

Department of English & Writing Studies

Nineteenth-Century Literature
English 3444E (002)
Fall/Winter 2016-17

Instructor: Professor Matthew Rowlinson
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Office hours: TBA

Location: Art & Humanities Building 2R21

Date/Time: Tuesday 4:30pm-6:30pm;
Thursday 4:30pm-5:30pm

Teaching Assistant: TBA

This is a provisional course outline. The final course outline will be handed out on the first day of class. For the most up to date version of the course outline, see the [course website](#).

Prerequisite(s): At least 60% in 1.0 of [English 1020E](#) or [1022E](#) or [1024E](#) or [1035E](#) or [1036E](#) or both [English 1027F/G](#) and [1028F/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

This course surveys British literature of the nineteenth century. During this period it became possible for writers of poetry, fiction, and critical prose to address a mass audience. Literature became a vehicle for national aspirations and a site of cultural and political conflicts which it will be our task to explore. We will study the developments of poetic and fictional genres during our period, and also read a sampling of its prose commentators on literature and culture. By close reading of this series of representative texts students will gain understanding both of the literary history of nineteenth century Britain and of questions about the function and power of cultural artifacts that remain important in our own time.

Course Materials

Required Books:

1. Joseph Black et al, eds. *The Broadview Anthology of British Literature* 2nd edition, vol. 4: The Age of Romanticism, packaged with Thomas de Quincey *Confessions of an English Opium Eater* ISBN 978-1-77047-851-0
2. Joseph Black et al, eds. *The Broadview Anthology of British Literature*, 2nd edition, vol 5: The Victorian Era, packaged with Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations* ISBN 9781551111742
3. Jane Austen, *Emma* (Penguin, ISBN 0141439580)
4. Charlotte Bronte, *Jane Eyre* (Penguin ISBN 978-0141439556)

Methods of Evaluation

Assignments:

- Complete the reading assignments by the dates specified. **Come to class prepared to ask and answer questions about the assigned readings.** In every Wednesday's class students will be randomly selected to present oral answers to a question on the reading. The question to be asked each Wednesday will be announced the previous class and will be posted on the course website. Your attendance and oral participation in class meetings will determine 5% of your final grade in the course.
- There will be four papers. In each term you will turn in an 800-word paper on an assigned topic. (The two shorter papers together will be worth 15% of your final grade)
- At the end of the first term you will turn in a 1500 word interpretative essay on a topic of your choice, due December 8. (15% final grade)
- At the end of second term you will turn in a 2500 word interpretative essay on a topic of your choice. In writing this paper, you will be required to refer to some of the relevant critical literature. (25% final grade)
- There will be six short in-class quizzes during the year. If you are unavoidably constrained to miss one, please speak to Prof. Rowlinson in advance about an adjustment to your grade, which will otherwise be 0. There will be no make-up quizzes. (5% final grade)
- Finally, there will be a final exam. You will be allowed to use the course textbooks and notes from the course in writing this exam. (35% final grade). 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>.

Papers:

Please submit your papers double-spaced, in a 10 or 12-point font, on 8.5 x 11" paper. Use 1" margins. You should use the citation format of the *MLA Handbook*. The manual is available on the reference shelves of Weldon library; if you are unfamiliar with the protocols of scholarly citation, please ask for assistance.

The first paper of Fall term must be turned in **at the start of class** on either October 7 or October 9. **No extensions will be granted on this paper.** Other papers should be submitted in class on the due date or at the English department drop-box outside U.C. 173. Extensions on papers should be arranged in advance of the due date; if you anticipate that you will need an extension, please speak to the instructor in person as early as possible. Requests for extensions made by e-mail will not be granted except in exceptional circumstances. In the absence of an extension, late papers will be penalized.

Papers will be assigned marks by a consensus of the instructors. Any request for a mark to be reviewed must be made to Prof. Rowlinson.

Question of the Week:

9/11: Songs of Innocence

For each of the Songs, but especially for "The Lamb," "The Chimney Sweeper," "The Little Black Boy," and the "Introduction," work out who is the poem's *speaker* and (where relevant) who is its *addressee*. What does the poem tell us about each speaker and addressee? What do we know about the *dramatic situation* in which it sets them?

Timetable:

Sept 8 Introduction.

Sept 13 William Blake. *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*, plates 1-11 (*Broadview* vol. 4, 72-75), *Songs of Innocence* (64-67).

Sept 15 From *Songs of Experience* "Introduction," "The Clod and the Pebble," "The Tyger" (68-71).

Sept 20 *Songs of Experience*, continued (69-72).

Sept 22 From **Burke**, *A Philosophical Inquiry into .. the Sublime and the Beautiful* (365-70); **Kant**, *Observations on the Feeling of the Beautiful and the Sublime* (370-72).

