

ENGLISH 425/524: EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE, 2

Winter-Spring 2004
Katz Pharmacy Building 002
T-R 5:15-6:30
Office Hours: T 3:15-4:45, R 12:30-2:00
<http://georgehwilliams.net>

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

The second half of the eighteenth century in Britain is characterized by the continuing escalation of commercial print production, the emergence of the professional author, and the establishment of “literature” and literary criticism in their modern senses. Debates over colonization, Christian evangelicalism, the slave trade, the rights of women, and the French Revolution ran hot during these decades. These and other developments will be our concerns as we read selections from poetry, fiction, autobiography, drama, essays, journalism, sermons, and philosophical treatises. Students are expected to think for themselves, to form strong opinions, to disagree, to argue persuasively and eloquently when they speak and when they write.

REQUIRED TEXTS

William Blake, *Songs of Innocence and Experience* ISBN 0486252647
Frances Burney, *Evelina* ISBN 0192840312
Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative* ISBN 0142437166
Samuel Johnson *The Major Works* ISBN 0192840428
Richard Brinsley Sheridan, *The School for Scandal* ISBN 0486266877
Horace Walpole, *The Castle of Otranto* ISBN 0192834401
Phillis Wheatley, *Complete Writings* ISBN 014042430X
Mary Wollstonecraft, *Vindication of the Rights of Woman* ISBN 0140433821

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

15%	Participation online and in class	Details provided later in syllabus.
20%	Annotated Bibliography	<i>Undergraduate students:</i> Annotations of five works of scholarship on a topic of your choice. <i>Graduate students:</i> Annotations of ten works of scholarship on a topic of your choice. Due March 30.
35%	Final paper	5%: A 2-page prospectus. Due April 13. 30%: <i>Undergraduate students:</i> A 10- to 15-page critical essay. <i>Graduate students:</i> A 15- to 20-page critical essay. Due May 7 in 106 Cockefair.
30%	5 substantial quizzes (dates TBA)	Quiz 1: Quiz 2: Quiz 3: Quiz 4: Quiz 5:

Mandatory Conference

You cannot pass this course without completing this non-graded assignment. Let me know when it would be convenient to discuss your work, either during my office hours or at some other time on a Tuesday or a Thursday.

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance: I keep track of attendance. Your regular attendance and participation are vital to the success of this class. You may miss three classes without penalty. Your final grade for the course will drop half a letter grade for every class missed beyond that.

Format for written assignments: All work done outside of class to be turned in must be typed or produced on a word processor. Do not put your name on the papers you turn in. Your papers should have the following: no cover page; one-inch margins all the way around the page; text that is 12 point/10 cpi (type face of Courier or Times New Roman); page numbers on every page; one staple in the upper left-hand corner. I do not accept papers turned in as email attachments; however, to provide you with (hopefully) helpful feedback, I am happy to look at an early draft of a paper sent via email attachment at least four business days before the paper is due. If I ask you to rewrite one of your papers, you must turn in the first graded version of the paper along with your revision. I grade anonymously, so don't put your name on the paper. The first page must have your social-security number, the due date, the course number, and my name on the first page in the upper left-hand corner, like this:

123-45-6789
January 13, 2003
English 317
Chris Student

Late papers: I will accept one paper late by as much as one class period with no questions asked, but each additional weekday after the one day of grace will lower your paper's grade by one letter grade. If you wish to take advantage of the late paper policy, you must attach a written explanation for the late paper to the paper. After that one paper, I will not accept late papers. You will receive no credit for any additional papers turned in late. Only documented, excused absences will deserve any special consideration. This policy is non-negotiable.

Disabilities: If you have any special needs that will affect your performance in this course, please let me know as soon as possible so that I might work to meet your needs. If you have not done so already, you should consider visiting the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities in room 350 of the Administrative Center. 816-235-5696 - <<http://www.umkc.edu/disability/>> - disability@umkc.edu

Academic Dishonesty: Students are expected to be familiar with the code of student conduct printed in the UMKC General Catalog and on the UMKC website. In this course, any act of dishonesty on an assignment automatically earns a student a grade of 0 (zero) for that assignment as well as referral to the appropriate UMKC office.

More on Communication: You should take advantage of my office hours, during which time I am happy to talk with you in person. You may also call me on my office telephone, send me an email, or instant message me (feel free to add me to your list of contacts in your instant messaging client). I respond to phone calls and IMs instantaneously (if you reach me), and I respond to emails within 2 business days. Note: In the time before and after class, I am usually distracted and concentrating on what I have to say that particular day. If you have something important to communicate to me, put it in writing and give it to me on paper or via email. You can also speak with me, of course, but I do not guarantee that I will remember what you've told me or asked me unless you also put it in writing. Do not assume that you have my assent or permission for something unless I have put it in writing and given it to you.

