**ENGL 530: Eighteenth-Century Fiction and the Self**

**Spring 2019**

Class meetings: Mondays 2-4:30, THH 105

Professor: Emily Anderson, English Department, THH 402J

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Office Hours: Wednesdays, 10:30-12pm, or by appointment

Structured as a broad overview to the eighteenth-century novel and its associated criticism, this seminar also interrogates the autobiographical and biographical elements that exist within these works. How and when do we identify these elements, and what are the implications of their inclusion? What historical factors might influence the interplay between fiction and personal reference, and how has this interplay been accounted for in contemporary criticism? The course will be structured in four units to address these questions, each anchored by a specific text from the long eighteenth century: Aphra Behn’s *Oroonoko*, Laurence Sterne’s *Tristram Shandy*, Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein*, and Jane Austen’s *Emma*. Within these units, students will be exposed to both older and more recent criticism on these works. Students will also have a chance to link these critical topics to contemporary debates (about cultural appropriation, approaches to celebrity culture, the impact of the environment on the individual, and trajectories in feminism in light of the recent #metoo movement).

**Assignments and Grade Breakdown:**

Assignments will include:

1. Two tiny (500-750 word) papers in response to the indicated prompts. **20%**
2. An annotated bibliography (minimum 10 items) of current (past fifteen years) criticism on a given primary text—bring copies of your bibliography to circulate with the class. On the day your bibliography is due, you will also present to the class one article selected from it. **20%**
3. A written book review of a recent (last ten years) monograph on the eighteenth-century novel, as selected from the list of texts under “book reviews” (1500-3000 words). **20%**
4. A final, article-length seminar paper with appropriate bibliography (6000-9000 words approx.) You will present a redacted version of your argument, conference style, in the next-to-last week of class. **40%**

Students will also take turns leading part of selected class discussions, as inspired by an individual passage chosen from that day’s primary text. On your day to lead discussion, bring transcribed and printed copies of your passage for distribution to the class.

**Book List**

Copies of these texts have been ordered and are available at the bookstore:

Aphra Behn, *Oroonoko* (Norton)

Laurence Sterne, *Tristram Shandy* (Norton)

Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein* (Norton)

Jane Austen, *Emma* (Norton)

Additional readings marked by an \* have been uploaded to the HANDOUTS folder on blackboard. (Alternately articles can be accessed via JSTOR or Project Muse.) Please print them out and bring hard copies to class on the designated days.

**Book Reviews**

Copies of the following monographs can be borrowed from me for the semester:

--Sarah Kareem, *Eighteenth-Century Fiction and the Reinvention of Wonder* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2014)

--Joseph Drury, *Novel Machines: Technology and Narrative Form in Enlightenment Britain* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2018)

--Jesse Molesworth, *Chance and the Eighteenth-Century Novel: Realism, Probability, Magic* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2010)

--Tina Lupton, *Reading and the Making of Time in the Eighteenth Century* (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins UP, 2018)

--Sandra MacPherson, *Harm’s Way: Tragic Responsibility and the Novel Form* (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins UP, 2010)

--Emily Hodgson Anderson, *Eighteenth-Century Authorship and the Play of Fiction* (NY: Routledge, 2009)

--Jonathan Kramnick, *Paper Minds: Literature and the Ecology of Consciousness* (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2018)

**Schedule of Assignments (readings may be subject to revision):**

**Week 1**

Monday, January 7—Definitions

--“Fiction” in the *OED.* (access online)

--Ian Watt, “Realism and the Novel Form,” *The Rise of the Novel* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1957), 9-34\*

--Catherine Gallagher, “The Rise of Fictionality,” in *The Novel: Vol. 1*, ed. Franco Moretti (Princeton, NJ: Princeton UP, 2006), pp. 336-349.\*

<https://www.albany.edu/english/files/Gallagher_Fictionality.pdf>

\*\*Sign up for book review, passage presentations, and bibliography presentations in class \*\*

**Week 2**

Monday, January 14—Early approaches to fiction

Behn, *Oroonoko*

--Ernest Bernbaum, “Mrs. Behn’s Biography a Fiction,” PMLA 28.3 (1913): 432–53.\*

-- Robert Chibka, “‘O! Do Not Fear a Woman’s Invention’: Truth, Falsehood, and Fiction in Aphra Behn’s Oroonoko,” Texas Studies in Language and Literature 30 (1988): 510–37.\*

-- Katharine M. Rogers, “Fact and Fiction in Aphra Behn’s Oroonoko,” Studies in the Novel 20.1 (Spring 1988): 1–15.\*

[--Philippe Lejeune, “The Autobiographical Pact,” in *On Autobiography*, trans. Katherine Leary (University of Minnesota Press, 1989), 1-30.\* **recommended]**

Passage exercise: \_\_\_\_\_\_Professor A.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Week 3**

Monday, January 21

**NO CLASS: Tiny Paper #1—due by 2pm by email**

Based on your reading so far, how would you define “fiction” (in 750 words or less)? Cite material from *Oroonoko*.

