

EL 020 - Section 01
Fall 2006
B Hour: MWF 9-9:50AM
Sayles Hall 104

Emily Steinlight
Office hours: Wed. 10AM-12PM & by app't
70 Brown Street, Rm. #409

Magazine Culture: Literature, Aesthetics, and Modernity, 1709-2007

Course Description

This course explores the history and culture of the magazine, from its earliest days to the present moment. Throughout the semester, we will consider the forms and functions of print media and the institutions of the periodical press in relation to the changing meanings of what we call “the public sphere.” We will also discuss the impact of magazines and journals on the Enlightenment and the rise of nationalism; the emergence of political and aesthetic movements; the construction of “elite” and “popular” audiences; the imagination of class and of culture; the formation of taste; the professionalization of writing; and the production and critical reception of literature. Reading from a wide range of texts and sources—from the single-author periodicals and miscellanies of the early eighteenth century, to the Romantic critical reviews, to modernist manifestoes, to contemporary online magazines and blogs—we will treat the magazine as a genre of its own, examining its various literary and cultural forms and its decisive role in the making of modernity.

Required Texts

EL20.01 Course Packet
Pierre Bourdieu, *The Field of Cultural Production*
Michael Warner, *Publics and Counterpublics*
Selections from The Girl's Own Paper, 1880-1907

Course Requirements

Assignments include several short response papers of 1-2pp, two mid-length papers of 4-6pp, two informal in-class presentations, and a final research paper of 8-10pp. Attendance and preparedness are mandatory, and regular participation in discussions is expected.

Grading

Paper 1: 25%
Paper 2: 25%
Final Paper: 40%
Participation: 10%

Policy on Academic Dishonesty

If you make use of the specific language, information or argument of another writer in your own work, you must indicate any and all direct quotations, identifying their author and source in parenthetical citations and including them in an attached Works Cited section (prepared according to the guidelines of the most recent *MLA Handbook*). Any form of academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade in the course and possible disciplinary action. If you are unfamiliar with the practice of citation or do not understand what constitutes plagiarism, please confer with me before submitting your work.

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Syllabus

Week 1: Introduction

Wed. Sept. 6

General introduction to the course

Fri. Sept. 8

What is a periodical?

Margaret Beetham: "Open and Closed: The Periodical as a Publishing Genre"

Lyn Pyckett: "Reading the Periodical Press: Text and Context"

Week 2: The Eighteenth-Century English Magazine and the Culture of "Manners"

Mon. Sept. 11

Richmond Bond: Introduction to *Studies in the Early English Periodical*
Selections from *The Tatler* and *The Spectator*

Wed. Sept. 13

Selections from *The Female Spectator* and *The Rambler*

Selections from *The Gentleman's Magazine*

Michael Warner: "Publics and Counterpublics"

Fri. Sept. 15 NO CLASS

Week 3: Print and the Public Sphere in Early America

Mon. Sept. 18

Jürgen Habermas: "Social Structure of the Public Sphere"

Trenchard and Gordon: selections from *Cato's Letters*

David S. Hall: "The Politics of Writing and Reading in Eighteenth-Century America"

Wed. Sept. 20

Selections from Benjamin Franklin's *Autobiography*

Michael Warner: "Franklin: The Representational Politics of the Man of Letters"

Fri. Sept. 22

Mark L. Kamrath: "American Indian Oration and Discourses of the Republic in Eighteenth-Century American Periodicals"

Philip Gould: "The African Slave Trade and Abolitionism: Rereading Antislavery Literature, 1776-1800"

Nancy Fraser: "Rethinking the Public Sphere"

Response paper due.

Week 4: Romantic Authorship and the Critical Reviews

Mon. Sept. 25

Jon Klancher: "Reading the Social Text"

S. T. Coleridge: selections from *Biographia Literaria*

Zachary Leader: "Coleridge and the Uses of Journalism"

Wed. Sept. 27

Michel Foucault: "What Is an Author?"
Clifford Siskin: "Periodicals, Authorship, & the Romantic Rise of the Novel"

Fri. Sept. 29

Selections from *The Edinburgh Review*
George Gordon Lord Byron, selections from *Don Juan* and *English Bards and Scotch Reviewers*
Lee Erickson: "Ideological Focus and the Market for the Essay"

Week 5: Popular Radicalism and the Press

Mon. Oct. 2 NO CLASS (YOM KIPPUR)

Wed. Oct. 4

Jon Klancher: "From Crowd to Mass Audience"
William Cobbett: selections from the *Political Register*
Bonnie J. Guzenhauser: "Reading the Rhetoric of Resistance in William Cobbett's *Two-Penny Trash*"

