

English 741
Spring 2013
TR 2:10-3:30
HS 125

Professor Brigitte Bailey
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Hours: T 3:30-4:30, R 11-12, and by appointment

Literature of Early America

This course will explore the writings that come out of the first two centuries of the English settlement of North America, from the colonial to the early national period. We will examine a variety of documents and genres: the literature of exploration and early cross-cultural contact; Puritan histories, sermons, poetry, and a trial; captivity narratives; Native American writings; Enlightenment publications--autobiographies, speeches, slave narratives, letters, polemical writings; early republican fiction. These texts will allow us to focus on a series of crucial issues: conjunctions of religion, cultural expression, and violence; textual/political relationships between the imperial metropolis and the colonial frontier; ideological and literary transformations in the contact zone of colonial conquest; New World racializations; colonial, Puritan, and republican gender constructions; and the social/textual construction of nationhood. Research will be an important component of the course; the three main, graded assignments will all require research into current scholarly sources (databases, critical studies, histories). The course fulfills a pre-1800 literature requirement for English majors.

Required Texts

Myra Jehlen and Michael Warner, eds., The English Literatures of America, 1500-1800 (Routledge)
Thomas Paine, Common Sense (Penguin)
Susanna Rowson, Charlotte Temple (Oxford)
Charles Brockden Brown, Wieland (Penguin)

Books are available at the Durham Book Exchange and at the MUB. Readings in Jehlen and Warner's anthology, The English Literatures of America, are designated on the syllabus by ELA. In addition, we will read a series of critical essays and a few more primary readings which I will hand out in class; these are marked [H] on the syllabus. Please bring the day's reading to class. An important note about the pace of the reading: the amount of reading per week will vary considerably--plan ahead so that you anticipate heavy and light weeks. I have put some critical and historical sources on reserve at Dimond Library; I will ask you to make use of these readings in your group presentation and the accompanying paper and—either these or other appropriate research sources—in your 5-page paper and term paper. Finally, I recommend the editors' introductions to the books by Paine, Rowson, and Brown for historical contexts and approaches to interpretation.

Course requirements and policies

Requirements include dedicated attendance, participation, occasional in-class writing, five 1-2 page papers due in starred weeks (on the day we discuss the reading), one 5-page paper, an oral presentation (in groups) and a related 3-4 page paper, a 10-page term paper, and a brief report on your term paper topic. **Grading** will proceed as follows: term paper 30%, 1-2 page papers 20%, 5-page paper 20%, presentation and related paper 20 %, participation (including in-class writing) 10%. 1-2 page papers will be marked 1, 2, or 3: below, at, or above expectation for the course; I will suggest topics the day before each possible due date. You may develop a 1-2 page paper into an aspect of a longer paper. I will post assignments on Blackboard detailing the three graded projects: the 5-page paper, the presentation and 3-4 page paper, and the term paper. The only opportunity to rewrite papers will be before they are due; good papers are the result of rethinking and revision, and I am happy to comment on drafts ahead of the due date. There will also be occasional discussions in small groups.

Extra credit opportunity: starting with the featured speaker for UNH's Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, there will be a number of speakers and events on campus this term whose talks have either direct or indirect

bearing on the study of early American literature. Anyone attending three of these talks or events and writing a 1-2 page response paper for each that scores a 2 or 3 (1s and 0s won't count) will receive a final grade marked up 1/3 (e.g., from a C to a C+). I will post a list of speakers and events on the course Blackboard site.

An important note on **attendance**: The exchange of ideas in class is a crucial part of this course. Therefore, **the final grade of anyone missing more than 4 days will be marked down 1/3 for each subsequent class missed**, with **no exceptions** for illness or emergencies; please save your 4 free days for those occasions (e.g., someone whose work averages a C at the end of the term but who missed 5 classes will receive a C-, and if they miss 6 classes will receive a D+, etc.). This grading policy is not meant to be punitive but to reflect work actually completed; attendance is part of the work of the course.

English 741 is a good choice for **honors work**. If you are an Honors-in-Major English student and would like to take this as an honors course, please talk to me during the first week of class.

