

ENL2022-001 British Literature: 1790-Present

Instructor: Adam R. McKee

Meeting Time: M & W 2:00-3:15 PM

Office: WMS 321

Classroom: WMS 121B

Office Hours: MW 3:30-4:30

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Course Description:

This course will function as a general survey course on “British” literature from 1790 to present. This course will familiar students with the historical, cultural, and artistic climate of the period, and will help students become acquainted with the major periods of the time: Romanticism, Victorianism, Modernism, and Postmodernism.

Students will be expected to maintain a solid grasp of the major writers, movements, and historical events of the period. Additionally, students will be expected to write several short, properly formatted, scholarly essays throughout the semester.

Required Texts:

- *The Norton Anthology of English Literature, The Major Authors.*
Vol. 2: The Romantic Period to the 20th Century and After.
 - ISBN: 978-0-393-91965-3
- Additional readings in pdfs found on blackboard

Course Objectives

At the end of the semester, students should be able to understand:

- The trajectory of English literature from the Romantic Period through the present day.
- The characteristics of the Romantic, Victorian, Modern, and Postmodern periods of English Literature
- The ways in which English literature has handled issues of race, gender, class, and nation since 1790.
- How to write a well-planned, well-researched, scholarly essay.
- How to read literature and scholarship more effectively.



Plagiarism

Plagiarism is grounds for suspension from the university as well as for failure in this course. It will not be tolerated. Any instance of plagiarism must be reported to the department and university. Plagiarism is a counterproductive, non-writing behavior that is unacceptable in a course intended to aid the growth of individual writers. Plagiarism is included among the violations defined in the Academic Honor Code, section b), paragraph 2, as follows: "Regarding academic assignments, violations of the Academic Honor Code shall include representing another's work or any part thereof, be it published or unpublished, as one's own."

Civility

I will tolerate neither disruptive language nor disruptive behavior. Disruptive language includes, but is not limited to, violent and/or belligerent and/or insulting remarks, including sexist, racist, homophobic or anti-ethnic slurs, bigotry, and disparaging commentary, either spoken or written (offensive slang is included in this category). While I do not disagree that you each have a right to your own opinions, inflammatory language founded in ignorance or hate is unacceptable and will be dealt with immediately.

Disruptive behavior includes the use of cell phones or any other form of electronic communication during the class session (e-mail, web-browsing). Disruptive behavior also includes whispering or talking when another member of the class is speaking or engaged in relevant conversation (remember that I am a member of this class as well). This classroom functions on the premise of respect, and you will be asked to leave the classroom if you violate any part of this statement on civility.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory and accruing more than four absences is grounds for failure.

Regardless of the reason for your absence, it is still an absence. Understandably, you may miss some classes due to illness or unforeseen circumstances. In order for me to allow an absence, I need to see some form of documentation. Remember, part of your grade is based on class participation, and if you are not here, you cannot participate! Furthermore, missed quizzes cannot be made up. Thus, all absences have the ability to negatively impact your grade. If you miss a class meeting, it is your responsibility to obtain all information covered in that class. In other words, I will assume that you, a responsible, legal adult, have gotten the information about the class that you missed.

Participation:

Students are expected to come to class and participate regularly, having read each assignment entirely before arriving to class. Here are four ways to be a good participator: (1) ask questions and make comments that further the discussion in a meaningful manner, (2) actively take notes, (3) bring the required text to every class meeting, and (4) participate in all classroom activities/exercises. Consistently doing these things will demonstrate your engagement with the material and maximize your experience in the course.

ADA:

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations should in the FIRST WEEK OF CLASS 1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC) and 2) bring a letter to the instructor from SDRC indicating the need for academic accommodations. This and all other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.

Gordon Rule Statement:

This is a "Gordon Rule" course (also known as a course with a "W" designation). Gordon Rule courses are designed to fulfill the statewide Gordon Rule requirement, which requires students to take and pass a course that is writing-intensive: officially, this means that students must write 3000 words during the semester.

In order to fulfill FSU's Gordon Rule "W" Designation (writing) credit, the student must earn a "C-" or better in the course, and in order to receive a "C-" or better in the course, the student must earn at least a "C-" on the required writing assignments for the course. If the student does not earn a "C-" or better on the required writing assignments for the course, the student will not earn an overall grade of "C-" or better in the course, no matter how well the student performs in the remaining portion of the course.

Assignments

Reading Quizzes

There will be daily (or near daily) reading quizzes over the materials for class. This will function in a number of ways. First, this will act as an attendance grade: if you skip class, you skip the quiz. Second, some students aren't as comfortable verbalizing their opinions in class, yet do the readings every night. Therefore, this will also function in place of an outright participation grade in the course. Third, this will also hold you fully accountable for having read the nightly assigned reading.

Quizzes will be given at the beginning of class each day, so if you are tardy you will miss the quiz and will not be permitted to make it up. If you miss class due to emergency or illness, you will not make up the quiz, but it will also not count against you (as long as you have documentation).

