

English 9137A
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After 2000: Theory, Criticism, and the Eighteenth-Century Novel

This course will investigate prose fiction before 1800 and how developments in literary theory since 2000—the new materialisms, affect theory, the global Enlightenment, among others—take us back to the philosophical and cultural contexts that shaped the novel’s early articulations and reformulations of its predecessors. We will conclude by reading Coetzee’s *Disgrace* as an instance of how, in light of the novel’s engagement with *Clarissa*, we read the eighteenth-century novel now.

Book list

Behn, *Oroonoko*
 Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe* (Oxford)
 Richardson, *Clarissa* (Broadview, abridged)
 Fielding, *Joseph Andrews* (Oxford)
 Austen, *Emma* (Oxford)
 Coetzee, *Disgrace* (Vintage)
 Baron-Cohen, *Mindblindness*
 Derrida, *The Animal that Therefore I am*
 Latour, *We Have Never Been Modern*
 Course reader: Selected readings in criticism

Sept. 14: introduction to the class: please come prepared to sign up for your seminar presentations. You’ll need to have first and second choices; you’re presenting on one theory/and or criticism; and one novel.

Sept. 21: Anderson, “Cosmopolitanism, Universalism, and the Divided Legacies of Modernity”: Aphra Behn, *Oroonoko*; Srinivas Aravamudan, from *Tropicopolitans*

Sept. 28: from Bruno Latour, *We Have Never Been Modern*, (1-48); *Robinson Crusoe*; Festa, “Crusoe’s Island of Misfit Things”

Oct. 5: Baron-Cohen, *Mindblindness*; Vermeule, “Mind Blindness”

Oct 12: Fielding, *Joseph Andrews*

Oct. 19: Elspeth Probyn, “Writing Shame” (*Affect Theory Reader*); *Clarissa*

Oct. 26: library class: I am at a conference this week. Meet in the Electronic Instruction Room of Weldon Library.

- Nov. 2: *Clarissa*; Chad Loewen-Schmidt, "Pity, or the Providence of the Body in Richardson's *Clarissa*," *Eighteenth-Century Fiction* 22.1 (2009): 1-28.
- Nov. 9: "Doing Genre," Group Phi (*New Formalisms*), *Emma*
- Nov. 16: *Emma*; Frances Ferguson, "Jane Austen, *Emma*, and the Impact of Form"; D.A. Miller, "No One is Alone"
- Nov. 23: Derrida, *The Animal that Therefore I Am* (1-117)
- Nov. 30: *Disgrace*: Shukin, "Tense Animals"
- Dec. 7: essay synopsis presentations

Seminars (15% each)

Your seminar on theory/criticism consists of two parts: a written introduction to the theory we're reading (5-6 pp.), and a fifteen-minute presentation in class on that theory; if you are presenting on a work of criticism, you are responsible for a fifteen-minute presentation that looks closely at how the work of criticism engages a theoretical paradigm and the text we are reading; you need to bring a 5-6 pp. write up to hand in on the day of your presentation.

Your novel seminar is also fifteen-minutes long, and should focus on a key passage or problem that interests you. You may draw on any theoretical paradigm that interests you. You also need to bring a 5-6 pp. write up of your seminar to class.

Response Papers (5@5%; 25%)

You are required to send me a response paper (2 pp; 600 words) on each of the novels we are reading; **submit by email by Tuesday at 4 p.m.** You should focus your discussion on a key passage or idea; do not summarize or generalize. **The week you are presenting on a novel, you do not need to write a response.**

Research Paper (4500 words: 15 pp):

For your final research paper you are responsible for writing on one of the novels we've read. If this course is fulfilling your pre-1900 requirement, you may not write on Coetzee. You are required to incorporate theory into your analysis.

Due: Dec. 19

Your final grade will be arrived at as follows:

Seminars: 30%
 Essay: 40%
 Response Papers: 25%:
 In-class participation: 5%

Course Policies

Laptops: I do not permit the use of laptops in the classroom unless a student has been granted accommodation by the Student Learning Centre.

Please be sure to bring print copies of the criticism we are reading, which you can download from the links provided.

Plagiarism

The Senate of the University of Western Ontario writes:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words.

Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of a text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations.

Plagiarism is a major academic offense. See the Scholastic Offence Policy in Western Academic Calendar:

http://uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Mental Health: Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Download from JSTOR:

Shukin, Loewen-Schmidt, Ferguson, Festa, Probyn, Group Phi,

Course pack:

Anderson (in *Cosmopolitics*), Aravamudan, Miller, Vermeule

After 2000 Selected Readings

1. Cosmopolitanism

Appiah, Kwame A. Cosmopolitanism: Ethics in a World of Strangers. New York: W.W. Norton, 2006.

Habermas, Jürgen. The Postnational Constellation: Political Essays. Max Pensky ed. and trans.. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2001.

Heater, Derek. World Citizenship and Government: Cosmopolitan Ideas in the History of Western Political Thought. New York: St. Martin's, 1996.

Kleingeld, Pauline. Kant and Cosmopolitanism: The Philosophical Ideal of World Citizenship. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012.

Singer, Peter. One World: The Ethics of Globalization. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2002.