If you have a documented disability, please register with the office of Disability Services for Students and then talk to me about appropriate accommodations in this course.

Academic honesty is a core value at UNH, in literary research, and in this class. Although I encourage you to develop your ideas in conversation with others, your written work must attribute ideas and language fully to your printed and online sources. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism. I do not accept plagiarized work. The College of Liberal Arts has a definition of plagiarism and a useful online tutorial about what does and does not constitute plagiarism at: <http://www.unh.edu/liberal-arts/plagiarism/plagiarismHome.cfm>.

I will be glad to meet with you individually to discuss readings or papers. Feel free to drop by my office during office hours or to make an appointment; I enjoy talking to students.

Course Schedule

Early Contacts and "Virginia"

1st week

Tues, Jan 22 Introductions.

Thurs, Jan 24 Read "General Introduction," "The Expansion of Europe," accounts by Mandeville, Columbus, and Vespucci, and the Nahuatl account of conquest (ELA pages xvii-6, 8-9, 11-28, 30-35).

Assignment on group presentations given out.

2nd week*

Tues, Jan 29 First English (mostly) Accounts.

"Learning to Say 'America' in English," early printed references to America (ELA, 39-44), views on plantation, accounts by Hakluyt, Hariot, Raleigh, and others (ELA 58-94).

Sign up for group presentations.

Thurs, Jan 31 Virginia and Metropolitan Representations of Planter Culture.

"The English Diaspora," Strachey and Smith (ELA 101-15, 146-49); scenes from Behn's The Widow Ranter (ELA 233-42, 245-51, 276 [mid-page]-279, 284-91).

3rd week* (due Feb 7)

Tues, Feb 5 Meet in the Stark Room, in Special Collections on the first floor of Dimond Library.

Session with Bill Ross, Special Collections Librarian, on researching early American literature with digital data bases. This is a mandatory meeting; you will draw on this information in at least one of your graded projects.

Puritans in Massachusetts: City on a Hill

Thurs, Feb 7 Immigration: "Seventeenth-Century Anglo-America...", Winthrop, Morton, Bradford (ELA 305-7, 151-59, 168-91).

4th week

Tues, Feb 12 The Antinomian Crisis: "Trials," Hutchinson, Winthrop (ELA 429-42).

Dissent and "Toleration": Winthrop, Saltonstall, Cotton (ELA 449-51, 457-60).

Thurs, Feb 14 GROUP I: Mock Trial of Anne Hutchinson.

Trial transcript—the fuller version [Handout for Group I].

5th week*

Tues, Feb 19 Puritan women / Puritan poetry.

Bradstreet (ELA 322-25, 548-63).

Contact Narratives

Thurs, Feb 21 Captivity Narratives: one Puritan and one French Canadian.

Radisson, Rowlandson (ELA 325-82).

6th week

Tues, Feb 26 17th and 18th-Century Native American oral histories, prophecies, and oratory.

Mahican narrative, speeches by Powhatan, "Logan," Tecumseh [H]; Nauset tale and Puritan tales of Indian conversion (ELA 193-94, 316-18); Pratt, from "Arts of the Contact Zone" [H].

Puritan Piety and Eighteenth-Century Revival

Thurs, Feb 28 Conversion and Communion: Meditative poetry.

Taylor, Tompson (ELA 581-91, 1032-34).

Due: 5-page paper.

7th week

Tues, Mar 5 Edwards and the Great Awakening.

"Religion in the Enlightenment," Edwards (ELA 597-639).

In-class writing.

Thurs, Mar 7 Colonial Identities: Portraits (slides in class)

Term paper assignment handed out.

Spring Break

Enlightenment and Print Culture in the Eighteenth Century

8th week

Tues, Mar 19 Franklin and the Secular Autobiography.

"Histories," Franklin (ELA 683-85, 725-70).

Small discussion groups in class.

Thurs, Mar 21 GROUP II: Presentation on Printers' Shops, Newspapers, and Print Culture.

Anderson, from Imagined Communities [H].

Revolution and National Identity

9th week*

Tues, Mar 26 Revolution: Paine, Common Sense.

Thurs, Mar 28 Contexts: "The Literature of Politics," Livingston, broadsides, Adams, Jefferson, Crèvecoeur, Freneau (ELA 813-16, 830-36, 842-45, 852-54, 858-62, 973-76, 1104-06); Habermas, from The Public Sphere [H].

10th week

- Tues, Apr 2 Race and the Discourses of Piety and Citizenship in the American Enlightenment. Whites Debating Slavery: Sewall, Saffin ([ELA](#) 817-25). Slave Narratives and African American Arguments: Gronniosaw, Equiano, Cugoano ([ELA](#) 719-25, 792-98, 880-83).
- Thurs, Apr 4 GROUP III: Presentation on Legal and Ideological Definitions of Race and Slavery and on Slave Narratives.
Harris, from "Whiteness as Property" [H].
Due: Prospectus for term paper (Group III may hand it in on Apr 9).

11th week*

- Tues, Apr 9 African American and Native American Voices: Wheatley and Occom ([ELA](#) 1076-81, 643-59).

Fictions of the Early Republic

- Thurs, Apr 11 Gender and Genre: The Sentimental Novel.
Rowson, [Charlotte Temple](#). Also: Murray ([ELA](#) 874-79).
Davidson, from [Revolution and the Word](#) [H].

12th week

- Tues, Apr 16 Finish discussion of Rowson.
The Gothic Novel and Republican Anxieties.
Brown, [Wieland](#) (first half).
- Thurs, Apr 18 Brown, [Wieland](#). Finish novel.
In-class writing on second half of novel.

13th week

- Tues, Apr 23 Brown, [Wieland](#). Small group discussion.
- Thurs, Apr 25 *Due: Term paper.*
In class I will group you, by topic, into panels; panels will discuss their upcoming presentations.

14th week

- Tues, Apr 30 *Panels: 5-minute reports on term paper topics.*
- Thurs, May 2 Last day of class. *Continue reports.* Course evaluations.
Term papers returned.

Suggested Bibliographies for Group Presentations, on Reserve in Dimond Library:

These books are on two-hour reserve until April 9, when they will go on three-day reserve.

Group I: Mock Trial of Anne Hutchinson.

- Francis J. Bremer, ed., [Anne Hutchinson, Troubler of the Puritan Zion](#) (scholars' essays)
Patricia Caldwell, [The Puritan Conversion Narrative](#)
Philip Gura, [A Glimpse of Sion's Glory: Puritan Radicalism in New England, 1620-1660](#)
David Hall, ed., [The Antinomian Controversy](#) (primary documents, including trial transcript)
Alan Heimert and Andrew Delbanco, eds., [The Puritans in America: A Narrative Anthology](#)
Eve LaPlante, [American Jezebel: The Uncommon Life of Anne Hutchinson, the Woman who Defied the Puritans](#)
Edmund Morgan, [Visible Saints: The History of a Puritan Idea](#)
Amy Schrager Lang, [Prophetic Woman: Anne Hutchinson and the Problem of Dissent in the Literature of New England](#)
Michael Winship, [Making Heretics: Militant Protestantism and Free Grace in Massachusetts, 1636-1641](#)

Group II: Printers' Shops, Newspapers, and Print Culture.

- [America's Historical Newspapers](#): online images of colonial newspapers, such as Franklin's. Type "America's Historical Newspapers" in the search box on the library's home page for direct access.
Charles Clark, [The Public Prints: The Newspaper in Anglo-American Culture, 1665-1740](#)

David Copeland, Colonial American Newspapers: Character and Content
Carol Sue Humphrey, The Press of the Young Republic, 1783-1833
Jeffrey L. Pasley, "The Tyranny of Printers": Newspaper Politics in the Early American Republic
Jeffery A. Smith, Franklin and Bache: Envisioning the Enlightened Republic
Michael Warner, The Letters of the Republic: Publication and the Public Sphere in Eighteenth-Century America
A special issue of the journal, Early American Studies: vol. 8, no. 1, Winter 2010--*The Atlantic World of Print in the Age of Franklin*. Available through Dimond Library's home page, thorough Project Muse, at http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/early_american_studies_an_interdisciplinary_journal/toc/eam.8.1.html.

