

ENLIGHTENMENT LITERATURE & PHILOSOPHY

ENGL 4433.001 / SPRING 2022 / MWF 10:00-10:50 / LANG 211

(Pictured above: print of Isaac Newton by William Blake, 1795-1805. Description: Newton sits naked on a rock formation by a darkly lit shore. He is bent over and working on a diagram with a compass)

Prof: Deborah Needleman Armintor ("Dr. A")

My Pronouns: She/They

My Office Hours: By appt via Zoom or Phone

Email me 24/7 (response within 48 hours): dna@unt.edu or deborah.armintor@unt.edu

Text my cell 24/7 (response within 24 hours): 940-300-9857

My Zoom Classroom & Zoom Office:

<https://unt.zoom.us/j/6837842372>

Zoom by phone (audio only): 1 346-248-7799

Meeting ID: 683 784 2372

How to contact me with a question or to schedule an Office Hours appointment:

Email or Text me with your question or Office Hours appointment request at the email address or cell phone number listed above. Please do not attempt to reach me via Canvas chat, messenger, or any other Canvas interface. Be sure to state in the subject heading of every email and the body of each text: your full name, the name or number of the course, and your course section number.

Course Description: Reading philosophy alongside fiction, drama, poetry, and nonfiction prose of the "long eighteenth century," we will explore the many textual manifestations of Enlightenment thought and controversy.

Required Texts: None. Electronic links or attachments of required weekly course readings will be posted on our course Canvas page, linked weekly in the syllabus below.

Course Requirements and Grading

Test 1 and Test 2 (worth 33% of course grade each): Closed book, closed notes, without looking at the syllabus or using the internet except to access the test on CANVAS for those taking it electronically. Based on reading assignments and class discussion, each test will consist of 20 multiple choice questions, including some multiple-choice quote i.d's of passages discussed in class. Test 1 will be in class on 3/11 and will cover material from weeks 1-7 . Test 2 will be in class on 4/29 and will cover material from weeks 8-15. Each test is untimed and will begin at the class start time on the date specified. Each test can be taken on paper in person, on CANVAS in person, or on CANVAS in the virtual classroom. Students who need to take the test virtually at a different day or time (i.e. not during regular class hours) can let me know ahead of time to make arrangements.

There will be an in-class test review/Q&A session before the test. Notes from that review/Q&A session will be attached to the syllabus afterwards.

Critical Essay (33% of course grade, due 5/13): In this 6-page (or more) formal critical essay, you will introduce, develop, and sustain an original argument about any one or two of the philosophical and/or literary texts covered in the class, or any other philosophical and/or literary work by that/those author(s). In addition to the scheduled class essay workshop/Q&A session listed below, I am available to meet with you individually to brainstorm essay topics or read any kind of partial or impartial draft and offer feedback.

In each paragraph, be sure to quote directly and selectively from the text you're critiquing, and to analyze those passages closely and creatively, with attention to detail and context. Avoid dwelling on points we've already covered in class, unless it's a point that you made in class yourself. You may freely refer to any point already covered in class if you're using it as a springboard to saying something new. Avoiding the obvious: With every point you make, be sure to move beyond "arguing" a point that, though true, should be obvious to any other intelligent reader in the class. Good essays take the risk of introducing a counterintuitive or surprising argument that is somehow "new"; otherwise, it's not worth stating at all.

Formatting: essays must be 6 pages or more, 1.5- or double-spaced, in a reasonable font (11 or 12-point Times New Roman, for instance), and with 1 inch margins all around, submitted electronically via the course CANVAS page. If you choose to consult, reference, or quote from any sources not listed on the syllabus, you must provide an MLA-style "Works Cited" list on a separate page at the end of your essay (See: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_works_cited_page_basic_format.html), and cite any quotes or references to those texts parenthetically within the body of your essay.

Making it through the semester (worth 1% of course grade): Congrats in advance. You got this!

COURSE POLICIES

COVID Safety & Respecting Boundaries:

UNT strongly encourages, but does not require, all students and instructors to wear an N95 or KN95 mask indoors, regardless of vaccination status, to protect ourselves and others from COVID infection, as recommended by current CDC guidelines for the recent COVID variants. UNT mask guidelines could change based on community health conditions, but for now instructors are prohibited from requiring masks in the classroom. However, if you choose to be in my classroom without a mask for whatever reason, I urge you to respect the personal boundaries and unknown health considerations of your fellow students and instructor by sitting as far from your classmates and instructor as the classroom setup allows. You never know who is immunocompromised or has immunocompromised or otherwise vulnerable family or roommates at home.

COVID Self-Care & Community Care:

If you are experiencing any COVID symptoms (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also

requires you to contact the UNT COVID Team at COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure. Please get vaccinated and boosted, and please get tested, notify the UNT COVID Team above, and isolate for the time they recommend if you test positive. To learn more about UNT's vaccine incentive program: <https://healthalerts.unt.edu/vaccine>

Virtual Participation Option, Livestreaming, & Recording:

I will be livestreaming and recording all classes via the Zoom link at the top left-hand corner of the syllabus to accommodate students who can't wear a mask or choose not to wear one for any reason, as well as students who can't make it to campus for any reason, including confirmed illness, possible illness, COVID exposure, or possible COVID symptoms (no doctor's note necessary), mental health day, or any kind of unexpected emergency. You can participate via livestream from campus, home, or anywhere else with wifi access.

Required Physical or Virtual Attendance & Participation:

Regular attendance --physical, virtual, or some combination thereof-- is mandatory to succeed in this course. If you don't attend, it will be impossible to do well on the graded assignments. In addition to regular attendance, I expect active participation of all students. Active participation manifests itself differently in everyone, depending on your learning style, personality, introversion, or extroversion, etc., but always includes having the day's assigned reading with you (either a physical copy, or an electronic copy), following along in the reading as we discuss various passages, and being visibly and/or audibly engaged in the discussion at hand (knitting, doodling, etc., or moving about/fidgeting in the classroom is perfectly fine, whatever it takes for you to be comfortable and stay engaged, as long as you're respecting the boundaries, health, and safety of others!).

Missed Classes:

If you are unable to attend class in any form (neither in person nor via livestream), you do not need to give me a written or oral excuse, but you are responsible for keeping up with the readings, discussions, and class recordings on your own. I am willing and able to meet with students outside the classroom via phone or Zoom office hours by appointment, but only to supplement our regularly scheduled class meetings, not as a replacement for missed class

meetings. Weekly Zoom recordings will be posted in the syllabus beneath each course date for anyone who misses class and for studying/review purposes.

How to contacting me with a question or to schedule an appointment:

Email or Text me at the address/number listed in the upper left-hand corner of this syllabus. Be sure to state in the subject heading of every email and the body of each text: your full name, the name or number of the course, and your course section number.

Plagiarism Policy:

Any student who plagiarizes will receive an automatic "F" for the course. For UNT's full Academic Integrity Policy, see: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

Compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act:

The right to equal access and accomodation for people with disabilities is guaranteed under federal civil rights law by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), regardless of student status or UNT Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) registration. Reasonable accomodation and equal access for students with disabilities are important to me regardless of ODA status, and I will seek to accommodate you however I can; just let me know. Students seeking specific accommodations at UNT through ODA, however, must first register with the ODA to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that the ODA requires that students obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access>.

SYLLABUS

Readings & assignments are due on the days listed below. Readings are subject to change based on pace of class discussion. Any changes to the reading will be announced in class on the class day prior and adjusted in the CANVAS syllabus accordingly.

Week 1: Intro to Enlightenment Thought

M, 1/17: MLK Day (No Class)

W, 1/19: Intro to the Course

Recording-1(200 MB)

https://unt.zoom.us/rec/play/C6H9YUB-N5B2nZZUhqnBNRppopEo0e40yfvnjakCpKtgoetT1clA9OMunAoTbSxjkTc2S6MaKG6QEunO.r22udmn_NvQitl2S

F, 1/21: Pope, "Essay on Man," Epistle 1:

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/44899/an-essay-on-man-epistle-i> (Optional additional reading: Goldsmith, "Elegy on the Death of a Mad Dog:")

https://www.poetry-archive.com/g/an_elegy_on_the_death_of_a_mad_dog.html

Recording-1(210 MB)

https://unt.zoom.us/rec/play/LMLDQfP0b3DtJoL12QNI9ieV7pCuBJh9nR_sqUI-HMb-SP6cJ5PwUdn3we5m2Bp8obv0sBhohGeuUc4L.qIOirf8F1w8CYX2_

Week 2: Descartes & Locke

M, 1/24: Descartes, Meditations on First Philosophy, Meditations 1 – 3:

https://yale.learningu.org/download/041e9642-df02-4eed-a895-70e472df2ca4/H2665_Descartes%27%20Meditations.pdf

