, ways to overcome shyness, and topics you wish to raise in class but feel you’d like to run by me first.
• I post a discussion question for each class. Preparing a response to this question is an easy way to ensure a good participation mark. You can prepare with a short written answer (two or three sentences is more than enough) to be read aloud in class, with point-form notes, or by discussing the question with a classmate or with me in advance.

About email:
• Questions that require lengthy or complex responses cannot always be taken up over email. I am always happy to read these emails, but I will respond to emails that require exceptionally long responses by asking you to come to my office hours or make an appointment to see me.
• Email is not a substitute for in-person appointments, email participation is not a substitute for in-class participation, and I will not answer questions over email that have been canvassed in the lectures. If you miss a lecture, you are responsible for getting notes from a classmate.
• I check my email very regularly, and can generally be counted on to respond relatively quickly. Do not, however, expect instant responses. 24 hours is the minimum amount of time you need to wait before sending the same query again.
• Remember that hotmail and yahoo are much less reliable than a uwaterloo account. If you use one of these servers, be aware that a lack of response may indicate that my response bounced. I can’t resend responses interminably – if it bounces, I won’t send it again.
• I never give out marks on email. I want you to see the context for your mark at the same time that you see the mark itself.

Academic Offences:

The Faculty of Arts and Sciences requires that I draw your attention to the following:

• Note on avoidance of academic offences:

All students registered in the courses of the Faculty of Arts are expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their actions. When the commission of an offence is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline). For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students are directed to consult the summary of Policy #71 which is supplied in the Undergraduate Calendar (section 1; on the Web at www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm). If you need help in learning what constitutes an academic offence; how to avoid offences such as plagiarism, cheating, and double submission; how to follow appropriate rules with respect to “group work” and collaboration; or if you need clarification of aspects of the discipline policy, ask your TA and/or your course instructor for guidance. Other resources regarding the discipline policy are your academic advisor and the Undergraduate Associate Dean.

For more information, please see the Arts Faculty Web page, “Avoiding Academic Offences” (http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html)

Students who believe that they have been wrongfully or unjustly penalized have the right to grieve; refer to Policy #70, Student Grievance (http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm)

Writing and Learning Resources on Campus:

• Professor Acheson’s Research Skills Page: http://www.arts.uwaterloo.ca/~rjes/RSESHome.html
• ELPP’s Writing Centre: (519) 888-4567 x 32837
  http://elpp.uwaterloo.ca/writingcentre.html

• Services for students with disabilities: The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), Needles Hall, Rm 1132, (519) 888-4567 x 35082
  (http://www.studentservices.uwaterloo.ca/disabilities/) If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.

• see the course website for a more extensive list of writing resources
ENGL 410B: Schedule
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[#] = page # in British Literature 1640-1789
[w/s] = website or photocopy package

Week 1
Sept 11
  • Introduction
    Brief overview of 17th and 18th-century history [see w/s for notes]

Sept 13
  • Congreve, The Way of the World (1700) [440]

Week 2
Sept 18
  • Congreve, The Way of the World (1700) [440]

Sept 20
  • Congreve, The Way of the World (1700) [440]
  • Congreve, “Concerning Humour in Comedy” (1695) [w/s]

Week 3
Sept 25
  • Addison and Steele, Tatler Dedication and #1, #116 (“Hoop-skirt on Trial”) (1709-10) [w/s]

Sept 27
  • Spectator #11 (“Inkle and Yarico”) [501], #37 (“Leonora’s Library”) [w/s], #’s 58 and 63 (“True and False Wit”) [w/s], #69 (“The Royal Exchange”) [w/s], #81 (“Party Patches”) [w/s], #452 (“Taste for News”) [w/s] (1711-12)

Sept 28: Drop deadline – no penalty

Week 4
Oct 2
  • Manley, from The New Atalantis (1709) [348]
  • Manley, from Rivella (1714) [w/s]
Oct 4
- Finch, “Ardelia’s Answer to Ephelia” (1713) [w/s], “The Petition for an Absolute Retreat” (1713) [338]
- Swift, “Description of the Morning” (1709) [429], “Description of a City Shower” (1710) [435]

Week 5
Oct 9
- One-hour in-class test (15%)

Oct 11
- Swift, “The Lady’s Dressing Room” (1732) [430]
- Montagu, “The Reasons that induc’d Dr Swift…” (wr. 1732-4) [596]
- Anon., “The Gentleman’s Dressing-Room” (1732) [w/s]

Week 6
Oct 16
- Swift, Gulliver’s Travels, Book I (1726)

Oct 18
- Swift, Gulliver’s Travels, Book II & from Book III, Ch I, II, V, & X (1726)

Week 7
Oct 23
- Swift, Gulliver’s Travels, Book IV (1726)

Oct 25
- Locke, from An Essay Concerning Human Understanding, “Of the Association of Ideas” (1689) [w/s]
- Addison, Spectator #411-421 (“The Pleasures of the Imagination”) (1712) [w/s]

Week 8
Oct 30
- Pope, “Essay on Criticism” (1711) [w/s]
- 1000-word paper due (15%)

Nov 1
- Pope, “The Rape of the Lock” (1714) [531]

Nov 2: Drop deadline – penalty 1

Week 9
Nov 6
- Pope, “Eloisa to Abelard” (1717) [w/s], “Of the Characters of Women” (1735) [561]
Nov 8
- Pope, “Epistle to Burlington: Of False Taste” (1735) [w/s], “Epistle to Dr Arbuthnot” (1735) [w/s]

Week 10
Nov 13
- Montagu, from the town eclogues, “Sarturday: The Small-Pox” (wr. 1714) [w/s], “Epistle from Mrs. Yonge to her Husband” (wr. 1724) [w/s], “Her Palace placed beneath a muddy road” (1729) [w/s]

Nov 15
- Hume, “Of the Study of History” (1741) [w/s], “Of Essay-Writing” (1742) [w/s]
- Johnson, Rambler #4 (1750) [w/s]

Week 11
Nov 20
- Duck, from “The Thresher’s Labour” (1736) [634]
- Leapor, “Crumble-Hall” [779] “The Visit” [w/s] “Mira’s Will” [777], “Corydon. Phillario. Or, Mira’s Picture” (all 1751) [w/s]

Nov 22
- Collins, “Ode on the Poetical Character” (1747) [769]
- Gray, “An Elegy Wrote in a Country Church Yard” (1751) [750]

Week 12
Nov 27
- Johnson, Rasselas (1759) [660]

Nov 29
- Johnson, Rasselas (1759) [660]

- 2000-word paper due (30%)

Dec 5: Last day to drop without a petition

EXAM (30%)