

ENGL 4200: *Monstrous Materialisms*

Fall, 2018

SH 380, Thursdays, 12:00 - 3:50

Rachel Feder & W. Scott Howard

SH 487-E

SH 387-E

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Course Description:

This course investigates intersections of mind and matter during the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries. Primary texts include works by Lucretius, Margaret Cavendish, John Milton, B. Spinoza, Mary Wollstonecraft, William Blake, and Mary Shelley. Research projects may include a variety of critical, theoretical, and creative approaches. As with any trans-historical course offered at the graduate-level, the department's policy is that the student's research project may determine the matching distribution requirement and/or program concentration.

Required Books:

Blake, William. *The Complete Illuminated Books*. New York: Thames and Hudson, 2001.

ISBN: 0500282455

Cavendish, Margaret. *Paper Bodies: A Margaret Cavendish Reader*. Ed. Sylvia Bowerbank and Sara Mendelson. Peterborough: Broadview Press, 2000. ISBN: 9781551111735

Coole, Diana, and Samantha Frost. Eds. *New Materialisms: Ontology, Agency, and Politics*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2010. ISBN: 9780822347729

Lucretius. *The Nature of Things*. Trans. A. E. Stallings. New York: Penguin, 2007.

ISBN: 9780140447965

Milton, John. *Paradise Lost*. Ed. John Leonard. New York: Penguin, 2000.

ISBN: 9780140424393

Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein: Annotated for Scientists, Engineers, and Creators of All Kinds*. Ed.

David H. Guston, Ed Finn, Jason Scott Robert, and Charles E. Robinson. Cambridge: MIT Press, 2017. ISBN: 9780262533287

Spinoza, B. *Ethics*. Trans. Edwin Curley. New York: Penguin, 1996. ISBN: 9780140435719

Wollstonecraft, Mary. *Mary, A Fiction and The Wrongs of Woman, or Maria*. Ed. Michelle Faubert. Peterborough: Broadview Press, 2012. ISBN: 9781554810222

Other Resources, Texts, and Works: these will be announced in advance and made freely available via electronic sources and PDFs.

Notebook: required for your talking points, comments and questions in response to our daily and weekly progress.

Grading:

Participation @ 30%

Two Presentations @ 10% each

One Project @ 50%

Roundtable Presentations: guidelines TBA

Project: guidelines TBA

Calendar (subject to changes):

- 9/13 *The Nature of Things*: Introduction plus Books 1 - 3
- 9/20 *The Nature of Things*: Books 4 - 6 / *Paradise Lost*: Introduction plus Books 1 - 4
- 9/27 *Paradise Lost*: Books 5 - 12 / *The Nature of Things*: Books 1 - 6
- 10/4 *Paradise Lost*: Books 1 - 12 / *Paper Bodies*: Introduction plus pages 151 - 327
- 10/11 *Paper Bodies*: Introduction plus pages 151 - 327 / *Ethics*: pages 1 - 113
- 10/18 *Ethics*: pages 113 - 181 / *Paper Bodies*: pages 41 - 147 / First Roundtable
- 10/25 *The Wrongs of Woman*: Introduction plus pages 149 - 288; 289 - 309; 327 - 352
- 11/1 *MILTON: a poem*
- 11/8 *MILTON: a poem* / *Frankenstein*: Introduction plus pages 1 - 69
- 11/15 *Frankenstein*: pages 69 - 187 / Second Roundtable
- 11/17 - 11/20 Fall quarter exams / Projects due