EKSAMENSOPPGAVE i / EXAM in ENG2302:
Litteratur II: Litteratur og historie / Literature II: Literature and History

Høst / Autumn 2009

For alle studenter / For all students

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Eksamensdato / exam date: 4. desember / 4th December
Eksamens tid / time allowed: 4 timer / 4 hours
Studiepoeng / credits: 7.5

Tilatte hjelpemidler / you are permitted to consult: én av følgende ordbøker / one of the following dictionaries:

Collins Cobuild English (Advanced Learner’s) Dictionary
The Concise Oxford Dictionary
Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English
Longman Dictionary of American English
Merriam Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary
Random-House Webster’s College Dictionary
Cambridge Advanced Learner’s Dictionary

Språkform / language: engelsk / English
Antall sider / number of pages: forside + 2 / front page + 2

Sensurdato / results published: 23. desember / 23rd December

Merk! Resultene kunngjøres på studweb / N.B. Results are published on studweb.
Section A counts for 50% of your final grade. Section B counts for 50% of your final grade. You are recommended to divide your time accordingly.

Section A (short answer section)

Answer four of the following six questions. Write your answers in full sentences. An answer to a question in this section does not need to be longer than around half or three quarters of a page.

1. What were the main consequences of the lapsing of the Licensing Act in 1695 with regard to the subsequent development of print culture?

2. Why, in brief, do you believe so many eighteenth-century poets were drawn to use the heroic couplet as the vehicle for their expression?

3. John Gay’s *The Beggar’s Opera* was very popular among the lower orders of British society. What features of Gay’s work – in terms of both its form and content – do you think contributed to this reception?

4. What type of commentary on distinctions of social class is offered by William Hogarth’s series of paintings ‘Marriage à la Mode’?

5. What functions are served by the characters portrayed in essays in *The Spectator*?

6. In what ways does Olaudah Equiano’s *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano* advance a case for the equality of Africans and Europeans?

Section B (essay section)

Answer one of the following. You are not expected to remember and quote passages from the eighteenth-century works you choose to discuss, but it will be to your advantage to comment on them in some detail. You should avoid extensive repetition of material from your answers to Section A.

1. The eighteenth-century has often been called a ‘neoclassical age’. In what ways did eighteenth-century British writers draw upon classical precursors and classical literary models when producing their own works? You should illustrate your discussion with reference to at least two relevant eighteenth-century works from the *pensum*. You may, in addition, refer to secondary literature included on the *pensum* but you do not have to.

2. What impact did increasing wealth and the growth of commerce have upon the production of imaginative literature in Britain during the eighteenth century? You should illustrate your discussion with reference to at least three eighteenth-century works from the *pensum*. You may, in addition, refer to secondary literature included on the *pensum* but you do not have to. You may consider the impact of wealth and commerce in different ways, for example:
   - as it pertains to the literature industry in general
   - the stimulation of specific areas of the industry (for example, particular genres)
3. Mass publication was a means by which the personal, the obscure and the private – for example, a thresher’s thoughts on his job, or the contents of a lady’s dressing room – could be made public. At the same time, there remain significant differences between texts concerning private life which were intended for publication by their authors and those which were not intended for publication. Discuss this statement with reference to at least three eighteenth-century works from the pensum. At least one of those three works should be one which was first published in the eighteenth century itself; at least one should be a work not originally written for publication. You may, in addition, refer to secondary literature included on the pensum but you do not have to.