Short Essays (3)

Every five weeks students will be responsible for submitting a three to four page essay. These essays should balance close-reading and research (meaning don't just summarize the story; analyze it) and should engage material that was covered during the preceding weeks. Try to strike a balance between quoting and using supporting material from the text and giving your own perspective. I will upload a grading rubric on the course blackboard page for reference.

Essays must be uploaded to the assignment link and in hard copy on the date the essay is due in order to be considered completed. Late essays will be accepted, but with a half-letter grade deduction per day (not class) that it is late. Essays should be properly formatted in MLA style (I'm serious about this, it is important, if you aren't sure what this means, please come talk to me and/or direct yourself to appropriate MLA style-guides).

Presentation

In the second week of class, students will be placed in 2-3 person groups responsible for presenting on assigned topics during the semester. Once in groups, students will then pick a term, historical event, literary movement, or other significant topics. Each presentation should be accompanied by some sort of visual element (powerpoint, prezi, handout, etc.) and should last for roughly 10 minutes of class time.

Exams

There will be both a midterm exam and a final exam for this course. Neither exam will be cumulative, and both will represent the same percentage of your grade.

Grade Breakdown

Three Essays (10% each)	30%
Quizzes	10%
Presentation	10%
Midterm	25%
Final	25%

Grading Scale

A	100-92.5	A-	92.4-89.5	B+	89.4-86.5
B	86.4-82.5	B-	82.4-79.5	C+	79.4-76.5
C	76.4-72.5	C-	72.4-69.5	D+	69.4-66.5
D	66.4-59.5	F	59.4-0		

Weekly Plans:
Subject to Change

Week 1	T	Syllabus Introduction
	R	Romanticism Introduction William Blake “The Lamb”, “The Tyger”, “London”
Week 2	T	William Wordsworth “Lines Composed a Few Miles above Tintern Abbey”, “Preface to <i>Lyrical Ballads</i> ”, “I wander lonely as a cloud”, “Ode: Intimations of Immortality”, “Elegiac Stanzas”, “London, 1802”.
	R	Samuel Taylor Coleridge “This Lime-Tree Bower My Prison”, “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner”, “Kubla Khan”.
Week 3	T	George Gordon, Lord Byron “She walks in beauty”, Selections from “Child Harold’s Pilgrimage”, Selections from “Don Juan”.
	R	Percy Bysshe Shelley “To Wordsworth”, “Mont Blanc”, “Hymn to Intellectual Beauty”, “Ozymandias”, “Ode to the West Wind”, “Adonias”.
Week 4	T	John Keats “One First Looking into Chapman’s Homer”, “On Seeing the Elgin Marbles”, “On Sitting Down to Read <i>King Lear</i> Once Again”, “La Belle Dame sans Merci: A Ballad”, “Ode to a Nightingale”, “Ode on a Grecian Urn”.
	R	Victorian Introduction
Week 5	T	Thomas Carlyle From <i>Sartor Resartus</i>
	R	Elizabeth Barrett Browning From “Aurora Leigh” Robert Browning “My Last Duchess”
Week 6	T	Alfred, Lord Tennyson “The Lady of Shalott”, “The Lotus-Eaters”, “Ulysses”, From “In Memoriam A.H.H.”, “The Charge of the Light Brigade”.
	R	Matthew Arnold “Dover Beach”, From “The Function of Criticism at the Present Time”, From “The Study of Poetry”.

Week 7	T	Christina Rossetti “Goblin Market”
	R	Rudyard Kipling “The Man Who Would Be King”, “The White Man’s Burden”, “If-“
Week 8	T	MIDTERM EXAM
	R	Joseph Conrad <i>Heart of Darkness</i>
Week 9	T	William Butler Yeats “The Lake Isle of Innisfree”, “Adam’s Curse”, “No Second Troy”, “A Coat”, “September 1913”, “Easter, 1916”, “The Second Coming”, “Under Ben Bulbin”.
	R	James Joyce “The Dead”, From <i>Ulysses</i>
Week 10	T	Virginia Woolf “The Mark on the Wall”, “Modern Fiction”
	R	T.S. Eliot “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”, <i>The Waste Land</i>
Week 11	T	Samuel Beckett <i>Waiting for Godot</i>
	R	Samuel Beckett <i>Waiting for Godot</i>
Week 12	T	W.H. Auden “Musee des Beaux Arts”, “In Memory of W.B. Yeats”, “September 1, 1939”, “The Shield of Achilles”.
	R	Dylan Thomas ALL
Week 13	T	Philip Larkin “Church Going”, “Talking in Bed”, “High Windows”
	R	Derek Walcott ALL
Week 14	T	Seamus Heaney ALL

	R	Ciaran Carson (PDF)
Week 15	T	Salman Rushdie "The Prophet's Hair"
	R	Zadie Smith "The Waiter's Wife" EXAM REVIEW