

HPEN6006/ 5006 The Rational World: Enlightenment and the Novel

Block 4: Jan 7 – Feb 1

Try to prepare as well as possible. **Use the preparation week to read as much as you can that you haven't managed to read beforehand.** This is especially important on a module dealing with the evolution of the novel and like box sets these novels were produced in instalments and then put together in the final version. We haven't that luxury of reading over time so you should try to read in the period leading up to the module. You could NEVER read *Pamela* or *Tristram Shandy* or *the Italian* – never mind the 19th Century novels - overnight! So start early and make notes or you will forget what you've read. You cannot afford to be left behind as you won't have time to recover.

The focus in these short block modules is on student centred and led learning so that you will devise your own question

Once the 4 week teaching block has begun you must write and post a blog of 200 words minimum every day. This is meant to help you discover what you find most interesting about the period and its extraordinary productions, it should also help you manage the intensity of the workload.

Making notes on both individual texts and secondary reading like this will enable you to engage with the core subject of the module, will serve as essential preparation for the essay/s to follow – and avoid the mistake of writing about one or two texts in isolation. Mulling over the work and responding to it will help you decide which issues are significant and thus enable you to formulate an area for research.

ASSESSMENT : two essays of 2,500 [L5] 3,000 [L.6] words

By the end of the first week you should have developed an idea about the area on which you would like to focus; by the end of the second you should have completed and submitted the first essay; by the end of the third week you should have built on your understanding and focused your interest; by the fourth you will have devised your question in consultation with the tutor and on the last day will complete the module in the form of a timed essay.

TEXTS

All primary and complementary texts available online for free; and in Kindle editions –most for free

Eighteenth Century:

Primary Texts (large novels)

Samuel Richardson (1740), *Pamela, or Virtue Rewarded* (London: Penguin Classics 1981)

Laurence Sterne (1759) *The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman* (Ware: Wordsworth, 1996)

Complementary texts (shorter work)

Ann Radcliffe(1797), *The Italian: or, The Confessional of the Black Penitents* (Ware: Wordsworth, 2011)

Jonathan Swift (1729), *A Modest Proposal: For Preventing the Children of Poor People in Ireland from Being a Burden to Their Parents or Country, and for Making Them Beneficial to the Publick*, (commonly referred to as *A Modest Proposal*) (New York: Dover, 2000)

Nineteenth Century

Primary Texts (large novels)

Jane Austen (1814), *Mansfield Park* (London: Penguin Classics, 2007)

Wilkie Collins (1860), *The Woman In White* (London: Penguin Classics 2012)

Complementary texts (shorter work)

Lewis Carroll (1865), *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (Ware: Wordsworth 1992)

Robert Louis Stevenson (1886), *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (Ware: Wordsworth 1993)

PREPARATION

Text(s)	General Context (s) to consider	Read & write blog
Primary Texts Samuel Richardson (1740), <i>Pamela, or Virtue Rewarded</i> Laurence Sterne (1759) <i>The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman</i> Complementary texts Ann Radcliffe(1797), <i>The Italian: or, The Confessional of the Black Penitents</i> Jonathan Swift (1729), 'A Modest Proposal: For Preventing the Children of Poor People in Ireland from Being a Burden to Their Parents or Country, and for Making Them Beneficial to the Publick,' (known as <i>A Modest Proposal</i>) Nineteenth Century <u>Primary Texts</u> Jane Austen (1814), <i>Mansfield Park</i> Wilkie Collins (1860), <i>The Woman In White</i> <u>Complementary texts</u> Lewis Carroll (1865), <i>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</i> Robert Louis Stevenson (1886), <i>The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i>	Rise of middle classes, different educational backgrounds, the ideal of the self made man (sic), individualism and rationality as core to controlling your own fate. <i>Pamela</i> is obvious example How do clothes function? Why does she write so much about them? What about the imagery of imprisonment and entrapment? Questions about the limits of reason and the role and significance of emotions; about the construction of the self How does a statistical analysis affect the way that we read articles? Who is the audience for these texts? where would they have been read? Why does this essay take this form? Is he serious? Meaning of the gothic? Difference for men and women? Relate to French Revolution Changing ideas about the child – families and their bonds. Gender roles, choice and passion. Links with <i>Pamela</i>? Sanity and insanity – doubles and odd couples. The workings of the mind (eg hypnotism in <i>Woman in White</i>; the relation of Jekyll and Hyde) the lawyer? Rules and laws – education, understanding and power	