Fri. Oct. 6

Ian Haywood: "The Chartist Revolution"
Selections from the *Red Republican*
Selections from *Notes to the People*
PAPER #1 DUE

Week 6: Journalism, Sketches, and Social Research in the Nineteenth Century

Mon. Oct. 9 NO CLASS (COLUMBUS DAY)

Wed. Oct. 11

Selections from *Punch*
Richard Altick: Introduction and "Punch and the Condition of England Question"
Charles Dickens: selections from *Sketches by Boz*

Fri. Oct. 13

Harriet Martineau: selections from *Illustrations of Political Economy*
Henry Mayhew: selections from *London Labour and the London Poor*
Jacob Riis: "How the Other Half Lives"

Week 7: The Professional Critic and the Victorian Literary Public

Mon. Oct. 16

Wilkie Collins: "The Unknown Public"
Matthew Arnold: "The Function of Criticism at the Present Time" and selections from *Culture and Anarchy*
Kate Campbell: "Matthew Arnold and Publicity: A Modern Critic as Journalist"

Wed. Oct. 18

George Eliot: "Silly Novels by Lady Novelists"
Laurel Brake: "'Silly Novels?' Gender and the *Westminster Review* at Mid-Century"
Pierre Bourdieu: "The Field of Cultural Production" and "The Market of Symbolic Goods"

Fri. Oct. 20

Margaret Oliphant: "Novels"
Deborah Wynne: "Tantalizing Portions: Serialized Sensation Novels and Family Magazines"
Response Paper Due

Week 8: The Little Magazine, Modernity, and the Cultures of Modernism

Mon. Oct. 23

Selections from *The Girl's Own Paper*

Wed. Oct. 25

Selections from *The New Age*
Selections from *Blast*

Fri. Oct. 27

Matthew Henry: "The Harlem Renaissance and Leftism"
Selections from *The Messenger*
Adam McKible: "Our (?) Country"

Week 9: Modern Nationalism, Race, and the Press

Mon. Oct. 30

Benedict Anderson: selections from *Imagined Communities*
Philip Gourevitch: selections from *We Wish to Inform You...*

Wed. Nov. 1

DISA: South African Anti-Apartheid Journals

Fri. Nov. 3

Pauline Hopkins: selections from *The Colored American Magazine*
Hanna Wallinger: "Pauline E. Hopkins as Editor and Journalist"
PAPER #2 DUE

Week 10: Producing Consumers: Advertising, Publicity, and Commercial Culture

Mon. Nov. 6

Jürgen Habermas: "The Transformation of the Public Sphere's Political Function"
Oskar Negt and Alexander Kluge: selections from *The Public Sphere and Experience*

Wed. Nov. 8

Selections from *The Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine*
Margaret Beetham: "The Female Body and the Domestic Woman"
Ellen Gruber Garvey: selections from *The Adman in the Parlor*

Fri. Nov. 10

Raymond Williams: "Advertising: The Magic System"
PRESENTATION: Contemporary Advertising

Week 11: Debating Mass Media

Mon. Nov. 13

Theodor Adorno: "The Schema of Mass Culture"
Walter Benjamin: "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction"

Wed. Nov. 15

Marshall McLuhan: selections from *Understanding Media*
Raymond Williams: "Means of Communication as Means of Production"

Fri. Nov. 17

Hans Magnus Enzensberger: "Constituents of a Theory of the Media"
Jean Baudrillard: "The Masses: The Implosion of the Social"
Response Paper Due

Week 12: "Public Intellectuals" and the Cultural Politics of Publishing

Mon. Nov. 20

Introduction: *The Sokal Hoax*

Alan Sokal: "Revelation: A Physicist Experiments with Cultural Studies"
Bruce Robbins and Andrew Ross: "Response: Mystery Science Theater"
Letters to the Editor

Wed. Nov. 22 NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING RECESS

Fri. Nov. 24 NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING RECESS

Week 13: The Magazine in the Age of New Media

Mon. Nov. 27

Selections from *The New York Times Magazine* online

Wed. Nov. 29

Political journalism in the "blogosphere"

Fri. Dec. 1

Selections from *Salon.com*

Selections from *McSweeney's*

Week 14: Research Presentations and Conferences

Mon. Dec. 4

Individual Conferences

Wed. Dec. 6

Research Presentations

Fri. Dec. 8

Wrap-up

FINAL PAPER DUE DEC. 15