ENGL 410B

Eighteenth-Century Literature 2
Tues & Thurs. 2:30-3:50pm
HH 138
Professor: Heather Ladd
Email: heatherladd@gmail.com
Office: HH 249
Office hours: Tuesdays, 1:15 to 2:15pm

Course Description:

This course is designed to give a broad overview of mid-to-late eighteenth-century British literature. The expansive nature of this survey will allow us to chart the development and progression of many forms, genres, and themes within the period. We will examine a selection of prose works (from essays to novels), plays, and poems published between 1750-1800. We will be situating the texts we study in the social, political, and cultural context of eighteenth-century Britain. We will consider reimaginings of politics and civil society and new concepts of authorship and readership, and we will chart the rise of new genres, particularly the sentimental novel, the gothic novel, and the novel of ideas or “Jacobin” novel.

Course Texts:

- *The Norton Anthology of English Literature, 9th Ed., Vol C: The Restoration and the Eighteenth Century*

Method of Evaluation:

- In-Class Paragraph: 10%
- Presentation: 20%
- Annotated Bibliography: 15%
- Research Paper: 40%
- Participation: 15%

In-Class Paragraph (10%) – Week 3 (May 17)

- You will be given 40 minutes at the beginning of class to write a critical analysis of ONE character from Samuel Johnson’s *Rasselas*. You will discuss this character in relation to what you feel is the main theme of the text. This is an open book exercise.
Presentation in Pairs (20%)
» You will be asked to choose one topic from the list of topics on the mid-to-late eighteenth-century literature & culture. I will be circulating the sign-up sheet in the first week of class. You will be working and presenting in pairs.
» The presentation should be 20 minutes (including discussion). You will need to distribute a one-page handout.

Annotated Bibliography (15%) - Week 10 (July 5)
» Summarize the content and the relevance of four secondary sources that you could use for your final paper (i.e. discuss each source’s argument, content, and describe how it is relevant to your essay).
» Each summary should be approximately half a page in length (double-spaced).
» Two of the sources should be books.
» You are not required to cite all four sources in your final essay. I expect you will refer to at least two of these sources, but this is recommended rather than mandatory.
» I encourage you to use scholarly journal articles (some of which are online and can be found through the library website).
» Be aware that many online sources are unreliable (inaccurate or too basic). Ultimately, you will have to use your best judgment with online sources.

1800-2000 word Research paper (40%) – Week 13 (July 24)
» Essay topics will be distributed in class (Week 2).
» Papers more than fifty words over or under the word limit will be penalized
» All essays must be typed, double-spaced, have 1 ¼ inch margins, use 12pt Times New Roman font, include citations and a works cited list in MLA format, and meet the word count requirements outlined above.
» 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 put in the department drop-box (HH 2016E, beside HH 228). Essays will be stamped by department staff.
» Please keep a copy of your work.
» I do not accept emailed or other electronic submissions.
» As this essay is due at the beginning of the last class, I will not be offering extensions. If you are sick, however, 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.

Participation (15%)
» I take attendance every class.
» Active, informed participation is essential to your individual success in this course, as well as to the success of the course as a whole.
» Bring ONE written discussion question to each class. Be prepared to pose this question to the class if called upon.
» While a component of your participation mark is for attendance, discussion questions, and 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 active presence in the class.


**Reading Schedule**

{#} = page # in *Norton Anthology*

* Means individual text

**Week 1: Introduction/ The Philosophical Tale**

May 1: Introduction

May 3: Samuel Johnson, *Rasselas* (Cha 1-6) {p. 2856-2867}

**Week 2: The Philosophical Tale**

May 8: Samuel Johnson, *Rasselas* (Cha 6-29) {2867-2895}

May 10: Samuel Johnson, *Rasselas* (Cha 30-end) {2896-2922}

**Week 3: Johnson's Essays and Criticism**

May 15: Presentation 1: Johnson's Dictionary

   Samuel Johnson, *Rambler* No. 4 [On Fiction] {2923-2926}

May 17: **In-Class Paragraph**

   *from The Preface to Shakespeare* {2936-2947}

**Week 4: The Gothic Novel**

May 22: *Horace Walpole, The Castle of Otranto*

May 24: *Horace Walpole, The Castle of Otranto*

   Presentation 2: Post-*Otranto* Gothic Fiction

**Week 5: CLASSES CANCELLED for Congress**

May 29: Independent Reading (NO CLASS): Frances Burney, *Evelina*

May 31: Independent Reading (NO CLASS): Frances Burney, *Evelina*

**Week 6: The Epistolary Novel**

June 6: Presentation 3: Frances Burney's *Journals and Letters*

   *Frances Burney, *Evelina*

June 8: *Frances Burney, *Evelina*

**Week 7: On Slavery**

June 12: MOVIE SHOWING, *Amazing Grace*

June 14: MOVIE SHOWING, *Amazing Grace* (cont.)

**Week 8: On Slavery:**

June 19: Presentation 4: The Abolitionists

   Samuel Johnson [A Brief to Free a Slave]{3032-3033}

June 21: Olaudah Equiano, *from The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, The African, Written by Himself* {3033-3043}
Week 9: The Comedy of Manners
June 26: Presentation 5: The London Stage of the Late 18th Century
    *Richard Brinsley Sheridan, The School For Scandal
June 28: *Richard Brinsley Sheridan, The School For Scandal

Week 10: Poetry I
July 3: Presentation 6: Thomas Gray, “Ode on the Death of a Favourite Cat”
    Thomas Gray, “Ode on a Distant Prospect of Eton College” {3047-3050}
July 5: Thomas Gray, “Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard” {3051-3054}
    Annotated Bibliography Due

Week 11: Poetry II
July 10: Presentation 7: The Enclosure Acts
    Oliver Goldsmith, The Deserted Village {3062-3071}
July 12: William Cowper, “The Castaway” {3077-3078}

Week 12: The Novel of Ideas
July 17: Presentation 8: The English “Jacobins”
    *Mary Hays, The Victim of Prejudice
July 19: *Mary Hays, The Victim of Prejudice

Week 13: The Novel of Ideas
July 24 (Last Class): Research Paper Due
    *Mary Hays, The Victim of Prejudice
July 26: NO CLASS

Course Policies

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. If you miss a lecture, you are responsible for getting notes from a classmate.
»On weekdays I check my email regularly. I will do my best to respond within 2 business days.
»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 requires that I draw your attention to the following:

»Academic Integrity: in order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.
» **Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, [http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm)

» **Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, [http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm)

» **Appeals:** A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals, [http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm)

» **Relevant Sections of Policy #71:**

  Academic offences shall include, **but shall not be limited to**, the following:

  » **Cheating** on examinations, assignments, work term reports, or any other work used to judge student performance. Cheating includes copying from another student's work or allowing another student to copy from one's own work, submitting another person's work as one's own, fabrication of data, consultation with any unauthorized person during an examination or test, and use of unauthorized aids.

  » **Plagiarism**, which is the act of presenting the ideas, words or other intellectual property of another as one's own. The use of other people's work must be properly acknowledged and referenced in all written material such as take-home examinations, essays, laboratory reports, work-term reports, design projects, statistical data, computer programs and research results. The properly acknowledged use of sources is an accepted and important part of scholarship. Use of such material without complete and unambiguous acknowledgement, however, is an offence under this policy.

  » **Obtaining by improper means** examination papers, tests, or similar materials, or using or distributing such materials to others.

Submitting an essay, report, or assignment when a major portion has been **previously submitted** or is being submitted for another course without the express permission of all instructors involved.

**Writing and Learning Resources on Campus:**

- Professor Acheson’s Research Skills Page: [http://www.arts.uwaterloo.ca/~rses/RSESHome.html](http://www.arts.uwaterloo.ca/~rses/RSESHome.html)
- ELPP's Writing Centre: (519) 888-4567 x 32837 [http://elpw.uwaterloo.ca/writingcentre.html](http://elpw.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/](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.