

Education and Freedom

Lent Term 2018

Convenor: Dr Louise Joy

Description:

Over the course of the long eighteenth century, education became a major political battleground, one in which the freedoms both of the individual and of the nation were seen to be at stake. New interest in the category of childhood, resulting by the end of the eighteenth century in emerging ideas about children's rights, evolved as the rights of women, slaves and animals became the subject of intense debate. This course will foreground these debates, inviting you to examine pieces of writing from the period which put pressure on the concepts of childhood, innocence, rationality, liberty and rights, complicating our understanding of what it means to be human. Influential works of educational theory, political theory and life-writing will be read alongside literary works, including seminal works produced for children. The central aim of the course is to probe the ways in which eighteenth-century literary activity is embroiled in – both as a response to and as an intervention in – the philosophy, politics, policy and praxis of education.

Reading for the seminars is divided into required reading (highlighted in bold), recommended reading (some further primary texts you may wish to read in conjunction with the required reading), and a selection of secondary texts you might find useful.

Seminar 1. EDUCATION: THEORY AND PRACTICE

John Locke, *Some Thoughts Concerning Education* (1693)

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *Emile: or On Education* (1762) (Book 1)

Catherine Macaulay, *Letters on Education with Observations on Religions and Metaphysical Subjects* (1790) ('Preface' and 'Introductory Letter')

Maria and Richard Lovell Edgeworth, *Practical Education* (1798) ('Preface' and 'Truth')

Anna Laetitia Barbauld. 'On Education.' (1773) in *The Works of Anna Laetitia Barbauld. With a Memoir*, by Lucy Aikin. Vol. II (1825)

Vicesimus Knox, *Elegant Extracts or Useful and Entertaining Extracts in Poetry* (1784)

---. *Elegant Extracts or Useful and Entertaining Extracts in Prose* (1785)

Mary Wollstonecraft, *Thoughts on the Education of Daughters* (1787)

Elizabeth Inchbald, *Nature and Art* (1796)

Erasmus Darwin, *A Plan for the Conduct of Female Education in Boarding Schools* (1797)

William Wordsworth, 'Expostulation and Reply' and 'The Tables Turned' from *Lyrical Ballads* (1798)

Hannah More, *Coelebs in Search of a Wife* (1809)

Secondary Reading

Sabine Augustin, *Eighteenth-Century Female Voices: Education and the Novel* (Frankfurt: Peter Lang, 2005)

Richard Barney, *Plots of Enlightenment: Education and the Novel in Eighteenth-Century England* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1999)
Stephen Bygrave, *Uses of Education: Readings in Enlightenment England* (Lewisburg: Bucknell University Press, 2009)
Cathy Caruth, *Empirical Truths and Critical Fictions: Locke, Wordsworth, Kant, Freud* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1991)
Frances Ferguson, 'Educational Rationalization / Sublime Reason.' *Romantic Circles* [online resource]
Christopher Fox, *Locke and the Scriblerians: Identity and Consciousness in Early Eighteenth-Century Britain* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1988)
Mary Hilton, *Women and the Shaping of the Nation's Young: Education and Public Doctrine in Britain, 1750-1850* (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2007)
Alan Richardson, *Literature, Education, and Romanticism: Reading as Social Practice, 1780-1832* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994)

Seminar 2. BEING HUMAN: RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Phillis Wheatley, 'To the Right Honourable William, Earl of Dartmouth, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for North America', in *The Poems of Phillis Wheatley* (1773)
Hannah More, 'Slavery, a Poem' (1788)
Jeremy Bentham, An Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation (1789) (ch. xvii)
Mary Wollstonecraft, *Vindication of the Rights of Woman; with Strictures on Moral and Political Subjects* (1792)
Thomas Spence, *The Rights of Infants* (1797)
Thomas Paine, *Rights of Man* (1791)
Mary Hays, *Appeal to the Men of Great Britain in Behalf of Women* (1798)
William Wilberforce, *A Letter on the Abolition of the Slave Trade, Addressed to the Freeholders of Yorkshire* (1807)

Secondary Reading

Robin Blackburn, *The Overthrow of Colonial Slavery 1776-1848* (London: Verso, 1988)
Marilyn Butler, *Romantics, Rebels and Reactionaries: English Literature and Its Background 1760-1830* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1981)
Peter de Bolla, *The Architecture of Concepts: The Historical Formation of Human Rights* (New York: Fordham University Press, 2013)
Moira Ferguson, *Subject to Others: British Women Writers and Colonial Slavery, 1670-1834* (New York: Routledge, 1992)
Maureen McLane, *Romanticism and the Human Species: Poetry, Population, and the Discourse of the Species* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000)
Clare Midgley, *Women against Slavery: The British Campaigns, 1780-1870* (London: Routledge, 1992)
Virginia Sapiro, *A Vindication of Political Virtue: The Political Theory of Mary Wollstonecraft* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1992)
Barbara Taylor, *Mary Wollstonecraft and the Feminist Imagination* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003)

Seminar 3. IN THE NURSERY: INSTRUCTION AND DELIGHT

John Newbery, *A Little Pretty Pocket-Book* (1744)

Anna Laetitia Barbauld, *Hymns in Prose for Children* (1781)

