ENGL 4311.001—Spring 2012

British Romantic Literature

Instructor: Dr. Vanessa Jackson.
Office Hours: TTh 11:00-12:30 & 2:00-3:00; Th 6:00-7:00.
Please call for appointments at other times.
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Office Phone: (361) 825 5858.
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Course Description

The main purpose of ENGL 4311 is to expand your acquaintance with the historical movement known as Romanticism, more specifically with the British poetry and prose that surfaced during the Romantic era. We will primarily study the "big five" poets (Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley and Keats), but we will also look at some lesser stars and at some Romantic prose in order to view the movement from a broad perspective. The aim of this is to give you a firm context within which to evaluate the quality and contributions of the major poets and also to show you a wide picture of the movement itself.

Student Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to
• identify the major dates, characteristics, and writers of the British Romantic period in literature;
• demonstrate understanding of British Romantic literature in a researched critical essay, using primary and secondary sources and documenting and citing these sources in correct MLA style.

Text


Course Requirements

This is a course that will ask you to think deeply about what you are reading, and to write about what you come up with. You will be required to read and to write continuously throughout the semester, and to discuss with the class your ideas and interpretations.
• **Journal:** You will be required to keep a reading journal/notebook, which will form part of your final grade at the end. These are personal learning tools that should be adapted to fit each of you individually, but the following should be adhered to:

  - The journal can include class notes, but *must* consist of more than this: each entry should clearly demonstrate that you read the assigned texts **before** the relevant class period, though of course you may add to these notes afterwards.
  
  - There should be one entry per class session.
  
  - Please keep class notes separated from your own entries.
  
  - Journals may be electronic or handwritten.
  
  - Each entry in the journal must be dated.

I will be evaluating these journals on their demonstration of steady commitment to the material of the course, and fulfillment of the above criteria; more specifically, I shall mark them on consistency, personal engagement with the texts, and depth of thought.

• **Graded Projects:** You will also be required to do two, more formal, graded projects, one at mid-term and one at the end of the semester. One of these two may be an essay that uses only a primary text or texts, or one that involves some creative work. One of the two projects, however, must be a researched essay that uses critical, secondary sources (see Student Learning Objectives above). It is up to you which project you do at mid-term and which at the end of the term.

• **Preparation for Class:** You will be expected to come to class prepared to discuss the assigned text(s) either in small groups or with the class as a whole.

• **Attendance:** You may miss two classes with no questions asked and no penalties. Unless you can show me a very good excuse, each class missed after that will result in two points being taken off your final grade.

• **Plagiarism:** Any form of plagiarism will result in a course grade of 'F'.

**Reminder to English Majors**
Don’t forget that as part of the English undergraduate capstone course (ENGL 4351), all English majors are required to submit a portfolio of writings in different discourse genres that they have completed for their college classes. To help you prepare for this assignment, you should keep a copy of all essays, research papers, literary analyses, creative and report writing, etc., so that you will have an ample selection from which to choose when the portfolio comes due. **So keep your work from this class!**
Grading Policy

You will be graded on your journal, your mid-term project, and your final project, as follows:

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<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>Journal</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Primary Text or Creative Project</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Researched Paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
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Course grading scale (absolutely no exceptions whatsoever):

- 100-90 = A
- 89-80 = B
- 79-70 = C
- 69-60 = D
- Below 60 = F

Special Notices

*Notice to Students with Disabilities: Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, located in CCH 116 & 119, at 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

**Academic Advising: The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, the student’s assigned faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

***Grade Appeal Process. As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.
ENGL 4311—Spring 2012
Syllabus

Week 1
Thurs 12 Jan  Introduction to course.
Introduction to Romanticism.

Week 2
Tues 17 Jan  William Wordsworth:
The Lucy Poems:
“Strange fits of passion have I known” (274).
“She dwelt among the untrodden ways” (275).
“Three years she grew” (275).
“A slumber did my spirit steal” (276).
“I travelled among unknown men” (277).

Thurs 19 Jan  Wordsworth:
“I wandered lonely as a cloud” (305).
“Tintern Abbey” (258).

Week 3
Tues 24 Jan  Wordsworth:
“Preface to Lyrical Ballads” (262).
“My heart leaps up” (306).

