

ENGL 307i: The Films of Robert Aldrich

Professor Williams

Mid-June to Mid-August, TR 12:10-3:30

This course will examine the films of Robert Aldrich, notable for directing films such as *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?* (1962), *Hush ... Hush*, *Sweet Charlotte* (1964), and *The Dirty Dozen* (1967). Aldrich analyzed the contemporary world of his time with a critical and apocalyptic cinematic eye. Influenced by the ideals of the 1930s New Deal, he saw the drastic effects of a changing political landscape in the post-war era, but managed to keep faith with his ideals within the format of Hollywood entertainment cinema, most notably in the “film noir” style he employed in many of his films and television productions.

ENGL 493: “Rebels, Slaves, Monsters, and Human Rights: From *Oroonoko* to *Game of Thrones*”

Professor Boulukos

Mid-July to Mid-August, MTWRF 1:00-3:00

How is it that the era of revolutionary rights declarations was nonetheless a time when slavery, indeed racial slavery, became increasingly central of the economics and politics of the USA, Britain, and France? How did Enlightenment thinkers justify revolution through new concepts of the “rights of man” and yet justify the denial of rights to the enslaved? How did they, furthermore, justify efforts to defeat and kill rebel slaves? How did Haitian revolutionaries come to be placed in a different category of from American and French revolutionaries? Paying close attention to the Haitian Revolution and its impact on ideas of slavery and rights, we will examine the categories of those excluded from rights in the period, including “brigands,” “tyrants,” “monsters,” and the “common enemies of mankind.” In doing so, we will examine an array of texts from the period, including classics of colonial literature, literary texts representing slavery and slave uprisings, memoirs from those battling philosophical considerations of slavery and rights, slave narratives and black-authored texts questioning dominant discourses. Finally we will take the concepts of slavery rebellion, and rights we have developed and consider how relevant they are to apply them to examples from seemingly different contexts: Mary Shelley’s 1818 *Frankenstein*, the “breaker of chains” subplot from the HBO series *Game of Thrones*, and the “Black Lives Matter” movement.

ENGL 581: The Teaching of Creative Writing

Professor Joseph

Mid-June to Mid-July, MTWRF 12:00-2:20

This course is intended for MFA students in creative writing and any other English degree seeking student with a deep investment in the writing of poetry and fiction. In other words, if you don’t write poetry and/or fiction, this course will not be appropriate for your needs. This course will examine a bit of the history of creative writing as an academic discipline. The course will also explore the teaching of creative writing on the undergraduate level, as well as the teaching of creative writing in non-academic settings (prisons, community and youth centers, etc.). The

students in this will serve as the faculty and staff of the SIU “Writers in Common” workshop, a summer program for students of all ages in the region.