\*\*Start reading for book review assignments.\*\*

**Week 4**

Monday, January 28—Who Gets To Tell Whose Story?

Behn, *Oroonoko*

--Catherine Gallagher, “Who Was That Masked Woman? The Prostitute and the Playwright in the Works of Aphra Behn,” and “The Author-Monarch and the Royal Slave: Oroonoko and the Blackness of Representation” in *Nobody’s Story: The Vanishing Acts of Women in the Marketplace, 1670-1820* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1994), 1-87.\*

--Nancy K. Miller, “The Entangled Self: Genre Bondage in the Age of Memoir,” *PMLA* 122.2 (2007): 537-48.\*

Passage exercise: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Bibliography due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Week 5**

Monday, February 4—Birth of an Author (Sterne vs. Tristram?)

Sterne, *Tristram Shandy,* Vols. 1-4

--Frank Donoghue, “‘I wrote not to be fed, but to be famous’: Laurence Sterne,” in *The Fame Machine, Book Reviewing and Eighteenth-Century Literary Careers* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1996), 56-85.\*

--David A. Brewer, “Shandyism and the Club of True Feelers,” in *The Afterlife of Character, 1726-1825* (Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2005), 154-188.\*

Passage analysis: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Week 6**

Monday, February 11—Auto/biography and celebrity culture

*Tristram Shandy*, Vols. 5-9

--Julia Fawcett, “Creating Character in ‘*Chiaro Oscuro*’: Sterne’s Celebrity, Cibber’s *Apology* and the Life of *Tristram Shandy*.” *The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation* 53.2 (Summer 2012): 141-162.\* --Joseph Roach, “Celebrity Culture and the Problem of Biography,” *Shakespeare Quarterly* 65.4 (Winter 2014): 470-81.\* --Emily Hodgson Anderson, “Theatrical *Tristram*: Sterne and *Hamlet* Reconsidered,” *ECF* 27.3-4 (Spring-Summer 2015), 661-80.\*

Passage analysis: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Bibliography due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Week 7**

Monday, February 18

**NO CLASS—**View film: *A Cock and Bull Story*

**Tiny Paper #2: due by 2pm by email**

Based on your reading so far, how would you define “the self” (in 750 words or less)? Cite material from *Tristram*.

**Week 8**

Monday, February 25—Early Feminism as Auto/Biography

Shelley, *Frankenstein*

### --Ellen Moers, “Female Gothic,” reprinted in *The Endurance of "Frankenstein": Essays on Mary Shelley's Novel*, ed. George Levine and U. C. Knoeflmacher (Berkeley, Los Angeles, and London: Univ. of California Press, 1979), pp. 77-87.\*

### --Sandra Gilbert and Susan Gubar, “Horror’s Twin: Mary Shelley’s Monstrous Eve,” in *The Madwoman in the Attic: The Woman Writer and the Nineteenth-Century Literary Imagination* (New Haven: Yale Univ. Press, 1979), 213-47.\*

### --Barbara Johnson, “My Monster / My Self,” *Diacritics* 12 (Summer 1992), 2-10.\*

Passage analysis: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Week 9 [[next time add in the Margaret Homans “Bearing the Word”?]]**

Monday, March 4: Later Feminism as Auto/Biography

Shelley, *Frankenstein*

--Toril Moi, “The Madwoman in the Attic” in *Sexual / Textual Politics* (London: Routledge, 1985), 57-59.\*

--Anne K. Mellor, “Possessing Nature: The Female in *Frankenstein*, in *Romanticism and Feminism* (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1988), 220-232.\*

--Bette London, “Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*, and the Spectacle of Masculinity,” *PMLA*, 108 (March 1993), 253-67.\*

## *--*Colleen Hobbs, “Reading the Symptoms: An Exploration of Repression and Hysteria” in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein,” Studies in the Novel*, 25:2 (Summer 1993), 152-69.\*

Passage analysis: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Bibliography due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

W**eek 10—SPRING BREAK**

COMPLETE BOOK REVIEW DRAFT: due to me by email Sunday March 17th by noon.

**Week 11**

Monday, March 18—The Life of Afterlives

Shelley, *Frankenstein*

-- Mary Shelley, “Introduction, 1831,” in Norton edition, pp. 165-69.

