Animal Subjects

Fall 2005      Kari Weil  kweil@cca.edu

Texts to Purchase:
J.M. Coetzee, *The Lives of Animals*
Virginia Woolf, *Flush*
Reader available at Green Copy.

Class Responsibilities:
1. Class Participation. More than three unexcused absences will result in the lowering of your grade.
2. 2 Take-home exams 10/14, 11/16
3. Final paper-project: Students may work alone or in pairs to give a presentation to the class on a topic of their choice related to the issues raised in class. Students may wish to pursue a more in-depth study of a particular topic, author, or artist encountered in class or present new texts or objects relate to the issues discussed. In addition to the class presentation, students will turn in a final paper that analyzes the texts or objects in relation to issues raised by the readings in class. These papers must be individual work and should be in academic paper format.
4. Weekly online journal: Once a week (either Tuesday or Thursday by 11:00AM), students will respond to the reading in an email message to me.

Syllabus

**Animal/Human Being**
9/6 Introduction
9/15 Rainer Maria Rilke, “The Eighth Elegy”; Kafka; Vicki Hearne, *Adam’s Task*, Chap. 1
9/20 Vicki Hearne, 3, 4; Fouts and Fouts, “Chimpanzees Use of Sign Language”
10/4 Gilles Deleuze, “Becoming Animal” from The Deleuze Reader; Hélène Cixous, Shared at Dawn
10/6 Steve Baker, “What does Becoming Animal Look Like?” in Rothfels, Representing Animals

10/12 Kafka, “The Metamorphosis” Take-Home I Due
10/14 Metamorphosis, cont.; Ursula Leguin, “The Wife’s Story”

Pets and other Human –Animal Relations
10/18 Keith Thomas, Man and the Natural World, Chap. III; Marc Shell, “The Family Pet” pp. 121-30; Elizabeth Barrett Browning, “To Flush My Dog”

10/20 Virginia Woolf, Flush, Chaps., 1-5

10/27 Film (TBA)

11/1 Kete, “Cats and Categorization”; Edgar Allen Poe, “The Black Cat”; Rilke, The Black Cat.”
11/3 Richard Klein, “The Power of Pets”; Fudge, Animal, pp. 27-46

Animal Objects
11/10 Film: Bill Viola, “I do not know what it is I am like”


Animal Rights and Wrongs
11/22 Coetzee, The Lives of Animals, pp. 15-69
11/24 Thanksgiving

11/29 Coetzee, cont. 69-120 Visit to Oakland Zoo

12/6 Fudge, Animal, pp. 92-110; Anker and Nelkin, “Blurring Boundaries,Chimeras and Transgenics,” Edouardo Kac, “Transgenic Art” “GFP Bunny”
12/8 Matthew Scully, Dominion, Intro., chaps 1-2; Atwood, “Pig Song,” “Bull Song,” “The Double Voice”

12/13-12/15 Final Presentations