Sarah Trimmer, *Fabulous Histories Designed for the Instruction of Children Respecting their Treatment of Animals* (1786)

William Blake, *Songs of Innocence* (1789) and *Songs of Experience* (1794)

Maria Edgeworth, 'The Purple Jar' in *The Parent's Assistant* (1796)

Isaac Watts, *Divine Songs* (1715)

Sarah Fielding, *The Governess, or Little Female Academy* (1749)

Thomas Day, *The History of Sandford and Merton* (1783-1789)

Ann and Jane Taylor, *Original Poems for Infant Minds* (1804)

William Godwin, *Fables Ancient and Modern* (1805) esp. I-X

Charles and Mary Lamb, *Tales from Shakespeare* (1807)

Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, *Children's and Household Tales* (1812)

Mary Martha Sherwood, *The History of Little Henry and his Bearer* (1814)

Secondary Reading

Harvey Darton, *Children's Books in England: Five Centuries of Social Life*. 3rd ed. (London: British Library; New Castle, DE: Oak Knoll Press, 1999)

Matthew Grenby, *The Child Reader, 1700-1840* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011)

Mary V. Jackson, *Engines of Instruction, Mischief, and Magic: Children's Literature in England from its Beginnings to 1839* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1989)

Seth Lerer, *Children's Literature: A Readers' History from Aesop to Harry Potter* (Chicago: Chicago University Press, 2008), ch. 5

James Holt McGavran (ed.), *Literature and the Child: Romantic Continuations, Postmodern Contestations* (Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1999)

Anja Muller, *Framing Childhood in Eighteenth-Century Periodicals and Print* (Farnham: Ashgate, 2009)

Mitzi Myers, 'Impeccable Governesses, Rational Dames, and Moral Mothers: Mary Wollstonecraft and the Female Tradition in Georgian Children's Books' in *Children's Literature*, 14 (1986), 31-59

Andrew O'Malley, *The Making of the Modern Child: Children's Literature in the Late Eighteenth Century* (London and New York: Routledge, 2003)

Lissa Paul, *The Children's Book Business: Lessons from the Long Eighteenth Century* (New York: Routledge, 2011)

Samuel F. Pickering, *John Locke and Children's Books in Eighteenth-Century England* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1981)

---. *Moral Instruction and Fiction for Children, 1749-1820* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1993)

Jacqueline Rose, *The Strange Case of Peter Pan: The Impossibility of Children's Literature*, rev. edn., (London: Macmillan, 1994)

Donelle Ruwe (ed.), *Culturing the Child 1660-1830: Essays in Memory of Mitzi Myers* (Scarecrow Press, 2005)

Geoffrey Summerfield, *Fantasy and Reason: Children's Literature in the Eighteenth Century* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1985)

Seminar 4. REPRESENTING CHILDHOOD: MEMORY AND MYTHOLOGY

Oloudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, the African*. Vol. 1 (1791)

William Wordsworth, *The Prelude*, Bks. 1-2 (1805)

Marjorie Fleming, *The Complete Journals* (1811)

Thomas de Quincey, *Autobiographical Sketches* (1853), ch. 1-5.

Thomas Chatterton, *Poems Supposed to have been written at Bristol by Thomas Rowley and Others, in the Fifteenth Century* (1777)

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *The Confessions of Jean-Jacques Rousseau* (1782)

James Boswell, *The Life of Johnson* (1791), Part I (first section, approx. 1709-1742)

Mary Hays, *Memoirs of Emma Courtney* (1796)

Lord Byron, *Don Juan*, Canto I (1819)

Charlotte Brontë, *Juvenilia* (1829-1835)

Secondary Reading

Philippe Ariès, *Centuries of Childhood* (New York: Vintage Books, 1962)

Hugh Cunningham, *Children and Childhood in Western Society Since 1500* (London: Longman, 2005)

---. *The Invention of Childhood* (London: BBC Books, 2006)

Sigmund Freud, *Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality*, 'Essay II: Infantile Sexuality' (1905)

Colin Heywood, *A History of Childhood: Children and Childhood in the West from Medieval to Modern Times* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2001)

Sally Shuttleworth, *The Mind of the Child* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010)

Carolyn Steedman, *Strange Dislocations: Childhood and the Idea of Interiority, 1780-1930* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1995)

Laurence Stone, *The Family, Sex and Marriage in England, 1500-1800* (Harmondsworth, Penguin, 1977)

Anja Muller, *Fashioning Childhood in the Eighteenth Century: Age and Identity* (Burlington: Ashgate, 2006)

Judith Plotz, *Romanticism and the Vocation of Childhood* (New York and Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2001)

James Kincaid, *Child-Loving: The Erotic Child and Victorian Culture* (New York: Routledge, 1992)

Anne Higonnet, *Pictures of Innocence: The History and Crisis of Ideal Childhood* (New York: Thames and Hudson, 1998)

Ann Wierda Rowland, *Romanticism and Childhood: The Infantilization of British Literary Culture* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012)

William Stroup, 'The Romantic Child', *Literature Compass* 1 (June 2004)

Joseph Zornado, *Inventing the Child* (Garland: Routledge, 2006)