ENGL 4311.001—Fall 2013

British Romantic Literature

Instructor: Dr. Vanessa Jackson.
Course: ENGL 4311.001. CS 112. Tues 7-9:30 pm.
Office Hours: TTh 12:00-2:00; T 6:00-7:00.
Please call for appointments at other times or on other days.
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Office Phone: (361) 825 5858.
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Course Objectives

The main purpose of English 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. As we only have one class session a week, I will expect these entries to be substantial – at least 2-3 pages (8½ x 11) of careful thought.

  - 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 one class with no questions asked and no penalties. Unless you can show me a very good excuse, each class missed after that will result in four 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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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Journal</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<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: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116. If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom, or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance.

**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—Fall 2013
Syllabus

Week 2
Tues 10 Sep  Introduction to course.
               Introduction to Romanticism.

Week 3
Tues 17 Sep  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 wandered lonely as a cloud” (305).
               “Tintern Abbey” (258).

Week 4
Tues 24 Sep  Wordsworth:
               “Preface to Lyrical Ballads” (262).
               “My heart leaps up” (306).
               “Ode: Intimations of Immortality” (306).

Week 5
Tues 1 Oct   Dorothy Wordsworth:
               From The Alfoxden Journal (390).
               From The Grasmere Journals (392).
               “Grasmere—A Fragment” (402).
               “Thoughts on My Sick-Bed” (404).

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

Week 6
Tues 8 Oct   Samuel Taylor Coleridge:
               “This Lime-Tree Bower My Prison” (428).
               “Frost at Midnight” (464).
               From Chap. 13 of Biographia Literaria (477).
               Chap. 14 of Biographia Literaria (478).
               “Kubla Khan” (446).
**Week 7**
Tues 15 Oct  
Coleridge:  
“Dejection: An Ode” (466).

**Week 8**
Tues 22 Oct  
Workshop on Midterm.

**Week 9**
Tues 29 Oct  
**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).

*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 10**
Tues 5 Nov  
Byron:  
*Don Juan* (669):  
From Canto 1: Stanzas 1-117

“Stanzas Written on the Road between Florence and Pisa” (734).  
“January 22nd. Missolonghi” (735).  
Letters (736).

**Week 11**
Tues 12 Nov  
Percy Bysshe Shelley:  
“Mutability” (744).  
“Hymn to Intellectual Beauty” (766).

From “A Defence of Poetry” (837).
Week 12
Tues 19 Nov
Shelley:
“Ozymandias” (768).
“The Mask of Anarchy” (handout).
“Ode to the West Wind” (772).
“To a Sky-Lark” (817).

Week 13
Tues 26 Nov
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).
From his letters (940).

Week 14
Tues 3 Dec
Keats:
“Ode to a Nightingale” (903).
“Ode on a Grecian Urn” (905).
“Ode on Melancholy” (906).
“To Autumn” (925).

Week 15
Tues 10 Dec
JOURNALS DUE.
John Clare:
“Pastoral Poesy” (853).
“I Am” (857).
“An Invite to Eternity” (858).
“The Peasant Poet” (859).
Workshop on Final.

FINAL DUE FRI 13 DEC IN MY OFFICE BY 12:00 NOON.