

Department of English & Writing Studies

Am I to be the Hero of my own Life: Nineteenth-Century Fictions of the Individual and the World
English 3352F (001)
Fall 2018



Instructor: Dr. Jo Devereux
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Office Hours: TBA

Course Location: tba

Course Date/Time: tba

Prerequisite(s): At least 60% in 1.0 of English 1020E or English 1022E or English 1024E or English 1035E or English 1036E or English 1042E or both of English 1027F/G and English 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

Nineteenth-century philosophers celebrated the individual, but the period also saw the emergence of new forms of social control in politics, the market, and the workplace. This course examines the individual's relation to society and the world in nineteenth-century English literature.

Course Materials

Texts:

1. Charlotte Bronte, *Jane Eyre* (1848) (Broadview)
2. Tennyson, *In Memoriam* (1849) (online)
3. Charles Dickens, *David Copperfield* (1850) (Oxford World's Classics)
4. *Factory Lives: Four Nineteenth-Century Working-Class Autobiographies*, edited by James R. Simmons; introduction by Janice Carlisle (Broadview)
5. Thomas Hardy, *Jude the Obscure* (1895) (Oxford World's Classics)

Methods of Evaluation

Essay 1, due Oct. 18, 2018: 20%
Essay 2, due Nov. 22, 2018: 25%
Midterm test, Oct. 25: 15%
Attendance: 5%
Final Exam, Dec. 2018 (date TBA): 35%

Essay Policy:

You should hand in your essays in class or place them in the English Department Essay Drop Box in the hallway of UC, near the main English Department Office. **ALWAYS KEEP A COPY OF YOUR ESSAY.**

LATE ESSAYS will be penalized 1% per day.

Assignments

Essay 1: Write a persuasive essay on ONE work from the course. Examine and incorporate at least one other primary and two secondary sources in your research. Develop a strong and focused argument based on your reading of the sources.

Length: 1500 words
Format: MLA for undergraduate research essays, 8th edition
Worth: 20%
Due: Oct. 18, 2018

Topics:

Choose ONE of the following broad topics (**which you must narrow down very specifically to construct a clear argument**):

- Gender
- Work
- Identity
- Education
- Mourning
- Memory
- Art
- Social Class
- Deformity
- Illness
- Disability
- Desire

Essay 2: Compare and contrast TWO other works on the course, using one of the broad topics listed above.

Length: 2500 words

Format: MLA for undergraduate research essays, 8th edition

Worth: 25%

Due: Nov. 22, 2018

As with the first essay, choose ONE of the topics listed above (**which you must narrow down very specifically to construct a clear argument**). You may use the same topic as in **Essay 1** but write on **TWO different works from Essay 1**. Examine and incorporate at least one other primary and four secondary sources in your research. Develop a strong and focused argument based on your reading of the sources.

Timetable

Week of Readings and Assignments

Sept.6 Introduction, general business

Sept.11-13 Social and Historical Background

Sept.18-20 Charlotte Bronte, *Jane Eyre* (1848)

Sept.25-27 Charlotte Bronte, *Jane Eyre* (1848)

Oct.2-4 Tennyson, *In Memoriam* (1849) (online)

Oct.9-11 **FALL READING WEEK**

Oct.16-18 Tennyson, *In Memoriam* (1849); **Essay 1 Due Oct. 18**

Oct.23-25 Charles Dickens, *David Copperfield* (1850) (Chapters 1-21); **Midterm Oct. 25**

Oct.30-Nov.1 Charles Dickens, *David Copperfield* (1850) (Chapters 22-43)

Nov.6-8 Charles Dickens, *David Copperfield* (1850) (Chapters 44-64)

Nov.13-15 *Factory Lives: Four Nineteenth-Century Working-Class Autobiographies*

Nov.20-22 *Factory Lives*; **Essay 2 Due Nov. 22**

Nov.27-29 Thomas Hardy, *Jude the Obscure* (1895)

Dec. 4-6 Thomas Hardy, *Jude the Obscure* (1895)

Final exam: Dec. 2018

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>.

All instances of plagiarism will be reported to the Chair of Undergraduate Studies. Proven cases of plagiarism will result in a grade of zero for the assignment. Subsequent offences will result in failure for the course.

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.