

History 3324
HISTORY OF WOMEN IN MODERN EUROPE

Prof. Steven Soper
Spring Term 2004
TTh, 5:00-6:15 p.m.
LeConte 101

Office: LeConte 128
Office Hours: T, 1:00-2:00 p.m.
and by appointment
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This course examines the history of women in modern Europe from the eighteenth century to the present. Although we will consider both the contributions which specific European women have made in various fields of human endeavor – politics, culture, science, etc. – and, more generally, the ways in which women themselves have acted to determine their own history, we will also pay close attention to the larger historical patterns, social contexts, and human relationships which have shaped women’s lives. Thus, we will examine the different experiences of urban and rural women; the relationships between women of different social classes; the history of women’s participation in the domains of public life and politics; women’s encounters with organized religion, the state, and professional groups; the history of marriage, the family, and sexuality.

Textbooks

The following books are required for the course:

Bonnie G. Smith, *Changing Lives: Women in European History Since 1700* (Lexington, Mass.: D. C. Heath, 1989).

Jane Austen, *Sense and Sensibility* (New York: Penguin, 1995).

Coursepack

Two coursepacks of readings, available at Bel-Jean Copy/Print Center (163 E. Broad St.), are also required for the course.

Course Requirements

Class participation. Your participation grade will be determined as follows:

A = Always prepared for class and regularly participates in discussions.

B = Always prepared for class and often participates in discussions.

C = Always prepared for class and occasionally participates in discussions.

D = Often unprepared for class and rarely participates in discussions.

F = Often unprepared for class, rarely participates in discussions, and is frequently absent.

Please note: Preparation for class is directly linked to good class discussions, which should address the specific questions, issues, and evidence featured in the assigned reading.

First essay. You will write one 5-page (typed, double-spaced) essay on Jane Austen’s *Sense and Sensibility*. This essay will be due in class on **Tuesday, February 17**.

Exam. There will be one exam on **Thursday, March 25**. It will consist of eight identifications and one essay.

Second essay. In a 7-page (typed, double-spaced) essay, trace the history of **one** of the following themes as they pertain to women and gender in modern Europe: 1) travel; 2) public life; 3) war; 4) sexuality; 5) revolution. The sources for your essay must include: a) the relevant sections of the textbook, *Changing Lives*; b) the relevant coursepack readings and class handouts; c) no fewer than **three additional sources** chosen from the lists of “sources and suggested reading” which appear at the end of each chapter in *Changing Lives*. (If you would like to substitute a more recent essay or book, please confer with me first.) In your essay, avoid a comprehensive narrative of events; instead, develop your own argument. (Here, for example, are two strong and specific statements of interpretation of the type you should aim for in your essay: “Twentieth-century women had a significantly greater presence in public life than eighteenth-century women had, but they were also the targets of more violent resentment and repression”; “What made the French and Russian Revolutions stand out in the history of women was their profound impact on women’s everyday lives.”) This essay is due in my office **by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 4.**

As part of your preparation for this final essay, I would like each of you (in groups) to lead the class discussion on the topic you have chosen: the travel group will **lead discussion** on Thursday, March 18; the public life group on Tuesday, March 23; the war group on Tuesday, April 6; the sexuality group on Thursday, April 8; and the revolution group on Tuesday, April 13. As part of your job as teacher-for-a-day, you should prepare one discussion question and write it on the board before class starts. This is a **required** (but ungraded) component of your final essay.

Note: Academic dishonesty in this course will result in disciplinary actions as outlined in the University’s academic honesty policy, which can be consulted on the internet at the following address: http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic_honesty/culture_honesty.htm

Grades

Grades will be determined on the following basis:

class participation	15%
first essay	25%
exam	30%
second essay	30%

Schedule of Class Meetings and Assignments

Week 1 (Jan. 8)	Introduction
Week 2 (Jan. 13/15)	The Body & Sexuality FILM (excerpts): <i>The Return of Martin Guerre</i> Enlightenment Salons & Salonnières FILM (excerpts): <i>Dangerous Liaisons</i> <u>Reading:</u> Smith, ch. 2; Barbara Duden, <i>The Woman Beneath the Skin</i> , pp. 72-103 [coursepack]; Dena Goodman, <i>The Republic of Letters</i> , pp. 91-111 [coursepack].

Week 3
(Jan. 20/22) The French Revolution
Women in the French Revolution
Reading: Smith, ch. 3, pp. 93-122; Darlene Levy, et. al. (eds.), *Women in Revolutionary Paris 1789-1795*, selections [**coursepack**].