W, 1/26: Descartes, Meditations on First Philosophy, Meditations 4 – 6:
https://yale.learningu.org/download/041e9642-df02-4eed-a895-70e472df2ca4/H2665_Descartes%27%20Meditations.pdf

F, 1/28: Locke, Book III: Of Words, Chapters I, II, III, & IV, Essay Concerning Human Understanding: <https://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/10616/pg10616-images.html>

Week 3: Hume & Bacon

M, 2/7: Hume, Section 10: Miracles, Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding, pp. 55-68:
https://www.earlymoderntexts.com/assets/pdfs/hume1748_3.pdfhttps://www.earlymoderntexts.com/assets/pdfs/hume1748_3.pdf

W, 2/9: Bacon, Aphorisms, Novum Organum, pp. 17-50: [Novum_Organum.pdf](#)

F, 2/11: Bacon, Aphorisms, Novum Organum, pp. 50-94: (see link above)

Week 4: The Basset Table & Sir Isaac Newton's Philosophy Explained for the Use of the Ladies

M, 2/14: Centlivre, The Basset Table:

<https://quod.lib.umich.edu/e/ecco/004787500.0001.000?rgn=main;view=fulltext>

W, 2/16: Algorotti, The First Dialogue and Dialogue 2, Sir Isaac Newton's Philosophy Explained for the Use of the Ladies: <https://www.newtonproject.ox.ac.uk/catalogue/record/OTHE00104>

F, 2/18: Swift, Gulliver's Travels, Lilliput Section: <https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/829>

Week 5: Gulliver's Travels

M, 2/21: : Swift, Gulliver's Travels, Brobdingnag Section:

<https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/829>

W, 2/23: Swift, Gulliver's Travels, Laputa Section:

<https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/829>

F, 2/25: Swift, Gulliver's Travels, Houynymns Section:

<https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/829>

Week 6: Economics & "A Modest Proposal"

M, 2/28: Mandeville, "The Grumbling Hive: Or, Knaves Turned Honest," i.e. the poem before the introduction to The Fable of the Bees; Or Private Vices, Public Benefits, pp. 1-12:

<https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/57260>

W, 3/2: Smith, Introduction and Book I, Chapters I, II, III, IV, & V, The Wealth of Nations:

<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/3300/3300-h/3300-h.htm#chap01>

F, 3/4: Swift, "A Modest Proposal": <https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/1080>

Week 7:

M, 3/7: Prep/Q&A for Test 1

W, 3/9: Prep/Q&A for Test 1

F, 3/11: TEST 1 (IN CLASS)

Week 8: Spring Break: No Classes 3/14-3/18

Week 9: The Ancients vs. The Moderns

M, 3/21: Rousseau, A Critique of Progress: ; Voltaire, In Defense of Modernity: ;

W, 3/23: Sir William Temple, An Essay upon the Ancient and Modern Learning:

F, 3/25: William Wotton, Reflections upon Ancient and Modern Learning

Week 10: The Battel of the Books

M, 3/28: Swift, The Battel of the Books

W, 3/30: Swift, The Battel of the Books

F, 4/1: Swift, The Battel of the Books

Week 11: Equal Rights

M, 4/4: Rousseau, "Discourse on the Origin of Inequality"; Rousseau, "The Social Contract"

W, 4/6: Paine, "The Rights of Man"

F, 4/8: Kant, "Idea for a Universal History from a Cosmopolitan Perspective"

Week 12: Cosmopolitanism

M, 4/11: Kant, "Toward Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch"

W, 4/13: Equiano, The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano

F, 4/15: Equiano, The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano

Week 13: The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano

M, 4/18: Equiano, The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano

W, 4/20: Rousseau, "Duties of Women"; de Gouges, "The Rights of Woman"

F, 4/22: Lady Mary Chudleigh, "To the Ladies;" Swift, "The Ladies Dressing Room" and "A Beautiful Young Nymph Going to Bed"

Week 14: Chudleigh's "To the Ladies," and Swift's Poems on Women

M, 4/25: Prep/Q&A for Test 2

W, 4/27: Prep/Q&A for Test 2

F, 4/29: Test 2 in class

Week 15, Pre-Finals Week (no new reading):

M, 5/2: Critical Essay Workshop; Evaluations

W, 5/4: Critical Essay Workshop; Evaluations; last day of class

F, 5/6: No Class

FRIDAY, MAY 13th: CRITICAL ESSAY 2 DUE ON CANVAS BY 11:59 PM

Note: There is no final exam in this course.