

Masters and Servants in 18th-Century Literature

ENGL 3430, Section 002 / FALL 2010 / MW 12:00-1:20pm (LANG 223)

Professor: Deborah Needleman Armintor (369-8948) / Office Hours TBA (LANG 408E)

Course Description: From Crusoe & Friday in literature to Jefferson & Hemings in life, this course investigates the metaphorical and cultural significance of master/servant relationships from the late seventeenth century to the early nineteenth.

Required Books: You are responsible for obtaining the following books from any new or used booksellers you choose. The UNT campus bookstore will be selling the 4 asterisked Broadview books listed below as a 4-for-the-price-of-3 package deal.

ISBN#	Author/Editor(s)	Title	Publisher/Year
1551119358	Daniel Defoe (Author), Evan R. Davis (Editor)	<i>Robinson Crusoe</i>	Broadview* (2010)
1551118076	Daniel Defoe (Author); Melissa Mowry (Editor)	<i>Roxana: or, The Fortunate Mistress</i>	Broadview* (2009)
1551112493	William Godwin (Author); Gary Handwerk (Editor); A.A. Markley (Editor),	<i>Caleb Williams</i>	Broadview* (2000)
1551112620	Olaudah Equiano (Author); Angelo Costanzo (Editor)	<i>Interesting Narrative of the life of Olaudah Equiano</i>	Broadview* (2001)
155111383X	Eliza Haywood (Author); Henry Fielding (Author); Catherine Ingrassia (Editor)	<i>Anti-Pamela and Shamela</i>	Broadview (2004)
014042430X	Phillis Wheatley (Author)	<i>Phillis Wheatley, Complete Writings</i>	Penguin Classics (2001)
0140431403	Samuel Richardson (Author), Peter Sabor (Editor)	<i>Pamela: Or, Virtue Rewarded</i>	Penguin Classics (1981)
0140439889	Aphra Behn (Author); Janet Todd (Editor)	<i>Oroonoko</i>	Penguin Classics (2004)
0393337766	Annette Gordon-Reed	<i>The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family</i>	W. W. Norton & Co. (2009, rptnt)

Required Handouts (to be distributed in class): Wikipedia Abolition and Slave Rebellion timeline; “Life, Death, and Terror in the Slave Trade” by Marcus Rediker; Selections from *Domestic Affairs* by Kristina Straub; “To The Ladies” by Lady Mary Chudleigh; Selections from *Present for a Servant Maid* by Eliza Haywood; Selections from *The Apprentice’s Vade Mecum* by Samuel Richardson; Selections from *The Relative Duties of Parents and Children, Husbands, and Wives, Masters and Servants* (1747); *The Cruel Mistress. Being the Genuine Trial of Elizabeth Branch and Her Own Daughter for the Murder of Jane Buttersworth, their Servant Maid* (1740); Selections from *Poems, Chiefly on Religious Subjects. In Two Parts. By Mary McMorine, A Servant Maid* (1799); Selections from *Joseph Andrews* by Henry Fielding; Jean -Jacques Rousseau: *Discourse on the Social Contract* and *Discourse on the Origins of Inequality*

Writing Assignments & Grading:

Paper #1: (50% of course grade) 1 critical essay of around 7-10 pages on any topic related to the course, addressing one or more of the readings and demonstrating a relatively sophisticated understanding of all relevant topics (and readings) covered thus far in the course. The paper should be structured around a clearly stated, thought-provoking, original thesis. I will primarily be looking to see how you go beyond the obvious (and beyond what we’ve already discussed in class) in your arguments, analyses, and close readings of texts. All papers must be well written, and 1.5-spaced or double-spaced, in a reasonable font (Times New Roman 11-12, for instance), with 1-inch margins all around. A pre-writing conference with me is optional, to be scheduled at our mutual convenience.

Paper #2: (50% of course grade); see instructions for Paper 1.

Tips: preparation for your papers starts on the first day of class, so from day 1 be sure to: (1) keep up with the readings at home, enjoying them as much as you possibly can while marking up your books and handouts with underlinings, questions (or simply question marks), ideas (whole or fragmented), connections, and potential paper topics; (2) take notes during class, making sure to participate in class discussion by sharing both your questions and ideas with your instructor and peers.

Compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act: Any student with a disability requiring assistance is encouraged to register with the Office of Disability Accommodation. Please provide me with a written request by the fourth class day so I will know how best to accommodate you.