--Jill Lepore, “The Strange, Twisted Life of *Frankenstein*, *The New Yorker*, February 12&19, 2018

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2018/02/12/the-strange-and-twisted-life-of-frankenstein>

--Shelley / Godwin archive (explore *Frankenstein* ms): <http://shelleygodwinarchive.org>

--Jennifer Howard, “The Birth of ‘Frankenstein,’” *The Chronicle of Higher Education,* 7 November 2008: <https://www-chronicle-com.libproxy1.usc.edu/article/The-Birth-of-Frankenstein/27400/?key=SXBH5A7pu2HyU8hFyx7vUvuLMJoVokLjGwMLXPn0FQ7xSx3M_RIeXIdRexR3lQrTZTJwV19ERlZRSmNnOHVsY3VOV1M2a01RQ1pkZzR5WFFNYjRJajU4RUwyVQ>

--Jennifer Howard, “Frankenstein’s Manuscript Draws Its First Breath Online,” *The Chronicle for Higher Education*, 30 October 2013: <https://www-chronicle-com.libproxy1.usc.edu/article/Frankensteins-Manuscript/142701/#.XIfEjVPSFpk.email>

Passage analysis: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Bibliography due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*sign up for Book Review conferences with me\*\*

**Week 12**

Monday, March 25—Later fiction and the search for authors, Part One

Austen, *Emma*

--Lionel Trilling, “*Emma* and the Legend of Jane Austen,” in *Beyond Culture: Essays on Literature and Learning* (NY: Viking, 1965), 31-55.\*

--Sandra Gilbert and Susan Gubar, “Jane Austen’s Cover Story (And Her Secret Agents),” in *The Madwoman in the Attic*: *The Woman Writer and the Nineteenth-Century Literary Imagination* (New Haven: Yale Univ. Press, 1979),146-186.\*

Passage analysis: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Bibliography due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Week 13**

Monday, April 1-- Later fiction and the search for authors, Part Two

Austen, *Emma*

--Nancy Armstrong, “The Self Contained: Emma,” in *Desire and Domestic Fiction: A Political History of the Novel* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 1987),134-60.\*

--D.A. Miller, “No One is Alone” and “Broken Art,” in *Jane Austen: Or, the Secret of Style* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton UP, 2003), 31-92.\*

--Daniel P. Gunn, “Free Indirect Discourse and Narrative Authority in *Emma*,” *Narrative* 12.1 (January 2004): 35-54.\*

--Peter Goldie, “Free Indirect Style and the Narrator’s External Perspective,” “Free Indirect Style and Memory,” from *The Mess Inside: Narrative, Emotion, and the Mind* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2012),32-39, 48-53.\*

Passage analysis: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Bibliography due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

April 4th: *Frankenstein* Visons and Voices Event

**Week 14**

Monday, April 8—#metoo Jane Austen?

Austen, *Emma*

*Clueless*, (view)

--Claire Harman, from *Jane’s Fame: How Jane Austen Conquered the World* (NY: Henry Holt, 2010), TBD.\*

--Devoney Looser, from *The Making of Jane Austen* (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2019), TBD.\*

--Devoney Looser, “Jane Austen, Political Symbol of Early Feminism,” <https://lithub.com/jane-austen-political-symbol-of-early-feminism/>

--Sandra M. Gilbert, “In the Labyrinth of #metoo,” <https://theamericanscholar.org/in-the-labyrinth-of-metoo/#.XBv8uC2ZP-Z>

Passage analysis: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Bibliography due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Week 15**

Monday, April 15

Class Presentations: 15 min redaction from / introduction to your final seminar paper, presented conference style

**Week 16**

Monday, April 22—Final thoughts

--Alexander Chee, “The Autobiography of My Novel,” in *How to Write an Autobiographical Novel* (NY: Houghton Mifflin, 2018), 197-220.\*

--Jami Attenberg, <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/23/books/review/stop-reading-my-fiction-as-the-story-of-my-life.html>

\*\*BOOK REVIEW WORKSHOP\*\*

**FINAL PAPERS DUE MONDAY, May 6th, by 2pm**

**Email to me as a word doc (FIRSTNAME.doc)**

**HELPFUL LINKS**

(all of these will be supplemented by discussions in class)

How to write an annotated bibliography:

<https://guides.library.cornell.edu/annotatedbibliography>

Writing a scholarly book review:

<https://wendybelcher.com/writing-advice/how-to-write-book-review/>

<https://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2015/03/27/essay-writing-academic-book-reviews>

<http://libguides.usc.edu/c.php?g=235208&p=1560694>

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Academic Conduct:

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” https://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b/.  Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable.  See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct.

Support Systems:

Student Counseling Services (SCS) - (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention. https://engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling/

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1-800-273-8255

Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Relationship & Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-4900 - 24/7 on call

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm. https://engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp/

Sexual Assault Resource Center

For more information about how to get help or help a survivor, rights, reporting options, and additional resources, visit the website: http://sarc.usc.edu/

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)/Title IX compliance – (213) 740-5086

Works with faculty, staff, visitors, applicants, and students around issues of protected class. https://equity.usc.edu/

Bias Assessment Response and Support

Incidents of bias, hate crimes and microaggressions need to be reported allowing for appropriate investigation and response. https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support/

Student Support & Advocacy – (213) 821-4710

Assists students and families in resolving complex issues adversely affecting their success as a student EX: personal, financial, and academic. https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa/

Diversity at USC – https://diversity.usc.edu/

Tabs for Events, Programs and Training, Task Force (including representatives for each school), Chronology, Participate, Resources for Students