Group III: Presentation on Legal and Ideological Definitions of Race and Slavery and on Slave Narratives.

William Andrews, To Tell a Free Story: The First Century of Afro-American Autobiography, 1760-1865
George Boulukos, The Grateful Slave: The Emergence of Race in Eighteenth-Century British and American Culture
Dickson D. Bruce, Jr., The Origins of African American Literature, 1680-1865
Audrey Fisch, ed., The Cambridge Companion to the African American Slave Narrative
Winthrop Jordan, White Over Black: American Attitudes Toward the Negro, 1550-1812
Sidney Kaplan and Emma Nogrady Kaplan, The Black Presence in the Era of the American Revolution
Peter Kolchin, American Slavery, 1619-1877
Thomas D. Morris, Southern Slavery and the Law, 1619-1860
Larry E. Tise, Proslavery: A History of the Defense of Slavery in America, 1701-1840
Rafia Zafar, We Wear the Mask: African Americans Write American Literature, 1760-1870
The Library of Congress's collection of documents on Slavery and the Law, 1740-1860, at <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/sthtml/sthome.html> (you will wish to focus on the pre-1810 material)

Recommended Books for Research in Dimond Library:

The following is a general bibliography for the course, in addition to the above books. These books are **not** on reserve. I've left out many books that focus on a specific writer. The list is not exhaustive and does not include journal articles. Please give yourself enough time in your research process to **recall** books that are checked out (takes up to 10 days). For articles, follow the same path noted immediately below for accessing the Evans collection, but instead of the last step, click on MLA International Bibliography. Major journals in American literary studies have online access (via Dimond Library's home page) to their articles: Early American Literature, American Literature, American Literary History, American Quarterly, and others.

Collections of writings from the period:

Evans Digital Collection is an amazing on-line resource for primary documents. On Dimond Library's homepage, under Research Tools, click on Databases, then Literature, and Early American Imprints.
For an online exhibit of early European texts and images of the Americas, see the University of Pennsylvania Library's site, <http://www.library.upenn.edu/exhibits/rbm/kislak/index/cultural.html>
William Andrews, ed., Journeys in New Worlds: Early American Women's Narratives
Keith Fennimore, ed., Short Stories from Another Day: 18th-Century Periodical Fiction
Henry Louis Gates, Jr., William L. Andrews, eds., Pioneers of the Black Atlantic: Five Slave Narratives from the Enlightenment, 1772-1815
Carla Mulford, ed., Early American Writings
Richard Slotkin and James K. Folsom, eds., So Dreadful a Judgment: Puritan Responses to King Philip's War 1676-1677
Alden Vaughan and Edward Clark, eds., Puritans Among the Indians: Accounts of Captivity and Redemption, 1676-1724
Louis B. Wright, ed., The Elizabethans' America

Literary Criticism and Historical and Cultural Scholarship:

Benedict Anderson, Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism
Barnes, Elizabeth, States of Sympathy: Seduction and Democracy in the American Novel
Sacvan Bercovitch, Typology and Early American Literature
Sacvan Bercovitch, ed., The American Puritan Imagination
Joanna Brooks, American Lazarus: Religion and the Rise of African-American and Native American Literatures
Kristina Bross, Dry Bones and Indian Sermons: Praying Indians in Colonial America
Bruce Burgett, Sentimental Bodies: Sex, Gender, and Citizenship in the Early Republic
Michelle Burnham, Captivity and Sentiment: Cultural Exchange in American Literature, 1682-1861

Christopher Castiglia, Bound and Determined: Captivity, Culture-Crossing, and White Womanhood from Mary Rowlandson to Patty Hearst

Nancy Cott, The Bonds of Womanhood: "Woman's Sphere" in New England, 1780-1835

Caleb Crain, American Sympathy: Men, Friendship, and the Literature in the New Nation

Wayne Craven, Colonial American Portraiture: The Economic, Religious, Social, Cultural, Philosophical, Scientific, and Aesthetic Foundations

Kimberlé Crenshaw et al., ed., Critical Race Theory: The Key Writings that Formed the Movement

