ESSAY QUESTIONS and BIBLIOGRAPHIES - Deadline: 1\textsuperscript{st} December 2008

**BIBLICAL BODIES:**

1. What identities are embodied in Old Testament discourse?

**Bibliography**

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<th>Author(s)</th>
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2. How has the study of rhetoric changed the way we view bodies in the Bible, particularly the New Testament?

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HISTORICAL BODIES:

3. What social and political mores are embodied in the patristic Fathers' writings on the body?

Bibliography


Markus, R. (1990) *The End of Ancient Christianity* (chapters 4-5 on Augustine)


It is easy to focus on women's bodies and virginity when looking at the Late Antique, but try to remember that both male and female bodies were the site of interpretations of Christian belief and that an element of this involved a profound interest in pre-martyrdom torture. (I'll look at this during the session).


If you are feeling brave, have a read of the following Patristic texts, remembering there is always a question of who read them and how widely they were read to take into account.

St Augustine *City of God* Book XIII, chapter 23 (Bettenson, H. translated for Penguin Classics)


Some other extra materials of relevance, interest:

Intellectually challenging examples of modern historians comparing theorists to Late Antique authors:
This is particularly interesting on Butler:

This one’s more Foucauldian:

4. Focusing on one pre-Reformation historical period that interests you, answer the following question: Are direct and insinuated accusations of effeminacy ultimately about the regulation of bodily desires within Christian belief systems?

Bibliography – if you decide to do this, please speak to Vicky for a fuller bibliography.

Boyd, S., Longwood, W.M. & Muesse, M. eds. (1996) Redeeming Men: Religion and Masculinities. John Knox Press. (This is a modern way into the issue of masculinity and religion. Worth having a look at once you’ve read around the history of the subject.)


Williams, C. (1999) ‘Effeminacy and masculinity’ in Roman homosexuality: ideologies of masculinity in classical antiquity, Oxford University Press (This is available as an e-book at the University Library. It relates to the pre-Christian situation but given the role that classical texts and culture had on the New Testament and its subsequent interpretation, you might find some useful paradigms.)
6. ‘The bodies of female mystics were controlled by the writings of male clerics.’ Discuss.

Bibliography
Bloch, R. Howard (1991) *Medieval Misogyny and the Invention of Western Romantic Love*


7. What do the witches of Libberton suggest about how men perceived women’s bodies in the late 17th Century?

Please use reading list as identified for the class and additionally:

