Syllabus

The 18th Century Novel: Defoe Fielding Sterne - 44812

Last update 15-10-2015

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: english

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Leona Toker

Coordinator Email: toker@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesdays 12:15 - 13:00

Teaching Staff: Prof Leona Toker
Course/Module description:
Study of the narrative experiments conducted by three pioneering novelists of the eighteenth century, combined with the discussion of the reflections of their contemporary culture in their works.

Course/Module aims:
Study of the genre experimentation that led to the rise of the classical English novel.

Study of the semiological aspects of three novels (by Defoe, Fielding, and Sterne): use of the external frame of reference (cultural history) to explain narrative details and analysis of the patterns in which these details enter in the specific texts.

Study of the carnivalesque and the oppositional narrative modes as practiced in the three novels.

Study of the ethics of narrative form, that is, of the ethical meaning of narrative structures.

Attention to the analogies between the techniques of 18th century fiction and those of modernist and post-modernist novels.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
understand the vocabulary of 18th century fiction as different from that of the present-day English;

recognize the cultural phenomena evoked in the narratives;

be able to analyze stylistic and structural features of the three novels and to write academic papers on the basis of this analysis;

be able to apply the methodology of the structural and semiotic analysis as well as approaches to the study of narrative form to other texts as well.

Attendance requirements(%):
minimum 75

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: The course is interactive. It takes
the shape of classroom discussions based on a close reading and structural analysis of three selected representative texts.

**Course/Module Content:**
Three selected novels by 18th-century English novelists, representing different pathways in the development of the classical English novel.

**Required Reading:**
Daniel Defoe, Moll Flanders

Henry Fielding, Tom Jones

Laurence Sterne, Tristram Shandy

**Additional Reading Material:**
RECOMMENDED FURTHER READINGS

Defoe, Robinson Crusoe, Roxana, The Journal of the Plague Year

Richardson, Pamela, Clarissa

Fielding, Joseph Andrews, Amelia

Sterne, A Sentimental Journey

Smollett, Humphry Clinker

Goldsmith, The Vicar of Wakefield

Jane Austen, Emma

Walter Scott, Waverley

Anne Radcliffe, The Mysteries of Udolpho

**BACKGROUND**
Battestin, Martin C. The Providence of Wit: Aspects of Form in Augustan Literature and the Arts

Beasley, Jerry C. Novels of the 1740s

Castle, Terry. *The Carnivalization of Eighteenth-Century English Narrative.* PMLA
99/5: 903-16.

Dobr, Bonamy. English Literature in the Early 18th Century

Gilbert, Sandra, and Susan Gubar, The Madwoman in the Attic

Lynch, Deirdre, The Economy of Character: Novels, Market Culture and the Business of Inner Meaning

---------. Loving Literature: A Cultural History

Mullan, John. Sentiment and Sociability: The Language of Feeling in the Eighteenth Century

Piper, William Bowman. Common Courtesy in Eighteenth-Century English Literature

Poovey, Mary. A Proper Lady and a Woman Writer

Van Ghent, Dorothy. The English Novel: Form and Function

Watt, Ian. The Rise of the Novel

NARRATOLOGY

Bakhtin, Mikhail. Problems of Dostoevsky’s Poetics (the chapter on genre)

---------. Rabelais and His World

Bal, Mieke. Narratology

Booth, Wayne. The Rhetoric of Fiction

Genette, Gérard. Narrative Fiction

Iser, Wolfgang. The Act of Reading

Rimmon-Kenan, Shlomith. Narrative Fiction

Toker, Leona. Eloquent Reticence

---------. Towards the Ethics of Form in Fiction

Journals: Eighteenth Century Fiction
The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation

THE THREE NOVELISTS

Defoe


Curtis, Laura Ann. The Elusive Daniel Defoe

Faller, Lincoln B. Crime and Defoe


Richetti, John J., Defoe's Narratives: Situations and Structures.

Starr, G. A. Defoe and the Spiritual Autobiography

---------. Defoe and Casuistry

Sutherland, James, Defoe

Twentieth-Century Interpretations of Moll Flanders


Fielding

Alter, Robert. Fielding and the Nature of the Novel

Battestin, Martin C. A Henry Fielding Companion

Harrison, Bernard. Henry Fielding’s Tom Jones

Toker, Leona, Eloquent Reticence
----------. Towards the Ethics of Form in Fiction

Twentieth-Century Interpretations of Tom Jones

Wright, Andrew, Henry Fielding: Mask and Feast

Sterne


Byrd, Max. Tristram Shandy


Iser, Wolfgang. Laurence Sterne’s Tristram Shandy

Lanham, Richard A. Tristram Shandy: The Games of Pleasure

Moglen, Helene. The Philosophical Irony of Laurence Sterne

Myer, Valerie Grosvenor, ed. Laurence Sterne: Riddles and Mysteries


**Course/Module evaluation:**
- End of year written/oral examination 0 %
- Presentation 0 %
- Participation in Tutorials 0 %
- Project work 100 %
- Assignments 0 %
- Reports 0 %
- Research project 0 %
- Quizzes 0 %
- Other 0 %

**Additional information:**
Students are expected to have read the materials assigned in advance of the classes on these materials. Written work includes a short paper (300-400 words) on one of the novels and a final analytical essay (1200-1500 words) on another novel. The short paper doubles as practice for the final essay.