

Department of English & Writing Studies  
**The Woman Question: Nineteenth-Century Woman Writers**  
**English 3353F (001)**  
Fall 2019



**Instructor:** Dr. Jo Devereux  
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UC 4433

**Course Location:** HSB 35

**Course Date/Time:** Monday 2:30–4:30 pm;  
Wednesday 3:30–4:30 pm

**Prerequisites:** At least 60% in 1.0 of English 1020-1999 or permission of the Department.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol 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

In the nineteenth century, women readers and women writers were an important part of the new mass market for English literature, often leading in the emergent campaign for women's rights. This course will discuss these and other issues in fiction, non-fiction, and poetry by women from the 1790s to 1900. 3 hours, 0.5 course

**Objectives:**

By the end of the course, successful students will be able to:

- Demonstrate increased proficiency in research about nineteenth-century British literature
- Present their analysis of nineteenth-century writings by and about women in a clear, compelling, and concise prose style free from technical errors

### Course Materials

#### **Required Texts:**

All published by Broadview Press:

*The Woman of Colour* (1808)

Edited by: Lyndon J. Dominique

*East Lynne* (1861)

Written by: Ellen Wood

Edited by: Andrew Maunder

*Criminals, Idiots, Women, & Minors – Second Edition*

*Victorian Writing By Women On Women*

Edited by: Susan Hamilton

*The Romance of a Shop* (1888)

Written by: Amy Levy

Edited by: Susan Bernstein

*The Woman Who Did* (1895)

Written by: Grant Allen

Edited by: Nicholas Ruddick

### Methods of Evaluation

The grade for the course will be arrived at as follows:

Essay 1, due Oct.16, 2019: 15%

Quiz 1, Oct.30, 2019, *Woman of Colour*, *East Lynne*: 10%

Quiz 2, Nov.20, 2019, *Romance of a Shop*, *The Woman Who Did*: 10%

Essay 2, due Nov.27, 2019: 25%

Attendance: 5%

Final Exam, Dec. 2019 (date TBA): 35%

Students are fully responsible for looking at and being familiar with the information posted on the department website at

<https://www.uwo.ca/english/undergraduate/Student%20Information.html>.

### Additional Information

#### **Attendance:**

Regular attendance is expected for all classes. Absenteeism may result in debarment from the final exam and, thus, failure of the course.

#### **Essay Due dates, Late policy, Extensions, Plagiarism:**

All overdue essays will receive a penalty of 1% per day late.

Essays must follow current MLA format and must include a list of Works Cited at the end (see *MLA Handbook* for details).

Essays must be on works studied in this section of the course.

**Plagiarism:**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a 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 (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

**Plagiarism Checking:**

The University of Western Ontario uses software for plagiarism checking. Students may be required to submit their written work in electronic form for plagiarism checking.

**Email Policy:**

Email is meant for brief inquiries only. Please allow a day or two for a response. Email received over the weekend will be answered the following week.

Essays

**Essay 1:** Choose ONE work on the course and write an argumentative essay that focuses on one of the following ten topics listed below. Be sure to narrow and refine your topic so that it is very specific and clear. Do early research on the topic so that you can develop your essay gradually.

Length: 1500 words

Format: MLA 8<sup>th</sup> edition for undergraduate research essays

Worth: 15%

Due: Oct. 16, 2019

Submit as an attachment in Word via OWL only.

**Possible Topics:**

Space or place

Emotions or affect

Wives and/or husbands or the single life

Sexuality

Narrative point of view

Travel

Labour or work

Servants

Ownership

Money

**Essay 2:** Choose TWO different works from the one you examined in Essay 1. As with the first essay, choose ONE of the broad topics listed above (which you must narrow down very specifically to construct a clear argument).

Again: do some preliminary research on this topic with reference to the play you are exploring. You may write more than once on the same topic (for example, Servants), but make sure you cover TWO different works from the one you examined in Essay 1.

Length: 2500 words

Format: MLA 8 for undergraduate research essays

Worth: 25%

Due: Nov.27, 2019

### 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)

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.

### Timetable

Sept.9-11	Introduction
Sept.16-18	<i>The Woman of Colour</i> (1808)
Sept.23-25	<i>The Woman of Colour</i> (1808)
Sept.30-Oct.2	Jameson, Cobbe ( <i>Criminals, Idiots, Women, &amp; Minors</i> )
Oct.7-9	<i>East Lynne</i> (1861)
Oct.14-16	<i>East Lynne</i> (1861); <b>Essay 1 Due Oct. 16</b>
Oct.21-23	Linton, Caird ( <i>Criminals, Idiots, Women, &amp; Minors</i> )
Oct.28-30	<i>The Romance of a Shop</i> (1888); <b>Quiz 1 Oct. 30</b>
Nov.4-6	FALL READING WEEK: NO CLASS
Nov.11-13	<i>The Romance of a Shop</i> (1888);
Nov.18-20	<i>The Woman Who Did</i> (1895); <b>Quiz 2 Nov.20</b>
Nov.25-27	<i>The Woman Who Did</i> (1895); <b>Essay 2 Due Nov.27</b>
Dec.2-4	Taylor, Garrett Fawcett, ( <i>Criminals, Idiots, Women, &amp; Minors</i> )