

II. Special Topic/Approach Exam: Language Ideology, Nation, and Gender in Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Culture

In this reading, I will explore concepts of language and nation in relation to concepts of language and gender in American literature and culture during the nineteenth century. My primary interest is the role of language in building an American national identity during this period. My readings on gender and language will therefore be secondary to my readings on nation and language, as I will consider the extent to which national identity is gendered in discussions of American English, the extent to which the discourses of nation-building and gender-construction intersect in the making of Americans, and the extent to which American literature participates in these potentially merging discourses. Calling on rhetorical, historicist, and linguistic approaches to literature, I place critical, cultural, literary, and theoretical texts alongside one another for this study of the intersections among language ideologies, nation-building, and gender-construction in nineteenth-century America.

Language Backgrounds (secondary texts)

- Bailey, Richard. *Nineteenth Century English* (1996)
Images of English: A Cultural History of the Language (1993)
- Baron, Denis. *Grammar and Good Taste* (1980)
- Cameron, Deborah. *Verbal Hygiene* (1995)
- Crowley, Tony. *Standard English and the Politics of Language* (1989)
- Labov, William. "The Social Motivation of a Sound Change" (1963)
- Lippi-Green, Rosina. *English with an Accent* (1997)
- McMahon, April. *Understanding Language Change*, chapter 12 (1991)
- Newfield, Chris. "Authoritarian Language" from *The Emerson Effect* (1997)
- Wolfram, Walt and Natalie Shilling-Estes. *American English: Dialects and Variation* (1998)
- Whorf, Benjamin. *Language, Thought, and Reality: Selected Writings* (1956)

Historical Works on Language (primary texts)

- Bloomfield, Leonard. "Why a Linguistic Society?" *Language* I (1925)
- Jespersen, Otto. *Growth and Structure of the English Language* (1905)
- Jones, Richard. *The Triumph of the English Language* (1953)
- Knapp, George. *The English Language in America* (1925), selections
- Mencken, H.L. *The American Language* (1919)
 "The Future of English" (1935)
- Muller, Max. *Science of Language* (1862)
- Sapir, Edward. *Language* (1921)
- Webster, Noah. *Dissertations on the English Language* (1789)
The American Spelling Book [Intro to *Grammatical Institutes*] (1783)
 from *On Being American: Selected Writings, 1783-1828* (1967)
- White, Grant. *Words and Their Uses, Past and Present* (1870) or *Every-Day English* (1881)

Backgrounds on Nation and Language (secondary texts)

- Anderson, Benedict. *Imagined Communities* (1991, 1983)
- Arendt, Hannah. *The Burden of Our Time* (1951)
- Balibar, Etienne and Immanuel Wallerstein. *Race, Nation, Class: Ambiguous Identities* (1991)
- Bhabha, Homi. "DessimiNation" in *Nation and Narration* (1990)
 "Of Mimicry" in *The Location of Culture* (1994)
- Forgie, George. *Patricide in the House Divided* (1979)
- Grossman, Allan, "The Poetics of Union" in *The American Renaissance Reconsidered*, ed. Walter Benn Michaels and Donald E. Pease (1985)
- Guillory, John. *Cultural Capital* (1993), chapter one
- Gustafson, Thomas. *Representative Words: Politics, Literature, and the American Language, 1776-1865* (1992)
- Gura, Phillip. *The Crossroads of American History and Literature*, chapters 8, 9, 13 on language and American literature (1996)
- Hobsbawm, E. J. *Nations and Nationalism since 1780: Programme, Myth, Reality* (1990)
- Looby, Christopher. *Voicing America* (1996)
 "Phonetics and Politics: Franklin's Alphabet as a Political Design." *Eighteenth-Century Studies* (1984)
- Nelson, Dana D. *National Manhood* (1998)
- Simpson, David. *The Politics of American English* (1986)
- Shumway, David. *Creating American Civilization* (1994)
- Spivak, Gayatri. "The Making of Americans, the Teaching of English, and the Future of Culture Studies" in *New Literary History* (1990)

Nation and Language (primary texts)

- Crevecoeur, Hector St. John de. Letter III, "What is an American" from *Letters from An American Farmer* (1782)
- Brown, Charles Brockden. *Wieland* (1798)
- Cooper, James Fenimore. *The Prairie* (1827)
Notions of the Americans (1828)
The American Democrat: Or Hints on the Social and Civic Relations of the United States of America (1838)
- Duyckinck, Evert A. "Nationality in Literature" (1847)
Cyclopedia of American Literature (1856)
- Emerson, Ralph Waldo. *Nature* (1836); *Eloquence* (1847 and 1867)
- Franklin, Benjamin. "Idea of the English School" (1751)
Autobiography (1791; 1867)
- Godwin, William. *Selections from The Enquirer; Reflections on Education, Manners, and Literature* (1797)
- Herder, Johann Gottfried. *On the New German Literature: Fragments* (1767), on the notion of *Sprachgeist*
- Irving, Washington. "Rip Van Winkle," *The Sketch Book* (1819)
- Jefferson, Thomas. "Objections to Sending American Students to Europe" (1785)
 "Education of a Young Man" (1787)

- “Female Education” (1818)
 “Grammar and the American Language” (1813)
 O’Sullivan, John. “The Great Nation of Futurity” (1839)
 Pickering, John. *A Vocabulary or Collection of Words and Phrases Which Have Been Supposed to be Peculiar to the United States of America* (1816)
 Whitman, Walt. *Other Notebooks &c. on Words* and *The Primer of Words* in vol. 3 of *Daybooks and Notebooks* (1978)
 Wilson, Thomas. *The Many Advantages of a Good Language to Any Nation* (1724)

Backgrounds on Gender and Language (secondary texts)

- Baron, Denis. *Grammar and Gender* (1986)
 Cameron, Deborah, ed. *The Feminist Critique of Language* (1990)
 Cixous, Helene. “Laugh of the Medusa” in *Signs* 1 (1976)
 Crawford, Mary. *Talking Difference: On Gender and Language* (1995), selections
 Fetterley, Judith. *The Resisting Reader: A Feminist Approach to American Fiction* (1977)
 Goshgarian, G. M.. *To Kiss the Chastening Rod: Domestic Fiction and Sexual Ideology in the American Renaissance* (1992)
 Levander, Caroline. *Voices of the Nation: Women and Public Speech in Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Culture* (1998)
 McClintock, Ann. *Imperial Leather: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in the Colonial Contest* (1995)
 Mugglestone, Lynda. *Talking Proper: The Rise of Accent as Social Symbol* (1997)
 Nettles, Elsa. *Language and Gender in American Fiction: Howells, James, Wharton, and Cather* (1997)

Gender and Language (primary texts)

- Allen, James Lane. “Two Principles in Recent American Fiction,” *Atlantic Monthly*, 80 (1897)
 Dew, Thomas. “On the Characteristic Differences Between the Sexes, and on the Position and Influence of Woman in Society” in *Southern Literary Messenger* 1 (1835)
 Heywood, Angela. “The Woman’s View of It” and other columns, *The Word* (1883-1889)
 Gilman, Charlotte Perkins. *The Man-Made World; or Our Androcentric Culture* (1911)
 Higginson, Thomas Wentworth. *Woman and the Alphabet* (1881)
 Howells, William Dean. “A Perfect Goose” (1859); “Our Daily Speech” in *Harper’s Bazaar* (November 1906); and “The Grasshopper: The Simple, the Natural, the Honest in Art,” in *Selected Literary Criticism*, Vol. 2 (1886-1897), ed. Donald Pizer (1993)
 Jacobs, Harriet. *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* (1861)
 James, Henry. *The Tragic Muse* (1890); “An Animated Conversation,” *Scribner’s* (1889); “The Question of Our Speech” (1905); “The Speech of American Women” (1906)
 Kingsland, Florence. *Correct Social Usage* (1908)
 Murray, Lindley. *English Grammar Adapted to the Different Classes of Learners* (1866)
 Parsons, Elsie Clews, “Sex Dialects,” *The Old-Fashioned Woman* (1913)

- Phelps, Elizabeth Stuart. *The Silent Partner* (1871)
- Twain, Mark. "The Temperance Crusade and Woman's Rights" in *Europe and Elsewhere* (1923)
- Wharton, Edith. "The Great American Novel" (1927)
- Wheatley, Phyllis. "On Imagination" (1773)
- Winslow, Rev. Hubbard, and Sanford, Mrs. John. *The Lady's Manual of Moral and Intellectual Culture* (1854)

III. Theory Exam: Theories in Composition and Rhetoric

Historical Studies

- Berlin, James A. *Rhetorics, Poetics, and Cultures: Refiguring English Studies* (1996)
Rhetoric and Reality: Writing Instruction in American Colleges 1900-85 (1987)
Writing Instruction in Nineteenth-Century America (1984)
- Connors, Robert J. *Composition-Rhetoric: Backgrounds, Theory, and Pedagogy* (1997)
- Faigley, Lester. *Fragments of Rationality: Postmodernity and the Subject of Composition* (1992)
- Harris, Joseph. *A Teaching Subject: Composition Since 1966* (1997)
- Miller, Susan. *Textual Carnivals: The Politics of Composition* (1991)
Assuming the Positions: Cultural Pedagogy and the Politics of Commonplace Writing (1998)
- Miller, Thomas. *The Formation of College English: Rhetoric and Belles Lettres in the British Cultural Provinces* (1997)
- Ohmann, Richard M. *English in America: A Radical View of the Profession* (1976)
- Russell, David R. *Writing in the Academic Disciplines, 1870-1990: A Curricular History* (1991)
- Villanueva, Victor, Jr., ed. *Cross-Talk in Comp Theory: A Reader* (1997)

Rhetorical Perspectives

- Bizzell, Patricia. *Academic Discourse and Critical Consciousness* (1992)
- Jarratt, Susan. *Rereading the Sophists: Classical Rhetoric Refigured* (1991)
- Kaufert, David S. *Rhetoric and the Arts of Design* (1996)
- Toulmin, Stephen. *Human Understanding* (1972)
- Wells, Susan. *Sweet Reason: Rhetoric and the Discourses of Modernity* (1996)

Cognitivist/Process Approaches, Basic Writing, and Grammar in Teaching Writing

- Britton, James. *The Development of Writing Abilities (11-18)* (1975)
- Enos, Theresa, ed. *Sourcebook for Basic Writing Teachers* (1987)
- Shaughnessy, Mina. *Errors and Expectations* (1977)
- Hartwell, Patrick. "Grammar, Grammars, and the Teaching of Grammar" CE 47.2 (1985)

Voice and Expressivism

- Elbow, Peter. *Embracing Contraries: Explorations in Learning and Teaching* (1986)
- Moffett, James. *Teaching the Universe of Discourse* (1983) [1968]

Discourse Communities, Disciplinarity, and Writing

- Berkenkotter, Carol and Thomas N. Huckin. *Genre Knowledge in Disciplinary Communication* (1995)
- Brodkey, Linda. *Academic Writing as Social Practice* (1987)
- Dillon, George L. *Contending Rhetorics: Writing in the Academic Disciplines* (1991)
- MacDonald, Susan Peck. *Professional Academic Writing in the Humanities and Social Sciences* (1994)
- Scholes, Robert E. *The Rise and Fall of English: Reconstructing English as a Discipline* (1998)

Writing Diversity

Brodkey, Linda. *Writing Permitted in Designated Areas Only* (1996)

Malinowitz, Harriet. *Textual Orientations: Lesbian and Gay Students and the Making of Discourse Communities* (1994)

Phelps, Louise Wetherbee, and Janet Emig, eds. *Feminine Principles and Women's Experience in American Composition and Rhetoric* (1995)

Language, Metaphor and Pedagogy

Barnes, Doug. *From Communication to Curriculum* (1992)

Black, Laurel Johnson. *Between Talk and Teaching: Reconsidering the Writing Conference* (1998)

Frost, Robert. "Education by Poetry" in *Selected Prose of Robert Frost*. 1966 (1954, 1949)

Goatly, Andrew. *The Language of Metaphors*, selections (1997)

Jakobson, Roman. "Linguistics and Poetics" and "Two Aspects of Language and Two Types of Aphasic Disturbances" in *Language in Literature* (1987)

Kameen, Paul. "Reworking the Rhetoric of Composition" (1980)

Lakoff, George. *Women, Fire, and Dangerous Things: What Categories Reveal about the Mind* (1987)

Lakoff, George and Johnson, Mark. *Metaphors We Live By* (1980)

Lakoff, George and Turner, Mark. *More Than Cool Reason* (1989)

Percy, Walker. "Metaphor As Mistake" in *The Message in the Bottle* (1975)

Stubbs, Michael. *Readings on Language, Schools, and Classrooms* (1983)

Sweetser, Eve. *From Etymology to Pragmatics: Metaphorical and Cultural Aspects of Semantic Structure* (1990)

Turner, Mark. *The Literary Mind: The Origins of Thought and Language* (1996)