

From *Tess* to #MeToo: Narratives of Sexual Violence

ENGL 384:09

Fall 2020



Images: Oxford World's Classics, Variety, Time

Course Schedule

Please note: readings are listed on the day they are due. Readings labeled “**C**” are on our Canvas site. Items listed in **bold** are things you need to hand in; items listed in **bold with an asterisk (*)** are graded assignments .

This schedule is subject to change as needed. Updates will be provided in class and via email.

Unit 1: Introductions, theories, and frameworks

- M 8/24: Introductions & syllabus
- W 8/26: Read syllabus carefully & email Dr. D with questions (C)
 Read Siena College, “Sexual Violence Defined” (C)
 Watch Kimberlé Crenshaw, “The Urgency of Intersectionality” (C)
- F 8/28: Read your assigned framework (one of the following):
 Andrea Dworkin, from *Our Blood* (C)
 Catharine MacKinnon, from *Women’s Lives, Men’s Laws* (C)
 Linda Martín Alcoff, from *Rape and Resistance* (C)
 Kate Manne, “Himpathy,” “Locker Room Talk,” & “Misogynoir in Action,” from *Down Girl* (C)
 Angela Davis, “We Do Not Consent: Violence Against Women in a Racist Society” (C)
 Latoya Peterson, “The Not-Rape Epidemic” (C)
 Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, from *We Should All Be Feminists* (C)
 Jennifer Patterson, from *Queering Sexual Violence* (C)

Unit 2: Rape in the Nineteenth Century

- M 8/31: **News article analysis due* (by 1:20 pm, submit via Canvas)**
 Lucy Stone, "Crimes Against Women" (C)
 Lucy Stone, "Pardoning the Crime of Rape" (C)
- W 9/2: Thomas Hardy, *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*, chs. i-vi (pp. 13-54)
- F 9/4: *Tess*, chs. vii-xi (pp. 55-83)
- M 9/7: *Tess*, chs. xii-xv (pp. 83-113)
- W 9/9: *Tess*, chs. xvi-xxiv (pp. 113-167)
- F 9/11: *Tess*, chs. xxv-xxxi (pp. 168-218)
- M 9/14: *Tess*, chs. xxxii-xxxvii (pp. 219-273)
- W 9/16: *Tess*, chs. xxxviii-xliv (pp. 274-322)
- F 9/18: *Tess* chs. xlv-lii (pp. 323-385)
- M 9/21: *Tess*, FINISH (pp. 386-end)

Unit 3: Slavery and sexual violence

- W 9/23: **Close reading essay due (before class, via Canvas)***
- F 9/25: Saidiya Hartman, "Seduction and the Ruses of Power" (C)
 Syreeta McFadden, "How Did It All Begin?" (C)
- M 9/28: From Harriet Jacobs, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* (C)
 From Elizabeth Keckley, *Behind the Scenes* (C)
- W 9/30: Toni Morrison, *Beloved*, beginning to 51
- F 10/2: *Beloved*, 53-100
- M 10/5: **Optional Comments on Comments for close reading essay due*
 (before class, via Canvas)**
Beloved, 101-158
- W 10/7: *Beloved*, 159-195
- F 10/9: *Beloved*, 196-247

****Weeks of 10/12 & 10/19: Meet with Dr. D about Representing Rape essays (sign up [here](#); draft of at least 2 pages due at least ONE HOUR before your scheduled time)****

M 10/12: *Beloved*, 248-277

W 10/14: *Beloved*, 278-end

F 10/16: *Beloved* wrap-up discussion

Unit 4: Narrating incest

M 10/19: Sapphire, *Push*, beginning to 97

W 10/21: Sapphire, *Push*, 98 to end

F 10/23: **Midterm paper (Representing Rape) due (before class, via Canvas)***

Unit 5: #MeToo and Its Literary Aftermath

M 10/26: Kristen Roupenian, "Cat Person" (C)
Elisa Schappell, "Re: Your Rape Story" (C)

W 10/28: Tarana Burke, "#MeToo was started for Black and Brown women and girls. They're still being ignored." (C)
Watch Tarana Burke, "Me Too is a Movement, not a Moment" (TED talk) (C)
Aishah Shahidah Simmons and Farah Tanis, "Better Off Dead: Black Women Speak to the United Nations CERD Committee" (C)

F 10/30: Audre Lorde, "The Transformation of Silence into Language and Action" (C)
Chanel Miller, "Emily Doe's Victim Impact Statement" (in *Know My Name*) (C)
Christine Blasey Ford, Opening Statement for Senate Hearing (C)
Watch video from Dr. Claire Draucker (Indiana University School of Nursing): "Storying Sexual Violence: Narrative Therapy and Clinical Practice" (C)

M 11/2: **Optional Comments on Comments for midterm essay (Representing Rape) due!* (before class, via Canvas)**
Claire Schwartz, "& The Truth Is, I Have No Story" (C)
Elissa Bassist, "Why I Didn't Say No" (C)

Brandon Taylor, "Spectator" (C)
Roxane Gay, from *Hunger* (C)

W 11/4: June Jordan, "Poem About My Rights" (C)
Patricia Lockwood, "Rape Joke" (C)
Rupi Kaur, from *milk and honey* (C)
Maria Hummel, "Letter to My Blackout" (C)
Yrsa Daley-Ward, "Bone" (C)
Jericho Brown, "Duplex"
Jericho Brown, "Layover"

F 11/6: Listen to Dasan Ahanu, "Can I" (C)
Watch FreeQuency, "I'm Sorry" (C)
Watch Halsey, "A Story Like Mine" (C)

M 11/9: Carmen Maria Machado, *In the Dream House*, beginning to 86
Jennifer Patterson, from *Queering Sexual Violence* (C)

W 11/11: *In the Dream House*, 87-161

F 11/13: *In the Dream House*, 183-end

Unit 6: Visual art, performance art, music

****Week of 11/16: Meet with Dr. D about final paper/project (outline due at least one hour before meeting; sign up [here](#))****

M 11/16: Nan Goldin, "Nan One Month After Being Battered"
Emma Sulkowicz, "Carry That Weight"
Sue Williams, "Irresistible"

W 11/18: Bikini Kill, "Liar"
Tori Amos, "Me and a Gun"
TLC, "His Story"
Ke\$ha, "Praying"
Lady Gaga, "Till It Happens to You"
John Legend and Kelly Clarkson, "Baby It's Cold Outside (2019 remix)"

T 11/24: **Final paper/project due (via Canvas, by 11:59 pm EST)***