

21H.433  
Spring 2007

### THIRD PAPER SUGGESTIONS

*Below are some suggested primary and secondary sources you may want to consider analyzing for your third paper.*

#### Novels

- **Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*** [Early nineteenth-century romantic novel about a scientist who creates human life, and the disaster that ensues.]
- **Charles Dickens, *Hard Times*** [Hard-headed look at the impact of industrialization in nineteenth-century England.]
- **Denis Diderot, *The Nun*** [Loosely based on the real-life story of a young woman “imprisoned” in a convent.]
- **Choderlos de Laclos, *Dangerous Liaisons*** [1782 epistolary novel about the moral depravity of the French nobility.]
- **Johan Wolfgang von Goethe, *The Sorrows of Young Werther*** [Pre-romantic novel of a young commoner’s ill-fated love for a woman of the upper class.]
- **Bernard le Bovier de Fontenelle, *Conversations on the Plurality of Worlds*** [Late seventeenth-century fictional dialogue between a natural philosopher and aristocratic woman; equal parts science and seduction.]
- **Samuel Richardson, *Pamela, or Clarissa*** [The two great English epistolary novels of the mid eighteenth century.]
- **Voltaire, *Candide*** [A novel refuting Leibniz’s contention that “all is for the best in the best of all possible worlds .]

#### Plays

- **Beaumarchais, *The Marriage of Figaro*** [Napoleon reportedly accused this 1784 play of causing the Revolution.]
- **Molière, *Tartuffe, or The Hypocrite*** [A 1660s comedy attacking religious hypocrisy; made many French men and women uneasy.]
- **Johan Wolfgang von Goethe, *Faust, Parts I & II*** [Virtuoso retelling of the Renaissance legend popularized by Christopher Marlowe; half romantic in style, half neo-classical.]

## Essays

- **Denis Diderot**, *Supplement to the Voyage of Bougainville* [Imaginary analysis of Tahitian society; used to critique France, and Europe more generally.]
- **Hector Saint-John de Crèveceour**, *Letters From an American Farmer* [At the origins of the myth of the American farmer/democrat; written by a French exile in the 1780s.]
- **Olaudah Equiano**, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano* [Controversial late eighteenth-century autobiography of a former slave; sponsored by British abolitionist groups.]
- **Joseph Addison and Richard Steele**, *The Spectator*, ed. **Donald Bond**. [A daily “opinion column” written by two men of letters in 1711-1712; one sees a “public sphere” taking shape in its pages.]
- **Thomas Jefferson**, *Notes on the State of Virginia* [An essay written in response to the French government’s request for information before it decided to help the North American colonists in their struggle against the British. Interesting reflections on politics, race, climate, etc.]
- **Jean-Jacques Rousseau**, *Emile, or On Education*. [Rousseau’s treatise on the education of children.]
- **Jean-Jacques Rousseau**, *Discourses on the Origins of Inequality and on the Arts and Sciences* [His initial statements on the corruption of society and the merits of the state of nature.]

## Painters [Look on the web to see images by these artists. Try entering their names in Google images.]

- Jacques-Louis David
- Goya
- William Hogarth
- Greuze
- Benjamin West
- Sir Joshua Reynolds

## Miscellaneous Primary Sources

- **Sue Peabody and Keila Grinberg**, eds. *Slavery, Freedom, and the Law in the Atlantic World: A Brief History With Documents* [Compliments Dubois and Garrigus’ reader on Saint Domingue, but includes documents and analysis on slavery in the British Spanish and Portuguese new world colonies.]

## Secondary Literature

- **Jessica Riskin, *Science in the Age of Sensibility: The Sentimental Empiricists of the French Enlightenment*** [How reason and emotion came together in the work of Enlightenment scientists.]
- **Robert Darnton, *Mesmerism and the End of the Enlightenment*** [How occultism and magical thinking survived in the age of reason.]
- **Joan Landes, *Women and the Public Sphere in the Age of the French Revolution*** [Classic feminist statement.]
- **Lynn Hunt, *The Family Romance of the French Revolution*** [Controversial effort to apply Freudian analysis to events in France in the 1790s.]
- **Roger Chartier, *The Cultural Origins of the French Revolution*** [Insightful, synthetic explanation of the revolutionary impulse in France.]
- **Carl Becker, *The Heavenly City of the Eighteenth-Century Philosophers*** [Argues that the philosophes were far more religious, even millenarian, in their thought than is commonly acknowledged.]
- **Max Horkheimer and Theodor Adorno, *Dialectic of Enlightenment*** [Suggests that twentieth-century totalitarianism had its roots in the thought of the Enlightenment.]
- **Jürgen Habermas, *The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere*** [Foundational formulation of the notion of a “public sphere,” by a late twentieth-century German social critic; considers the nineteenth and twentieth centuries as well.]
- **Michel Foucault, *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*** [Provocative analysis of the penal impulse, which argues that democracy leads to greater constraints on the individual, rather than more freedom.]
- **Margaret Jacob, *Living the Enlightenment: Freemasonry and Politics in Eighteenth-Century Europe*** [Thorough discussion of a key eighteenth-century phenomenon.]
- **William H. Sewall, *A Rhetoric of Bourgeois Revolution: The Abbé Sieyès and “What is the Third Estate?”*** [Exhaustive analysis of the famous Revolutionary pamphlet that predicted the course of events in 1789.]
- **David A. Bell, *The Cult of the Nation in France: Inventing Nationalism, 1680-1800*** [Pre-revolutionary origins of French nationalism.]
- **Linda Colley, *Britons: Forging the Nation, 1707-1837*** [How the British created nationalism, empire, and the symbolic politics of monarchy.]

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21H.433 The Age of Reason: Europe from the 17th to the Early 19th Centuries  
Spring 2011

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