Western University

London Canada

Department of English

English 4420F: The Pre-Raphaelites

Unless otherwise indicated, all texts are in Rossetti's *Collected Poetry and Prose*. Ed. Jerome McGann. Not all the poems listed under a given date will be covered in the same amount of detail, but they will be given prominence if they are selected by one or more members of the seminar as the focus of a short essay. Members of the seminar are encouraged to range widely in Rossetti's work, both literary and artistic, and incorporate their findings and insights into our discussions. Owing to the overlaps between and among different strains of Rossetti's work, the readings after the Fall Study Break provide considerable flexibility

Seminar Schedule and Readings:

September 10 Preamble

September 17 Introduction

Readings: Pugin, Collinson, Stephens, Ruskin (handouts)

September 24 Introduction

"Mary's Girlhood (For a Picture)"

October 1 Marian Paintings and Poems

Readings: "Filii Filia," "Mary's Girlhood (For a Picture)," "For a Virgin and Child by Hans Memmelink," "For a Marriage of St. Catherine by the Same," "Ave," "The Passover of the Holy Family (For a Drawing," "Sudden Light," "For 'Our Lady of the Rocks' by Leonardo da Vinci"

October 8 Pre-Raphaelite Manifestos

Readings: "Old and New Art," 'Hand and Soul"

October 15 Early Poems

Readings: "My Sister's Sleep," "The Blessed Damozel," "The Burden of Nineveh," "The Staff and Scrip," "A Lsst Confession," "The Bride's Prelude"

October 22 The "Fallen Woman"

Readings: "The Honeysuckle," "Found (For a Picture)," "Mary Magdalene at the Door of Simon the Pharisee (For a Drawing)," "Jenny"

October 29 The Femme Fatale

Readings: "The Card-Dealer," "Troy Town," "Body's Beauty," "Eden Bower," "The Orchard Pit" (both prose and poem), "Pandora (For a Picture)," "Lilith. From Goethe," "For 'The Wine of Circe' by Edward Burne-Jones"

November 5 The Femme Fatale/Aestheticism

Readings: See March 5; "The Woodspurge," "The Landmark," "The Hill Summit," "Beauty and the Bird" (handout), "The Song of the Bower," "After the French Liberation of Italy" (handout)

November 12 Aestheticism, Symbolism

Readings: See March 12; "Venus Verticordia (For a Picture)," "The Soul's Sphere," Inclusiveness,"

November 19 Final Work

Readings: "The Cloud Confines," "Love Enthroned," "Hope Overtaken," "The One Hope," "Proserpina (For a Picture," "Astarte Syriaca (For a Picture)," "La Bella Mano (For a Picture)," "The Question" (For a Design)" (handout)

November 26 Modernism

Readings: Texts by Wilde, Yeats, Pound, Eliot, and others (handouts)

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, and should focus on and "unpack" an aspect or detail of the works that you regard as significant and worthy of commentary. At least one of the short essays must be submitted before or on October 10, and the second before or on November 14. Both must be handed in no later than 4.00 p.m. 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 (2000-2,500 words, plus 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 the Fall Study Break, and no later than a week after the last seminar.

Policy on Late Essays:

Anyone who has a valid reason for not meeting an essay must give me his/her reason before the due date and arrange for an extension. Otherwise, late essays will be penalized at a rate of 2% a day to a maximum of 10 days, including weekends, after which they may not be accepted.

Mark Distribution:

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.

Academic Accommodation:

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth (either alone or in combination) 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 the department. The Student Medical Certificate (SMC) can be found at: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

The full policy is set out at:

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