Cathy Davidson, Revolution and the Word: The Rise of the Novel in America

Cathy Davidson, ed., Reading in America: Literature and Social History

Jim Egan, Authorizing Experience: Refigurations of the Body Politic in Seventeenth-Century New England Writing

Everett Emerson, ed., American Literature, 1764-1789: The Revolutionary Years

Robert Ferguson, Law and Letters in American Culture

Jay Fliegelman, Prodigals and Pilgrims: The American Revolution Against Patriarchal Authority, 1750-1800

_____, Declaring Independence: Jefferson, Natural Language and the Culture of Performance

Frances Smith Foster, Written by Herself: Literary Production by African American Women, 1746-1892

Paul Giles, Transatlantic Insurrections: British Culture and the Formation of American Literature, 1730-1860

Stephen Greenblatt, Marvelous Possessions: The Wonder of the New World

Sharon M. Harris, Executing Race: Early American Women's Narratives of Race, Society, and the Law

Helen Jaskoski, ed., Early Native American Writing: New Critical Essays

Francis Jennings, The Invasion of America: Indians, Colonialism, and the Cant of Conquest

Linda Kerber, Women of the Republic: Intellect and Ideology in Revolutionary America

Colin Kidd, The Forging of the Races: Race and Scripture in the Protestant Atlantic World, 1600-2000

Janice Knight, Orthodoxies in Massachusetts: Rereading American Puritanism

Robert Lawson-Peebles, Landscape and Written Expression in Revolutionary America

David Leverenz, The Language of Puritan Feeling: An Exploration in Literature, Psychology, and Social History

Joan Pong Linton, The Romance of the New World: Gender and the Literary Formations of English Colonialism

Christopher Looby, Voicing America: Language, Literary Form, and the Origins of the United States

Andrew Lopezina, Red Ink: Native Americans Picking up the Pen in the Colonial Period

Margaretta M. Lovell, Art in a Season of Revolution: Painters, Artisans, and Patrons in Early America

Ellen Gross Miles, ed., The Portrait in Eighteenth-Century America

Amy M.E. Morris, Popular Measures: Poetry and Church Order in Seventeenth-Century Massachusetts

Barbara Oberg and Harry Stout, eds., Benjamin Franklin, Jonathan Edwards and the Representation of American Culture

Bernd C. Peyer, The Tutor'd Mind: Indian Missionary-Writers in Antebellum America

Hugh Rankin, The Theater in Colonial America

Jeffrey H. Richards, Drama, Theatre, and Identity in the American New Republic

Shirley Samuels, Romances of the Republic: Women, the Family, and Violence in the Literature of the Early American Nation

William J. Scheick, Authority and Female Authorship in Colonial America

Malini Johar Schueller and Edwards Watts, eds., Messy Beginnings: Postcoloniality and Early American Studies

Ivy Schweitzer, The Work of Self-Representation: Lyric Poetry in Colonial New England

Jason Shaffer, Performing Patriotism: National Identity in the Colonial and Revolutionary American Theater

David S. Shields, The Oracles of Empire: Poetry, Politics, and Commerce in British America, 1690-1750

_____, Civil Tongues & Polite Letters in British America

Frank Shuffelton, ed., A Mixed Race: Ethnicity in Early America

Richard Slotkin, Regeneration Through Violence: The Mythology of the American Frontier, 1600-1860

Julia A. Stern, The Plight of Feeling: Sympathy and Dissent in the Early American Novel

Pauline Turner Strong, Captive Selves, Captivating Others: The Politics and Poetics of Colonial American Captivity Narratives

Timothy Sweet, American Georgics: Economy and Environment in Early American Literature

Robert S. Tilton, Pocahontas: The Evolution of an American Narrative

Jane Tompkins, Sensational Designs: The Cultural Work of American Fiction, 1790-1860

Laurel Ulrich, Good Wives: Image and Reality in the Lives of Women in Northern New England, 1650-1750

David Watters, "With Bodilie Eyes": Eschatological Themes in Puritan Literature and Gravestone Art

Jace Weaver, That the People Might Live: Native American Literatures and Native American Community

Larzer Ziff, Writing in the New Nation: Prose, Print, and Politics in the Early United States