Thurs 26 Jan  Wordsworth:
“Ode: Intimations of Immortality” (306).

Week 4
Tues 31 Jan  Dorothy Wordsworth:
From The Alfoxden Journal (390).
From The Grasmere Journals (392).
“Grasmere—A Fragment” (402).
“Thoughts on My Sick-Bed” (404).

Thurs 2 Feb  William Hazlitt:
“My First Acquaintance With Poets” (541).

[Charles Lamb:
“Christ’s Hospital Five-and-Thirty Years Ago” (496).]
### Week 5
**Tues 7 Feb**  
Samuel Taylor Coleridge:  
“This Lime-Tree Bower My Prison” (428).  
“Frost at Midnight” (464).

**Thurs 9 Feb**  
Coleridge:  
From Chap. 13 of *Biographia Literaria* (477).  
Chap. 14 of *Biographia Literaria* (478).  
“Kubla Khan” (446).

[Mary Robinson:  
“To the Poet Coleridge” (74).]

### Week 6
**Tues 14 Feb**  
Coleridge:  

**Thurs 16 Feb**  
Coleridge:  
“Dejection: An Ode” (466).

### Week 7
**Tues 21 Feb**  
Workshop on Midterm.

**Thurs 23 Feb**  
Workshop on Midterm.

### Week 8
**Tues 28 Feb**  
**MID-TERM DUE.**

George Gordon, Lord Byron:  
“I would I were a careless child” (handout).  
“She walks in beauty” (612).  
“When we two parted” (613).  
“Darkness” (614).  
“So we'll go no more a roving” (616).

**Thirs 1 March**  
Byron:  
*Childe Harold's Pilgrimage:*  
From Canto 1: Stanzas 1-6 (617).  
From Canto 3: Stanzas 1-28 (619).  
From Canto 3: Stanzas 68-75 (628).

### Week 9
**Tues 6 March**  
Byron:  
*Don Juan* (669):  
From Canto 1: Stanzas 1-117
Thurs 8 March  
Byron:
“Stanzas Written on the Road between Florence and Pisa” (734).
“January 22nd. Missolonghi” (735).
Letters (736).

**Week 10**  
**SPRING BREAK**

**Week 11**  
**Tues 20 March**  
Percy Bysshe Shelley:
“Mutability” (744).
“Hymn to Intellectual Beauty” (766).

**Thurs 22 March**  
Shelley:
From “A Defence of Poetry” (837).

**Week 12**  
**Tues 27 March**  
Shelley:
“Ozymandias” (768).
“The Mask of Anarchy” (handout).

**Thurs 29 March**  
Shelley:
“Ode to the West Wind” (772).
“To a Sky-Lark” (817).

**Week 13**  
**Tues 3 April**  
Joanna Baillie:
“Address to a Steamship” (223).

Letitia Elizabeth Landon:
“The Proud Ladye” (971).
“Revenge” (976).

**Thurs 5 April**  
John Keats:
“On First Looking into Chapman's Homer” (880).
“When I have fears that I may cease to be” (888).
“La Belle Dame sans Merci” (899).

**Week 14**  
**Tues 10 April**  
Keats:
From his letters (940).
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Authors</th>
<th>Works</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 12 Apr</td>
<td>Keats</td>
<td>“Ode to a Nightingale” (903).</td>
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<td>“Ode on a Grecian Urn” (905).</td>
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<td><strong>Week 15</strong></td>
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<td>Tues 17 Apr</td>
<td>Keats</td>
<td>“Ode on Melancholy” (906).</td>
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<td>“To Autumn” (925).</td>
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<td>Thurs 19 Apr</td>
<td>John Clare</td>
<td>“Pastoral Poesy” (853).</td>
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<td>“I Am” (857).</td>
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<td>“An Invite to Eternity” (858).</td>
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<td>“The Peasant Poet” (859).</td>
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<td><strong>Week 16</strong></td>
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<td>Tues 24 Apr</td>
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<td><strong>JOURNALS DUE.</strong></td>
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<td>Workshop on Final</td>
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<td>Thurs 26 Apr</td>
<td>Workshop on Final</td>
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<td><strong>Week 17</strong></td>
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<td>Tues 1 May</td>
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<td>Wrap-up of course.</td>
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<td><strong>FINAL DUE.</strong></td>
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