

This syllabus has been provided as a reference tool for students considering this course. It has been modified to follow Senate regulations. Current students enrolled in any undergraduate course must obtain the most recent syllabus from their course instructor or from their course website. This is not the latest version.



Department of English & Writing Studies

**Seminar in Nineteenth-Century Literature: The Pre-Raphaelites**  
**English 4420G (001)**  
Winter 2014

**Instructor:** Dr. D.M.R. Bentley

**Date/Time:** Wednesday 1:30pm-4:30pm

**Location:** University College 282

Prerequisites

Two of English 2200F/G, 2210F/G, 2220F/G, 2230F/G, 2235A/B (Huron), English 2240F/G, 2250F/G, Theatre Studies 3205F/G, or permission of the Department.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Description

Using as a focal point and lens the poetry, painting, and short fiction of Dante Gabriel Rossetti, this seminar will study the works and aesthetics of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood (1848-53), its associates, and its successors. After situating the Pre-Raphaelites in the Victorian period and examining some of their principal paintings, the seminar will focus on Rossetti's depiction of different female types: the Virgin Mary in such works as "Ave," the prostitute or "fallen" women in such works as "Jenny," and the femme fatale in such works as Lilith. In addition to providing seminar members with an enriched and enriching understanding of Pre-Raphaelitism, the Seminar will examine Rossetti's later poetry and painting in the aesthetic and symbolist modes and chart his impact not only on William Morris, Walter Pater, Oscar Wilde, and other Victorians, but also on such major Modernists as W.B. Yeats, Ezra Pound, and T.S. Eliot.

Course Materials

Rossetti, Dante Gabriel. *Collected Poetry and Prose*. Ed. Jerome McGann (Yale UP).  
Rose, Andrea. *The Pre-Raphaelites* (Phaidon Colour Library).

### Methods of Evaluation

The brief essays will be worth 15% each and the final essay 50%, with the remaining 20% based on attendance and participation. There will be no final examination.

A student must receive a passing grade for both term work and the final examination in order to receive a passing grade for the course. This applies to all courses in all programs offered by the department. Students whose term and final exam grades average 50% or above, even though one of the two is a failure, shall receive a default grade of 48%. **Please note:** The department of English & Writing Studies does not release final grades. All undergraduate grade reports will be available online from the Office of the Registrar.

Students are fully responsible for looking at and being familiar with the information posted on the department website at <http://www.uwo.ca/english/undergraduate/info%20for%20students.html#grade>.

### **Timetable:**

January 8	Preamble
January 15	Introduction
January 22	Introduction
January 28	Marian Paintings and Poems
February 5	Pre-Raphaelite Manifestos
February 12	Early Poems
February 19	READING WEEK
February 26	The "Fallen Woman"
March 5	The <i>Femme Fatale</i>
March 12	The <i>Femme Fatale</i> , Aestheticism
March 19	Aestheticism, Symbolism
March 26	Final Work
April 2	Modernism

### **Assignments:**

Two short essays and one longer essay are required. The short essays (500-750 words) will be on works of your choice by Dante Gabriel Rossetti. At least one of them must be submitted before Reading Week, and both must be handed in no later than 4.00 pm. on the Friday preceding the seminar on the work(s) with which they deal so that their substance can be assured a place in the group's discussion. The longer essay (1500-2000 words, including Works Cited) may emerge from one of the short essays or focus on an author or artist other than Rossetti. It may be submitted at any time after Reading Week, and no later than a week after the end of classes in April.

### Accommodation

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Dean of the student's Faculty of registration, together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. The UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and further information regarding this policy can be found at [http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf).

### **Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):**

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf)

### Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

### **Plagiarism:**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

### **Plagiarism Checking:**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

### Support Services

Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>

Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Student Development Centre <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.