

English 606.1 (WST 610)
Modernism and Cultural Studies
Fall 2009
Mondays 12:50-3:40

Professor: Celia Marshik
Office Hours: Tuesdays 12-1:30 (in 2089), Wednesdays from 2-3:30 (in 1106) & by appt
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Course Description:

The recent renaissance in modernist studies has been accompanied by theoretical and methodological commitments to interdisciplinary work. A glance at a conference program or journal suggests that the study of modernism, while continuing to address canonical authors and texts, has expanded into a study of modernity writ large. This seminar will explore the relationship between literary modernism and cultural studies (as well as parallel approaches, including the sociology of literature and political formalism) to address several key questions: what is the relationship between canonical modernism and the new modernist studies? How might scholars primarily interested in literary texts use or engage with cultural studies of modernity? What challenges do such studies pose to the field as a whole? Our readings will include modernist texts (including both “high” and “middlebrow” works) as well as recent scholarly studies of modernity; many of the readings will focus on gender and sexuality.

Required Texts (available at Stony Books):

Liz Conor, *The Spectacular Modern Woman* (Indiana UP, 0253216702)
Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness* (Penguin, 0141441674)
Laura Doan, *Fashioning Sapphism* (Columbia UP, 0231110073)
T. S. Eliot, *The Waste Land and Other Writings* (Modern Library, 0375759344)
Rita Felski, *The Gender of Modernity* (Harvard UP, 0674341945)
Radclyffe Hall, *The Well of Loneliness* (Anchor, 0385416091)
James Joyce, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (Penguin, 0142437344)
Nella Larsen, *Passing* (Penguin, 0142437271)
D. H. Lawrence, *The Virgin and the Gipsy* (Vintage, 0679740775)
Anita Loos, *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* (Liveright, 0871401703)
Virginia Woolf, *Mrs Dalloway* (Harcourt, 0156030357)

Additional readings are available on-line through Blackboard and the Library website (under “Databases & E-Journals”).

Course Requirements

In addition to regular participation in seminar discussions, you will give one research-based class presentation, a twenty-minute presentation based on reading above and beyond that assigned to all students on the syllabus. You should plan to consult me in advance of your presentation date for reading recommendations. You will also prepare one twenty-page paper; an annotated bibliography and abstract for this paper will be due no later than Wednesday, November 22. Students who intend to apply this course toward the Women's Studies Certificate must write a seminar paper relevant to that program. During our final class session, all students will present shorter versions of their paper in a class conference.

Course Calendar

Items marked with one asterisk can be found on Blackboard

Items marked with two asterisks are available on-line through the Library

August 31 Introduction to the course

September 7 No class (Labor Day)

September 14 Felski, *The Gender of Modernity*

Rita Felski, "Modernist Studies and Cultural Studies: Reflections on Method." *Modernism/modernity* 10.3 (2003): 501-17. * *

September 21 Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*

Leslie Heywood, "Gendered Restraints: *Heart of Darkness* and the Anorexic Logic of Literary Modernism"* (from *Modernism, Gender and Culture*)

Anne McClintock, "The Lay of the Land" (from *Imperial Leather*)*

September 28 No Class (Yom Kippur)

September 29 Correction day (Meets on a Monday schedule)

T. S. Eliot, *The Waste Land* and "Tradition and the Individual Talent"

Lawrence Rainey, "The Price of Modernism: Publishing *TWL*" *
(from *Institutions of Modernism*)

Tim Armstrong, "Waste Products"* (from *Modernism, Technology and the Body*)

October 5 Joyce, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*

Joseph Valente, "The Manliness of Parnell," *Éire-Ireland* 41.1 (2006): 64-121.* *

Valérie Bénéjam, "Stephen and the Venus of Praxiteles" (from *Cultural Studies of James Joyce*)*

- October 12** Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*
Brenda Silver, "Virginia Woolf's Face"* (from *Virginia Woolf Icon*)
Elizabeth Outka, "Crossing the Great Divides." *Modernism/modernity* 12
(2005): 311-328* *
- October 19** Conor, *The Spectacular Modern Woman*
- October 26** Anita Loos, *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*
Joan Shelley Rubin, Foreword to *Middlebrow Moderns**
Lisa Botshon and Meredith Goldsmith, Introduction to *Middlebrow
Moderns**
- November 2** Doan, *Fashioning Sapphism*
- November 9** Hall, *The Well of Loneliness*
- November 16** Lawrence, *The Virgin and the Gipsy*
Janet Lyon, "Gadže Modernism." *Modernism/modernity* 11 (2004):
517-38.* *
Joseph Boone, "Channeling the Floods of Desire" (from *Libidinal
Currents*) *
- November 23** Larsen, *Passing*
Pamela Caughie, "Passing as Modernism." *Modernism/modernity* 12
(2005): 385-406.* *
- November 30** A Day on Modern Objects and Activities
Judith Brown, "Cellophane Glamour." *Modernism/modernity* 15 (2008):
605-626. * *
James Buzard, "Perpetual Revolution." *Modernism/modernity* 8 (2001):
559-581.* *
Caroline Evans, "Jean Patou's American Mannequins."
Modernism/modernity 15 (2008): 243-263. * *
- December 7** **Class Conference**