Week 4
(Jan. 27/29) Mary Wollstonecraft On Revolution & Love
18th-century Advice to Young Women
Reading: Smith, ch. 3, pp. 122-131; Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, ch. 2 [**coursepack**]; John Gregory, *A Father's Legacy to his Daughters*, pp. 34-58 [**coursepack**]; William Cobbett, *Advice to Young Men* (London: 1829), Lecture III: "To a Lover," selections [**coursepack**].

Week 5
(Feb. 3/5) The Middle Classes
Sense and Sensibility
FILM: *Sense and Sensibility* (part 1)
Reading: Austen, *Sense and Sensibility*, pp. 3-214.

Week 6
(Feb. 10/12) Sense and Sensibility (cont.)
FILM: *Sense and Sensibility* (part 2)
Reading: Austen, *Sense and Sensibility*, pp. 217-323.

Week 7
(Feb. 17/19) Women and The Industrial Revolution
Reading: Smith, ch. 4; Anna Clark, "The Struggle for the Breeches: Plebeian Marriage," pp. 119-134 [**coursepack**]; Alfred Kelly (ed.), *The German Worker*, pp. 121-134, 252-268 [**coursepack**].

****FIRST ESSAY on *Sense and Sensibility* DUE – Tuesday, Feb. 17****

Week 8
(Feb. 24/26) Domesticity & "Separate Spheres"
Single Women
Reading: Smith, ch. 5; Leonore Davidoff and Catherine Hall, *Family Fortunes*, pp. 357-396 [**coursepack**].

Week 9
(Mar. 2/4) Masculine Rituals
Reading: Rebecca Friedman, "From Boys to Men: Manhood in the Nicholaevan University," in *Russian Masculinities in History and Culture*, pp. 33-50 [**coursepack**].

SPRING BREAK: MARCH 9-13

- Week 10**
(Mar. 16/18) Voyage to Italy
Women & Imperialism
Reading: Smith, ch. 6; Mary Shelley, Preface to *Rambles in Germany and Italy, in 1840, 1842, and 1843* (London: 1844), pp. 65-70 [coursepack]; Margaret Fuller, “*These Sad But Glorious Days*”: *Dispatches from Europe, 1846-1850*, pp. 161-166, 247-254, 320-323 [coursepack]; “Women and Colonialism,” pp. 323-338 [coursepack].
- Week 11**
(Mar. 23/25) Women In Public
EXAM: Thursday, March 25
Reading: Smith, ch. 7, pp. 288-302, and ch. 8; Eliza Lynn Linton, “The Girl of the Period,” *Saturday Review* (March 14, 1868), pp. 172-176 [coursepack]; Judith Walkowitz, “Jack the Ripper and the Myth of Male Violence,” in *Feminist Studies* 8 (1982), pp. 543-574 [coursepack].
- Week 12**
(Mar. 30/Apr. 1) **FILM: *A Room with a View***
- Week 13**
(Apr. 6/8) World War I
Sexuality Debates
FILM (excerpts): *The Blue Angel*
Reading: Smith, ch. 9, pp. 365-382, 395-402, and chapter 10; Sandra M. Gilbert, “Soldier’s Heart: Literary Men, Literary Women, and the Great War,” pp. 197-226 [coursepack]; Mary Louise Roberts, *Civilization Without Sexes: Reconstructing Gender in Postwar France, 1917-1927*, pp. 63-87 [coursepack].
- Week 14**
(Apr. 13/15) The Russian Revolution
FILM (excerpts): *Bed and Sofa*
Reading: Smith, ch. 9, pp. 382-395, and ch. 11, pp. 469-472; *In the Shadow of Revolution: Life Stories of Russian Women From 1917 to the Second World War*, pp. 178-206 [coursepack].
- Week 15**
(Apr. 20/22) Women in Fascist Italy & Germany
Reading: Smith, ch. 11; Victoria De Grazia, *How Fascism Ruled Women: Italy, 1922-1945*, pp. 201-221 [coursepack]; Marion A. Kaplan, *Between Dignity and Despair: Jewish Life in Nazi Germany*, pp. 50-73 [coursepack].
- Week 16**
(Apr. 27/29) *Glasnost* in Russia
FILM: *Anna from 6 to 18*

SECOND ESSAY DUE: Tuesday, May 4 – by 5 p.m.