Important Class Policies

Attendance Policy: Attendance is mandatory and will be taken each class. Your absence will be considered “excused” if you notify me by email before your absence or shortly thereafter. Any student responsible for two or more unexcused absences will be asked to withdraw from the course.

Reading/Preparation Policy: This is a reading-intensive and discussion-heavy course. For a class like this to work, students must arrive in class with the day’s reading assignment completed and the text in hand.

Participation Policy: Vocal participation in class discussions is essential but not graded.

Late Paper Policy: Unexcused late papers will be marked off half a grade for each class day late.

Rewriting Policy: If you want to rewrite your paper, you must see me first—either during my office hours or by appointment—so that we can go over your first paper together and discuss rewriting. Final papers cannot be rewritten.

Plagiarism Policy: Any student suspected of plagiarism will be asked to meet with me. If I determine that plagiarism has occurred, I will report the student to the Office of Academic Integrity and will recommend the maximum penalty (failure of the course). All students have the right to appeal. For more on UNT’s Academic Integrity policy and its definition of plagiarism, go to

<http://vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm>

Syllabus

Please note: I might end up altering, reordering, or augmenting certain reading assignments to better suit the pace and direction of our class discussions and/or students' individual/collective interests.

Any changes to the syllabus will be announced ahead of time in class.

Week 1:

Mon, 8/30: Introduction to the syllabus

Weds, 9/1: Handouts: Wikipedia Abolition of Slavery timeline and Slave Rebellion timeline; Jean-Jacques Rousseau: *Discourse on the Social Contract* and *Discourse on the Origins of Inequality*

Week 2:

Mon, 9/6: LABOR DAY, NO CLASS

Weds, 9/8: Handouts: Selections from *The Apprentice’s Vade Mecum* by Samuel Richardson; Selections from *The Relative Duties of Parents and Children, Husbands, and Wives, Masters and Servants* (1747); *The Cruel Mistress. Being the Genuine Trial of Elizabeth Branch and Her Own Daughter for the Murder of Jane Buttersworth, their Servant Maid* (1740); Selections from *Present for a Servant Maid* by Eliza Haywood ; “The Servant Problem and the Family” by Kristina Straub

Week 3:

Mon, 9/13: Robinson Crusoe: (pages TBA)

Weds, 9/15: Robinson Crusoe: “Friday’s Imprint” section of Editor’s Introduction, pp. 24-31

Week 4:

Mon, 9/20: Robinson Crusoe: (pages TBA)

Weds, 9/22: Robinson Crusoe: Appendix F: Defoe on Slavery and the African Trade

Week 5:

Mon, 9/27: Pamela (pages TBA)

Weds, 9/29: Pamela (pages TBA)

Week 6:

Mon, 10/4: Pamela (pages TBA); Handout: “To the Ladies”

Weds, 10/6: Handout: Selections from *Joseph Andrews*

Week 7:

Mon, 10/11: Shamela & Anti-Pamela (pages TBA)

Weds, 10/13: Roxana (pages TBA)

Week 8: MIDSEMESTER

Mon, 10/18: Roxana (pages TBA); Handout: Selections from Mary McMorine’s *Poems*

Weds, 10/20: Caleb Williams (pages TBA)

Week 9:**Mon, 10/25: Discussion/Workshop/Q&A on Paper #1****Weds, 10/27: Caleb Williams (pages TBA)****Week 10:****Mon, 11/1: Paper #1 Due in Class.****Weds, 11/3: Handouts:** “Life, Death, and Terror in the Slave Trade” by Marcus Rediker; “Jupiter Hammon and the Written Beginnings of Black Theology” and “Phillis Wheatley and the Charge toward Progressive Black Theologies” by Cedrick May**Week 11:****Mon, 11/8: Ooronoko****Weds, 11/10: Interesting Narrative of the life of Olaudah Equiano (pages TBA)****Week 12:****Mon, 11/15: Interesting Narrative of the life of Olaudah Equiano (pages TBA)****Weds, 11/17: Interesting Narrative of the life of Olaudah Equiano (pages TBA)****Week 13:****Mon, 11/22: Phillis Wheatley, Complete Writings (pages TBA)****Weds, 11/24: Phillis Wheatley, Complete Writings (pages TBA)****Week 14:****Mon, 11/29: The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family (pages TBA)****Weds, 12/1: The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family (pages TBA)****Week 15: Pre-Finals Week****Mon, 12/6: Discussion/Workshop/Q&A on Paper #2****Weds, 12/8: Paper #2 due in class.****Finals Week: NO FINAL EXAM**