Changing the Subject:  
The Literature of the Middle and Later Eighteenth Century  

SYLLABUS

January 7:  Introduction

I. Parodies of Learning in an "Age of Reason"

January 9:  Reprise:  
Rochester, "A Satyr Against Mankind" (T=Tillotson)

January 14 & 16:  Grub Street's Anti-Epic:  
Pope, The Dunciad (selections in T)

January 16 & 21:  Bedlam's Anti-Encyclopaedia:  
Smart, Jubilate Agno (selections in R=Reserve)

January 23, 28 & 30:  The Book of Digressions:  
Sterne, Tristram Shandy

II. "The Rise of the Novel" and the Techniques of the Self

February 4 & 6:  "Uppity" Women and "Writing to the Moment":  
Richardson, Pamela (selections)  
Fielding, Shamela

February 11 & 13.  "Uppity" Men and the "Comic Epic in Prose":  
Fielding, Joseph Andrews

*****break*****

February 25 & 27.  Female Bildung:  
Burney, Evelina

March 3 & 5.  Fiction and the Rights of Woman:  
Wollstonecraft, Mary  
Austen, Northanger Abbey
III. Changing the Subject

March 10. Men with a View:
  Boswell, *Life of Johnson* (selections)
  Burke, "Letter to a Noble Lord" (T)

March 12 & 17. "Hyenas in Petticoats":
  Charke, *Narrative* (R)
  Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (selections)

March 19. Up from Slavery:
  Equiano, *Narrative* (selections)

IV. Poetry and the Subaltern:

March 24. Augustan Statements:
  Pope, "On the Characters of Women" (T)
  Johnson, "Vanity of Human Wishes"; "London" (T)
  Goldsmith, "The Deserted Village" (T)
  Gray, "Elegy"; "Ode on a Favorite Cat" (T)
  Crabbe, "The Village" (T)

March 26. Augustan Counter-Statements:
  Collins, "Ode on the Poetical Character" (T)
  Cowper, "Walking with God"; "Light Shining out of Darkness"; "The Cast-Away" (T)
  Smart, *Hymns for the Amusement of Children* (selections in R)
  Blake, *Songs of Innocence and Experience* (some of the selections in T)
  Leapor, "An Essay on Woman" (R)

March 31 & April 2. Class Conscious?:
  Gay, *The Beggar's Opera* (T)
  Duck, "The Thresher's Labour" (R)
  Collier, "The Woman's Labour" (R)
  Wheatley, "On Being Brought from Africa to America" (R)
  Barber, "Written for My Son" (R)
  Baillie, "A Mother to her Waking Infant" (R)
  anon., "Epitaph on a Child Killed by Procured Abortion" (R)
  Barbauld, "The Rights of Woman" (R)