Sept 27 William Wordsworth, from *Lyrical Ballads*: "The Thorn," "Expostulation and Reply," "The Tables Turned" (216-221). Preface to *Lyrical Ballads* (223).

Sept 29 Lines written a few miles above Tintern Abbey...." (221-23) 'There was a boy' (231).

Oct 4 "Michael" (234), "Resolution and Independence" (241), "Ode [Intimations of Immortality]" (249) **Quiz Tu.**

Oct 6 "The Solitary Reaper" (244-45) "Elegiac Stanzas" (248) **First deadline for 800-word paper.**

Oct 11 Samuel Taylor Coleridge. "The Eolian Harp" (409) "This Lime-Tree Bower My Prison" (425), "Frost at Midnight" (412) **Second deadline for 800-word paper. No extensions will be granted on this assignment.**

Oct 13 "Kubla Khan" (438).

Oct 18 *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* (1817). (415).

Oct 20 Jane Austen *Emma*.

Oct 25 *Emma*.

Nov 1 *Emma*. **Quiz. Tu.**

Nov 3 *Emma*.

Nov 8 Percy Bysshe Shelley "Mont Blanc" (732), "Song to the Men of England" (759), "Ozymandias" (735), from "A Defence of Poetry" (760).

Nov 10 "Ode to the West Wind" (736).

Nov 15 John Keats "The Eve of St. Agnes" (818), "La Belle Dame Sans Merci" (824), "Ode to Psyche" (826).

Nov 17 "Ode to a Nightingale" (827).

Nov 22 "Ode on a Grecian Urn" (828), "To Autumn" (831).

Nov 24 George Gordon, Lord Byron. "Prometheus" (639), "So, we'll go no more a roving" (640).

Nov 29 Thomas De Quincey, *Confessions of an English Opium Eater*.

Dec 1 *Confessions of an English Opium Eater*, continued. **Quiz Wed.**

Dec 6 Felicia Hemans "The Homes of England" (786), "Casabianca" (788), "The Image in Lava" (791).

Dec 8 "Properzia Rossi" (792).

1500-word paper due Dec. 8.

SECOND TERM

Jan 5 J.S. Mill. "What is Poetry" (*Broadview* vol. 5, 77) **T.B. Macaulay**, from "Milton" (photocopy).

Jan 10 Tennyson, "The Lady of Shalott" (179) **R. Browning** "Porphyria's Lover" (303). "My Last Duchess" (305).

Jan 12 R. Browning, "The Bishop orders his tomb. . ." (307).

Jan 17 "Meeting at Night" (308), "Parting at Morning" (309), "Love among the Ruins" (311), "Fra Lippo Lippi" (315), "Andrea del Sarto" (322).

Jan 19 "Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came" (312). **Quiz Mon. Jan 20.**

Jan 24 Tennyson, "Mariana" (173), "Ulysses" (184). "The Epic" (185), "Morte d'Arthur" (185).

Jan 26 C. Bronte, *Jane Eyre*.

Jan 31 *Jane Eyre*.

Feb 2 *Jane Eyre*.

Feb 4 *Jane Eyre*.

Feb 9 E. Barrett Browning, "A Curse for a Nation" (168), "A Musical Instrument" (169).

Feb 14 *Sonnets from the Portuguese* (photocopy). **Quiz Tu. Feb 14.**

Feb 16 C. Darwin, selections from *On the Origin of Species* and *The Descent of Man* (263-79)

800 word paper due Th. Feb 16.

Feb 20-24 Reading Week.

Feb 28 Tennyson, Selections to be announced from *In Memoriam A.H.H.* (197).

Mar 2 J. Ruskin, from "The Nature of Gothic" (443).

Mar 7 M. Arnold, "The Buried Life" (456), "Stanzas from the Grande Chartreuse" (462), "Dover Beach" (465), selections from "The Function of Criticism at the Present Time" (478), selections from *Culture and Anarchy* (487).

Mar 9 D.G. Rossetti "The Blessed Damozel" (516), "My Sister's Sleep" (515).

Mar 14 C. Rossetti, "After Death" (555), "Song 'When I am dead my dearest'" (557), "In an Artist's Studio" (562) **Morris**, "The Defense of Guinevere" (572), "The Haystack in the Floods" (577), **A. Swinburne**, "The Triumph of Time" (615).

Mar 16 Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations*.

Mar 21 *Great Expectations*.

Mar 23 *Great Expectations*.

Mar 28 *Great Expectations*.

Mar 30 W. Pater, From *The Renaissance* (633-38).

Apr 3 Wilde *The Importance of Being Earnest* (698-729).

Apr 5 Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Conclusions.

2500 word paper due. Apr. 5.

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.

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

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

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.