Experience and Experiment in Early Modern Europe

Syllabus

The Textures of Experience

Visiting Faculty: John Sutton, Senior Lecturer in Philosophy, Macquarie University, Australia

Monday:

Recommended reading: Vol. 1: Sense and Sensibilia, pp. 693-713.

Tuesday:

Vol. 1: pp. 641-92. Read especially Book One, chapters 1 and 5; Book Two, chapters 1-5 and 12; and Book Three, chapters 3-5.


See especially pp. 31-49.


Wednesday:
Read Book I, chapters 1-6; Book III, especially chapters 1-6, 13, 20-21, 25-26.

Read pp. 280-284.

Read Chapters 9-14, pp. 58-73.

Read Book I, chapters 18, 32-33, 35-38.


**Thursday:**


**Supplementary Reading:**


*The Renaissance Computer: Knowledge Technology in the First Age of Print*. Edited by Neil Rhodes and Jonathan Sawday. London: Routledge, 2000. Read the papers by Rhodes and Sawday; Marcus; Sawday; Corns; and Rhodes.


**Vernacular Epistemologies**

*Visiting Faculty:* Mary Fissell, Associate Professor of the History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, Johns Hopkins University; and Gail Kern Paster, Professor of English, George Washington University

**Monday:** Vernacular Knowledge and Print Culture


Read Vol. II: Century I, Experiments 45-59 (358-65), Experiment 63 (367), Experiments 65-66 (368-69), Experiment 98 (380-82); Century III, Experiment 293 (437-38); Century VII, Experiments 601-607 (528-30); and Century X, Experiment 928 (649), Experiment 960 (660-1).


Read pp. 3-12 and pp. 234-66.


**Tuesday:** The Body and/in The World


Paster, Gail Kern. "The Body and Its Passions."

Paster, Gail Kern. "The Clear Spirit Puddled: Physiological Tropes of Passion in Othello"


Read especially pp. 1-39.

**Thursday:** Book Exercise


**Friday:** Female Bodies


Fissell, Mary. "Making Bodies Speak: Prophets and Midwives."


**Supplementary Reading:**


Vaughan, William. *Naturall and Artificial Directions for Health, derived from the best philosophers, as well moderne, as auncient.* London, 1600.


**Mechanical Arts, Natural Philosophy, and Visual Representation**

*Visiting Faculty: David Summers, William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of the History of Art, University of Virginia; and Beth L. Holman, Associate Professor, Studies in the Decorative Arts, Design, and Culture, The Bard Graduate Center*

**Monday:**


**Tuesday:**


**Wednesday:**


**Thursday:**


Serlio, Sebastiano. *Sebastiano Serlio on Architecture: Books I-V of Tutte L'Opere d'Architettura et Prospetiva.* Translated, with an
introduction and commentary, by Vaughan Hart and Peter Hicks.  
Read front matter, pp. 252-255, and 287.


Read Vol. 1: frontispiece, dedication to Charles V; letter to Oporinus (xlvii-lxii), and pp. 1-18 and 370-384 ("How the Bones and Cartilages of the Human Body are Prepared for Study -chapter xxxix)


**Supplementary Primary Reading:**


**Supplementary Secondary Reading:**


Disciplining Experience: Cartography and Mathematics

Visiting Faculty: Chandra Mukerji, Professor of Communications, Sociology, and Science Studies, University of California at San Diego; and Jim Bennett, Keeper of the Museum of the History of Science, Oxford

Monday:
Cortés, Martín. Breve compendio de la sphera. Seville, 1551.

La Cosa, Juan de. Spanish World Chart, ca. 1500.

Read chapters 3 and 4.


Tuesday:


Wednesday:


**Thursday:**


**Supplementary Reading:**


**Objects of Art/Objects of Nature**

*Visiting Faculty: Paula Findlen, Director of the Science, Technology, and Society Program and Professor of History, Stanford University*

**Monday:**


**Tuesday:**
Session in the National Gallery with Dr. Peter Parshall in the exhibit "The Unfinished Print," 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.


**Wednesday:**


**Thursday:**
Session in the National Gallery sculpture collection and conservation lab with Dr. Shelley Sturman and Dr. Debra Pincus, 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.


**Supplementary Reading:**


**Experience and Experiment in the Scientific Revolution**

*Visiting Faculty: Peter Dear, Professor of History and of Science & Technology Studies, Cornell University; and Adrian Johns, Professor of History, University of Chicago*

**Monday:**


Read especially pp. 115-163.


Read especially pp. 1-71.

**Tuesday:**


**Wednesday:**


**Thursday:**


**Supplementary Reading:**


