

Department of English & Writing Studies

**Seminar in Restoration and Eighteenth-Century Literature: Poetry and the Body**

English 4340G (001)

Winter 2022

**Instructor:** Mary Helen McMurrin

**Course Day/Time:** Tuesday 2:30-5:30 pm

**Course Location:** UC 4401

**Delivery Type:** In Person

**Prerequisites:** 1.0 from English 3000-3999 or permission of the Department.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Description

In this course, we will read this poetry as an inquiry into the role of embodiment in the poetry of the eighteenth century. During the eighteenth century big questions about how the body relates to the mind and soul were debated and remained unresolved. Our course will discuss those questions as they are articulated in poetic forms and language. We will especially focus on groups traditionally marginalized in British literary history: women and people of colour to gauge their view of the body. We will also look at the important roles of nonhumans in this poetry.

NOTE: This course will include an intensive focus on research methods and writing research essays. We will have at least one class in Weldon's Archives and Special Collections.

**Objectives:**

By the end of the course, successful students will have:

- advanced understanding and deployment of the language of literary analysis
- advanced facility with a variety of approaches, theories and techniques which can be applied to the study of literature
- basic ability to articulate their own skill set
- advanced understanding of race and gender in literary history
- advanced proficiency with the essential tools of literary scholarship (library catalogues, citation and content databases) and the more specialized tools of several different fields (Iiter, ECCO, etc.)
- basic understanding several highly specialized research tools and their uses (such as variorum editions, published bibliographies, concordances, etc.)
- advanced ability to critique and review secondary sources within the context of their scholarly tradition

Course Materials

TBA

Readings may include: Anne Finch, Lady Mary Wortley Montague, Olaudah Equiano, Phillis Wheatley, Jupiter Hammon, Charlotte Smith

### Methods of Evaluation

The grade for the course will be arrived at as follows:

2 or 3 shorter research assignments as preparation for a research essay  
12-14 page research essay  
Class participation

Students are fully responsible for looking at and being familiar with the information posted on the department website at <http://www.uwo.ca/english/undergraduate/Student%20Information.html>.

### General Information

Seminar will be participatory and discussion based;  
Attendance rule: no more than 2 unexcused absences;  
No laptops allowed in class except on designated days for research exercises.

### Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

### **Academic Consideration for Student Absence**

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see [Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#)

and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

### **Religious Accommodation**

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

### Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

### **Plagiarism:**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or passage 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 offence.

### **Plagiarism Checking:**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

All instances of plagiarism will be reported to the Chair of Undergraduate Studies. Proven cases of plagiarism will result in a grade of zero for the assignment. Subsequent offences will result in failure for the course.

### Support Services

Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>

Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Student Development Centre <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

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.

### Timetable

TBA