Details on Participation

All students are required to participate in discussions online and in class. However, if you would prefer to participate *only* online, then you have the option of keeping an online reading journal in which you will make one relatively informal, 250-word entry every week. You must contact me by the end of the second week of class if you wish to take this option.

Online Questions: You will be responsible for posting on the course website two to three relatively detailed discussion questions related to a given day's reading assignment. To access the appropriate page, click on the date in the calendar on the lefthand side of the course website. A signup sheet will determine which day will feature your questions. The deadline for posting is 24 hours before the class meets. For example, if you are responsible for the discussion questions related to the reading for Thursday, January 29, then you must post by Wednesday, January 28 at 2:00 p.m. at the latest. If you do not meet this deadline, your participation grade for the course will be lowered by 3 points.

Online Responses: You will also be responsible twice for replying to discussion questions posted by a fellow student. Again, the signup sheet will determine which days are your responsibility. The deadline for responding is midnight of the day before the class meets. For example, if you are responding to the questions for Thursday, January 29, you must do so by midnight on Wednesday, January 28. If you do not meet this deadline, your participation grade for the course will be lowered by 3 points.

Participation in class: When the class meets, I will ask the student who posed that day's questions on the course website to read them to the class. I will also ask the students who responded to that day's questions to share their answers with the class. Class discussion involving the rest of the students will then follow. If you are absent on the day you are expected to participate according to this system, your participation grade for the course will be lowered by 3 points.

Even students who have not been assigned to ask or answer questions online should check in on these online exchanges and feel free to participate.

Every student is expected to complete each day's reading assignment in time for class, to make some notes containing their thoughts on the reading, and to be prepared to participate in the discussion taking place that day concerning the reading.

ENGL425/524 CALENDAR

*material that I will supply to you

T	Jan 13	Introduction to the course and to each other.
R	Jan 15	Samuel Johnson, 1 st half of <i>The History of Rasselas, Prince of Abyssinia</i>
T	Jan 20	Johnson, 2 nd half of <i>The History of Rasselas, Prince of Abyssinia</i> Nicholas Hudson, "Discourse of Tradition: Johnson, the 1750s, and the Rise of the Middle Class" (handout)
R	Jan 22	Johnson, <i>An Account of the Life of Mr Richard Savage</i> , and <i>The Vanity of Human Wishes</i>

- T Jan 27 Johnson, "Preface" and "Specimen Entries" from *A Dictionary of the English Language*; *Rambler* 4, 23, 36, 37, 60, 121, 145, 156; *Adventurer* 85; *Idler* 60, 61, 84
- R Jan 29 Horace Walpole, *The Castle of Otranto*
*Excerpts from Edmund Burke's *Enquiry into the Sublime and Beautiful*
- T Feb 3 Walpole, *The Castle of Otranto*
- R Feb 5 *Graveyard Poets
- T Feb 10 *Evangelicalism in the Anglo-American World
- R Feb 12 *Evangelicalism
- T Feb 17 Phillis Wheatley, *Complete Writings*
- R Feb 19 Wheatley, *Complete Writings*
- T Feb 24 Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative*
- R Feb 26 No class. GHW in Columbia, MO for New Faculty Teaching Scholars event.
- T Mar 2 Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative*
- R Mar 4 Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative*
- F Mar 5 Last day for to withdraw without assessment. After this date, withdrawals may be academically assessed which may result in a Withdraw Failing if the students are failing at the time of withdrawal.
- T Mar 9 Spring Break – No class
- R Mar 11 Spring Break – No class
- T Mar 16 Richard Sheridan, *The School for Scandal*
- R Mar 18 Sheridan, *Scandal*
- T Mar 23 Oliver Goldsmith, **The Deserted Village*
George Crabbe, *selections from *The Village*
- R Mar 25 Frances Burney, *Evelina*
*Excerpts from Conduct Books
- T Mar 30 Burney, *Evelina*
Annotated bibliography due
- R Apr 1 Burney, *Evelina*

- F Apr 2 Last day for undergraduates to withdraw with Academic assessment. Academic assessment will result in a "Withdraw Failing" if students are failing at the time of withdrawal
- T Apr 6 Burney, *Evelina*
- R Apr 8 Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*
- T Apr 13 Wollstonecraft, *Vindication*
Prospectus due
- R Apr 15 Wollstonecraft, *Vindication*
- T Apr 20 William Blake, *Songs of Innocence*
- R Apr 22 Blake, *Songs of Experience*
- T Apr 27 Peer editing workshop on final paper
- R Apr 29 University Reading Day – No class
- May 7 **Final paper** is due in Cockefair 106 by the end of the day on Thursday, May 6