The Country Wife – D-File: Areas of Research

Areas of Research Outline, Initial Sources, 3 Experts

About the Playwright – Politics and History

- Questions
 - o What are some of the basic facts of William? Birth, death, etc.
 - O What are some of the other famous plays he wrote?
 - o How did he rise to fame?
 - o What was his love life like? What inspired him to write this play?
 - What inspired him, and made him want to write?
- Sources
 - https://biography.yourdictionary.com/william-wycherley
 - o https://www.britannica.com/biography/William-Wycherley
 - o https://leatassiewriter.com/2019/09/11/nincompoop/
 - o https://literariness.org/2019/05/22/analysis-of-william-wycherleys-plays/

What is the Restoration Era? – Politics and History

- Ouestions
 - O What does the word "restoration" mean?
 - o How did the Stuart family get removed from the throne?
 - What is a "Puritan" in the 17th century? Who is Oliver Cromwell?
 - o What did the puritans do to get removed from the throne?
 - How has the restoration period affected the arts? Both literature and performance/art.
 - o Do we still see samples of restoration art in modern day life? How, and why?
- Sources
 - o https://courses.lumenlearning.com/suny-ushistory1os2xmaster/chapter/charles-ii-and-the-restoration-colonies/
 - o https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/civilwar/pdf/g5key.pdf
 - o https://www.britannica.com/topic/Restoration-English-history-1660
 - o https://novaonline.nvcc.edu/eli/spd130et/restor.htm
 - o https://www.bl.uk/restoration-18th-century-literature/articles/an-introduction-to-restoration-comedy

St James Park - Cultural History

- Questions
 - O Why is St James's Park as famous as it is?
 - O Who is Saint James?
 - Where did the park come from... who created it, and who cultivated it?
 - Why was it so popular in the restoration era? Why did people consider it such a great place to go?
 - What does the park look like in modern-day? Can I find a map of it?
- Sources
 - o https://www.royalparks.org.uk/parks/st-jamess-park/about-st-jamess-park/history-and-architecture

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THE 7130: Dramaturgy, Modern

The Country Wife – D-File: Areas of Research

- o https://www.royalparks.org.uk/parks/st-jamess-park/about-st-jamess-park/landscape-history
- o https://theculturetrip.com/europe/united-kingdom/england/london/articles/the-royal-parks-st-jamess-park-london/
- o https://blackcablondon.net/2012/11/11/elegance-with-a-dark-side-a-history-of-st-jamess-park/

Marriage in the 17th Century – Social and Economic Conditions

I would like to have my expert comment on this area of research.

- o Questions
 - What kind of doweries existed for women at the time?
 - o How much independence did women get in the era compared to men?
 - What does it mean to 'cuckold' someone?
 - o HOW early did people get married? What was the average marriage age?
 - What was adultery like in the 17th century?
 - o How early did women have children? What was the standard?
 - What was married life like for men versus women?
 - How much power did men hold over their wives?
 - What were people's sexual lives like? How public were people about their sexual lives?

Sources

- o https://www.phil.muni.cz/angl/thepes/thepes 02 02.pdf
- o https://www.historytoday.com/archive/love-and-marriage-seventeenth-century-england
- o https://www.andreazuvich.com/history/the-institution-of-marriage-in-17th-century-england-a-guest-post-by-deborah-swift/
- Bridenthal, Renate & Koonz, Claudia, eds. (1977) Becoming Visible. Women in European History, Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company.
- Carlyle, Thomas, ed. (1888) Oliver Cromwell's Letters and Speeches, London: Chapman and Hall.
- Dülmen, Richard van (1999) Kultura a každodenní život v raném novověku (16.-18. století), Praha: Argo.
- o Fraser, Antonia (1985) The Weaker Vessel: Woman's Lot in Seventeenth-Century England, London: Mandarin.

Sexual Diseases – Sciences/Medicine/Technology

- Questions
 - What were the most common STDs in the 17th century?
 - What are the effects of sexual diseases? What are the symptoms?
 - How quickly did they spread in England during the 17th century?
 - What was the reaction to these sexual diseases? Did people care, or even know what they were? Were they concerned?
 - o Who got them more often? Men or women? Did men pass them onto their wives?
 - What was the misinformation that was spread about them?

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- Why are there so many nicknames for them?
- Sources
 - o https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23007208/
 - o https://sti.bmj.com/content/sextrans/31/3/190.full.pdf
 - o https://www.news-medical.net/health/History-of-Sexually-Transmitted-Disease.aspx
 - o https://www.cdc.gov/std/syphilis/stdfact-syphilis.htm
 - https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/gonorrhea/symptoms-causes/syc-20351774

3 Possible Experts

Craig Bailey, Ph.D -.craig.bailey@villanova.edu

• Villanova Professor in History with a research focus in Irish migration in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, with a particular focus on London and the middle classes

Elizabeth Kolsky, Ph.D - elizabeth.kolsky@villanova.edu

• Villanova associate history professor with research in British Empire history;

Emil Ricci, Ph.D. - emil.ricci@villanova.edu

Villanova History professor with a teaching area in 17th and 18th Century England