

Blake 2.0

English 390, Spring 2012
2:00-3:15 Tues & Thurs 302 Greenlaw

Joseph Viscomi (jsviscom@email.unc.edu)
office GL 504, hrs: T-Th 12:45-1:45; & appt. 962-8764
<http://english.unc.edu/faculty/viscomij.html>

Texts:

Blake's Poetry and Designs. Ed. Mary Lynn Johnson and Jon E. Grant. New York: Norton Critical Edition. 2nd edition, 2008

Web Resource page with extra readings and selected criticism at:

<http://sites.unc.edu/viscomi/romrev> [userid: blake; password: catherine]

William Blake Archive <blakearchive.org>

Zoamorphosis The Blake 2.0 Blog <<http://zoamorphosis.com/>>

Blake in Popular Culture <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Blake_in_popular_culture>

Blake's *The Book of Thel*, *The Songs of Innocence and of Experience*, *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*, *America, a Prophecy*, *Europe, a Prophecy*, *The Book of Urizen* are illuminated books that are reproduced in excellent facsimiles by the William Blake Trust, copies of which are in the Department of Rare Books, Wilson Library; for excellent digital reproductions of various exemplary copies of these and other of Blake's illuminated books, as well as his manuscripts, engravings, drawings, watercolors, and paintings, go to *The William Blake Archive* at <http://blakearchive.org> [WBA]. The Archive also contains bibliographies on Blake's work, a profusely illustrated biography, and an essay on his illuminated printing technique.

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|------------------------|---|
| 1/10-12 | Introduction to Course and the William Blake Archive |
| 1/17-19 | <i>An Island in the Moon</i> , in Norton and manuscript in WBA;
Illustrated Biography in WBA (Blake Archive/About Blake)
<i>Poetical Sketches</i> |
| 1/24-26 | Technical and aesthetic origin of Blake's illuminated printing:
WBA/ <i>About Blake</i> : illustrated essay on illuminated printing
WEB RESOURCE: <i>Blake</i> : Critical comments on illuminated printing; Blake's Prospectus for illuminated books; letters: 1800 to Cumberland, 1808 to and from Cumberland, 1818 to Turner, 1827 to Cumberland;
Select Criticism : Essick, Viscomi, "Introduction to Blake's Illuminated Books" |
| 1/31-2/2 | Poetic Genius: <i>All Religions are One; There is No Natural Religion</i> |
| 2/7-9 | <i>Songs of Innocence</i> |
| 2/14-16 | <i>Songs of Experience</i> |
| 2/21, 23,
2/28, 3/1 | <i>The Marriage of Heaven and Hell</i>
WEB RESOURCE: <i>Blake</i> : letters: 1799 to Trusler (2) and to Cumberland; |

Select Criticism: Eaves, Essick, Viscomi, "Introduction to *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*"

3/6-8

SPRING BREAK

3/13-15

Blake and Reynolds: From Neoclassical to Romantic theories of Art

WEB RESOURCE: *Reynolds: Discourses* III, IV, VI, VII; *Blake: Annotations to Reynolds* (c. 1808); *Blake: from the Descriptive Catalogue* (1809) cp 547-48, cat. # VIII and IX; *Blake: Public Address* (c. 1809);

WBA and Norton: *Blake: Laocoon* (c. 1827)

WEB RESOURCE: Select Criticism: D. Read, "The Context of Blake's Public Address"; Eaves, "Inquiry into the Real and Imaginary Obstructions ..."; Eaves, "The Sister Arts in British Romanticism"

3/20, 22, 27

The Book of Thel; Visions of the Daughters of Albion

WEB RESOURCE: Select Criticism: Eaves, "On Blakes We Want and Blakes We Don't"

3/29-4/3, 5

The Book of Urizen, The Book of Ahania, The Book of Los

4/10-12

Virtual Blake, Color Printing, and Color Print Drawings

WEB RESOURCE: Select Criticism: Viscomi, "Blake's 'Annus Mirabilis': the Productions of 1795." Viscomi, "Blake's Virtual Designs and Reconstruction of *The Song of Los*"

4/17, 19, 24

Student Presentations

4/28

Final Exam, 4pm

Requirements: Option A and B

Option A: two 5-8 page essays on any aspect of Blake or any of his works, preferably with a popular culture connection, due 3/13 and 4/24.

Option B: one project or essay on a topic or idea relevant to the course, due 4/24.

Participation in the class by discussing our readings and by posting your thoughts and findings on Sakai.