Monday, December 14
Final Paper due in my mailbox by 4 pm

Suggested Additional Reading

Books

- Armstrong, Tim. *Modernism: A Cultural History*. Polity, 2005.
- Brantlinger, Patrick. *Bread and Circuses: Theories of Mass Culture and Social Decay*. Cornell, 1986.
- Driscoll, Catherine. *Modernist Cultural Studies*. UP of Florida, 2010
- Goody, Alex. *Modernist Articulations: A Cultural Study of Djuna Barnes, Mina Loy, and Gertrude Stein*. New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.
- Huyssen, Andreas. *After The Great Divide: Modernism, Mass Culture, Postmodernism*. ACLS Humanities, 2008.
- Middleton, Tim. *Modernism: Critical Concepts in Literary and Cultural Studies*. New York: Routledge, 2003.
- Rado, Lisa. *Modernism, Gender and Culture: A Cultural Studies Approach*. New York: Routledge, 1997.
- Scott, Bonnie Kime. *Gender and Modernism: Critical Concepts in Literary and Cultural Studies*. New York: Routledge, 2007.
- Ullmaier, Johannes. *Cultural Studies and Modernism*. Max Niemeyer Verlag, 2001.
- Wallace, Michele. *Dark Designs and Visual Culture*. Durham, NC: Duke UP, 2004.
- Welchman, John. *Modernism Relocated: Towards a Cultural Studies of Visual Modernity*. St. Leonard's: Allen & Unwin, 1995.
- Williams, Raymond. *Politics of Modernism*. Verso, 2007.

Articles

- Barker, Chris. *Cultural Studies: Theory and Practice*. Sage, 2008. [Chapter 6, Enter Postmodernism]
- Bush, Christopher. "The Other of the Other? Cultural Studies, Theory, and the Location of the Modernist Signifier." *Comparative Literature Studies* 42 (2005): 162-180.
- Crow, Thomas. "Modernism and Mass Culture in the Visual Arts." In his *Modern Art in the Common Culture*. New Haven, CT: Yale UP, 1996. 3-38.
- Fluet, Lisa. "H. G. Wells, Disciplinarity, and Cultural Studies." *Critical Matrix: The Princeton Journal of Women, Gender, and Culture* 15 (Summer 2004): 31-59.
- Friedman, Susan Stanford. "Cultural Parataxis and Transnational Landscapes of Reading: Toward a Locational Modernist Studies." *Modernism*. Amsterdam: Benjamins, 2007. 35-52.
- Hirsch, Jerrold. "T. S. Eliot, B. A. Botkin, and the Politics of Cultural Representation: Folklore, Modernity, and Pluralism." *Race and the Modern Artist*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2003. 16-41.
- Howard, David. "From the Missile Gap to the Culture Gap: Modernism in the Fallout from Sputnik." *Cultural Studies: An Anthology*. Ed. Michael Ryan. Wiley-Blackwell, 2008. 999-1008.
- Huyssen, Andreas. "Geographies of Modernism in a Globalizing World." *New German Critique* 100 (Winter 2007): 189-207.
- . "High/Low in an Expanded Field." *Modernism/Modernity* 9.3 (Sep. 2002): 363-374.
- Jacobs, Deborah F. "Feminist Criticism/Cultural Studies/Modernist Texts: A Manifesto for the '90s." *Rereading Modernism: New Directions in Feminist Criticism*. New York: Garland, 1994. 273-295.
- Kusch, Celena E. "Disorienting Modernism: National Boundaries and the Cosmopolis." *Journal of Modern Literature* 30.4 (Summer 2007): 39-60.
- Lamb, Stephen, and Anthony Phelan. "Weimar Culture: The Birth of Modernism." *German Cultural Studies: An Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1995. 53-99.
- Leonard, Garry. "Hystericising Modernism: Modernity in Joyce." *Cultural Studies of James Joyce*. Amsterdam, Netherlands: Rodopi, 2003. 167-188.
- Schur, Richard. "The Missing Modernists? American Cultural Studies and the Case of John Dos Passos." *John Dos Passos Newsletter* 7 (Winter 2001): 1-3.
- Sperb, Jason. "Empty Spaces: Remapping the Chaotic Milieu of the Modernist City in Sunrise." *Studies in the Literary Imagination* 40.1 (Spring 2007): 77-89.
- Trask, Michael. "Merging with the Masses: The Queer Identity Politics of Leftist Modernism." *Differences: A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies* 8.1 (Spring 1996): 94-131.