2. New Materialism/OOO Theory

Ahmed, Sarah. "Open Forum Imaginary Prohibitions: Some Preliminary Remarks on the Founding Gestures of the 'New Materialism.'" *European Journal of Women's Studies* 15. (2008): 23–39.

Barad, K. 2001. "Re(con)figuring Space, Time, and Matter," in *Feminist Locations: Global and Local, Theory and Practice*. Edi. M. DeKoven. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 75–109.

Bogost, Ian. Alien Phenomenology, Or, What It's Like to Be a Thing. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2012.

Bryant, Levi R. The Democracy of Objects. Ann Arbor: Open Humanities Press, 2011.

Coole, D. and S. Frost, eds. (2010). *New Materialisms: Ontology, Agency, and Politics*. Durham and London: Duke University Press.

Davis, Noela. "New Materialism and Feminism's Anti-Biologism: A Response to Sara Ahmed." *European Journal of Women's Studies* 16. 1 (2009): 67–80.

Dolphijn, Rick, and Iris van der Tuin, eds. New Materialism: Interviews & Cartographies. Ann Arbor, MI: Open Humanities Press, 2012.

Harman, Graham. Tool-being: Heidegger And the Metaphysics of Objects. Chicago: Open Court, 2002.

---. The Quadruple Object. Washington: Zero, 2011.

Latour, Bruno. We Have Never Been Modern. Translated by C. Porter. London: Prentice Hall, (1991) 1993.

Morton, Timothy. Realist Magic: Objects, Ontology, Causality. Ann Arbor, MI: Open Humanities Press, An imprint of MPublishing, University of Michigan Library, 2013.

---. The Ecological Thought. 1st Harvard University Press paperback ed. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2012.

O-zone: A Journal of Object-Oriented Studies. <http://o-zone-journal.org>.

van der Tuin, Iris. "Deflationary Logic: Response to Sara Ahmed's 'Imaginary Prohibitions: Some Preliminary Remarks on the Founding Gestures of the 'New Materialism.'" *European Journal of Women's Studies* 15.4 (2008): 411–6.

3. Theories of Mind

Baron-Cohen, Simon. Mindblindness: an Essay On Autism And Theory of Mind. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1997.

Churchland, Paul M.. The Engine of Reason, the Seat of the Soul: a Philosophical Journey Into the Brain. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1995.

Fodor, Jerry A. Hume Variations. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 2003.

Fodor, Jerry A. The Mind Doesn't Work That Way: the Scope And Limits of Computational Psychology. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2000.

Kramnick, Jonathan. "Empiricism, Cognitive Science, and the Novel." *The Eighteenth-Century: Theory and Interpretation* 48.3 (2007): 263-285. Special issue on "Empiricism and Narrative," ed. Helen Thompson and Natania Meeker.

Marcus, Gary F. The Algebraic Mind: Integrating Connectionism And Cognitive Science. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2001.

Putnam, Hilary. The Threefold Cord: Mind, Body, And World. New York: Columbia University Press, 1999.

5. Affect Theory

Gregg, Melissa and Gregory J. Seigworth, eds. The Affect Theory Reader. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2010.

Nathanson, Donald L. Shame And Pride: Affect, Sex, And the Birth of the Self. New York: Norton, 1992.

Tomkins, Silvan S. Affect Imagery Consciousness: the Complete Edition. New York: Springer Pub., 2008.

Jensen, Katharine Ann and Miriam L. Wallace, eds. *Special Topic: Emotions PMLA* 130.5 (October 2015).

Scarry, Elaine. The Body In Pain: the Making And Unmaking of the World. New York: Oxford University Press, 1985.

Tønder, Lars. Tolerance: a Sensorial Orientation to Politics. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.

6. New Formalism

Bogel, Fredric V.. New Formalist Criticism: Theory And Practice. Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013.

Jarman, Mark and David Mason, eds. Rebel Angels: 25 Poets of the New Formalism. Brownsville, OR: Story Line Press, 1996.

Levinson, Marjorie. "What is New Formalism?" *PMLA* 122.2 (2007): 558-569.

McPhillips, Robert. The New Formalism: A Critical Introduction. Cincinnati, OH: Textos Books, 2005. Print.

Prunty, Wyatt. "Fallen From the Symboled World": Precedents for the New Formalism. New York: Oxford University Press, 1990.

Theile, Verena and Linda Tredennick, eds. New Formalisms And Literary Theory. Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013.

7. Animal Theory/ Animal Studies

Bekoff, Mark, and Jessica Pierce. Wild Justice: The Moral Lives of Animals. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2009.

- Bekoff, Mark, and Colin Allen, eds. The Cognitive Animal: Empirical and Theoretical Perspectives on Animal Cognition. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2002.
- Daston, Lorraine and Gregg Mitman, eds. Thinking with Animals: New Perspectives on Anthropomorphism. New York: Columbia University Press, 2005.
- Hurley, Susan and Matthew Nudds, eds. Rational Animals? Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2006.
- Lurz, Robert. The Philosophy of Animal Minds. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009.
- de Waal, Frans. Primates and Philosophers: How Morality Evolved. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2006.