DAILY BREAKDOWN

WEEK ONE	Day	Text(s)	Focus	200 w
	Mon	Introduction: Ideas and extracts	Introduction to the Enlightenment	
			Preparation or next class: Make notes for discussion – read <i>Pamela</i> and one article	
	Tues	Samuel Richardson (1740), <i>Pamela, or Virtue Rewarded</i>	Constructing the self – narratives of gender and class; language and relations within households. Imprisonment and violence.	
			Preparation for next class Read <i>Pamela</i> Make notes for discussion	daily blog
	Thur	<i>Pamela</i> <i>A Modest Proposal</i>	Consider literature as consumption - questions of target audiences and readership; focus on changing meaning according to point of view (Pamela and Mr B; The Proposer and the Irish poor)	
			Preparation for next class Read <i>Tristram Shandy</i> Make notes - differences	daily blog
	Fri	Laurence Sterne (1759) <i>The Life and Opinions of</i>	The limitations of reason. Why is this written in this way? Construction of the self. Competing discourses: military, popish; sermons, legal documents; hyper rational (but bonkers). The origin of opinions storytelling and history Interruptions and digressions. The mind. Reason, associative thinking and sentiment,	

		<i>Tristram Shandy, Gentleman</i>	Preparation for next class Continue reading <i>Tristram Shandy</i> Read as much as you can of <i>The Italian</i> ; notes on how both texts relate to topics covered so far	daily blog
WEEK TWO	Mon	<i>Tristram Shandy</i> / Ann Radcliffe (1797), <i>The Italian</i> : or, <i>The Confessional of the Black Penitents</i>	Discuss and start to formulate topic for essay	
			Preparation for next class Read <i>Italian</i> Make notes for discussion	daily blog
	Tues	<i>The Italian</i>	The gothic. Betrayal and imprisonment; the family; Class, Gender, religion and nationality at the time of the French Revolution (1789-99)	
			<i>Devise plan for essay by Wednesday night</i>	daily blog
	Thur	Some discussion of plans; start writing essay	Writing in class WORKING ON ESSAY Send plan for feedback Thursday evening	
	Fri	Independent writing	Tutor available for discussion FIRST ASSESSMENT DUE 11.30 pm SUNDAY	
	Mon	NINETEENTH	Law, marriage, the rise of the bourgeoisie, rationality, insanity, split personality, inheritance	

WEEK THREE		CENTURY	Preparation for next class Read <i>Mansfield Park</i> Make notes on how it deals with the issues you explored in your essay	daily blog
	Tues	Jane Austen (1814), <i>Mansfield Park</i>	Revisiting the question of the individual and the mass. Romantic ideas of the child. Questions of education and preparedness for the adult world. Improvement.	
			Preparation for next class Read <i>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</i> Why is Fanny such an unattractive heroine? Why can't Henry love?	200 word daily blog
	Thur	<i>Mansfield Park</i> Lewis Carroll (1865), <i>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</i>	Make notes on reason and the law; questions of point of view: sanity and insanity; education and the adult world. Relativity and the construction of the self	
			Preparation for next class Read <i>The Woman In White</i> Notes on differences and similarities with <i>Pamela</i> and <i>The Italian</i>	200 word daily blog
	Fri	Wilkie Collins (1860), <i>The Woman In White</i>	Make notes on reason and the law; questions of point of view: sanity and insanity; education and the masculine world. Relativity and the construction of the self; gender and nationality;	
			Preparation for next class Read <i>Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i> Make notes	daily blog
	Mon	<i>The Woman In White / Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i>	The cost of reason and the law; inside and outside. Breakdown of binaries Psychology and repression: the construction of the self. Gender and place	
			Preparation for next class Read secondary material – consider law and justice	200 daily blog

WEEK FOUR	Tues	Key ideas of module	Discussion and contrast of all texts; differences between 18 th and 19 th centuries	
			research essay topic	
	Thur	Independent research	Research and plan Tutor available for discussion	
			Independent writing	
	Fri	Independent writing	Tutor available for discussion	
			SECOND ASSESSMENT DUE 11.30 pm SUNDAY	