

English 2323 British Literature 1780-present

Instructor Dr. L.G. Jackson
Office Auditorium Building, Room 207
Office Hours By appointment
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Texts

All of the texts for this class are available online. Links for each text are included in the syllabus.

Abrams, M.H., et al, editors. *The Norton Anthology of English Literature, Volume Two*. Seventh Edition. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2000.

Brontë, Emily. *Wuthering Heights*. (any edition you prefer)

Dickens, Charles. *Great Expectations*. (any edition you prefer)

Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein*. (any edition you prefer)

Various handouts.

Course Description

In this course, we will be reading some of the most valued works in British literature from the late eighteenth century and up to the present. You will be expected to demonstrate a knowledge of these works, as well as an ability to think critically about them and their relationship to their historical and cultural contexts. Participation in class discussions of the selected texts is mandatory.

Your Semester Grade

- Exam 1: The Regency & the Romantics 25%
- Exam 2: The Victorians 25%
- Exam 3: The Moderns 25%
- Daily Quizzes 20%
- Discussion & Participation 5%

Exams

You will be asked to take three exams. Each exam will cover approximately one-third of the course material. The final exam will NOT be cumulative. I reserve the right to test you over any material covered in class, including author biography, historical background, handouts, etc. There is no make-up for missed exams.

Daily Quizzes

During the course of the semester, you take approximately 15 quizzes, which:

- Will consist of five questions over the day's reading assignment
- Will be given during the first five minutes of class
- May NOT be taken early
- May NOT be made up

Therefore, it is imperative that you are on time to class. If you are absent or late on a day when we have a quiz, you will receive a zero for the missed quiz. It is your responsibility to keep up with your grades on these quizzes. **None of the grades will be dropped.**

Discussion & Participation

This class will be an interactive learning experience, driven by discussion. These discussions will be more interesting and effective if all members of the class come ready to participate. We will have formal lecturing, but students will actively help in shaping class discussions by choosing meaningful passages from the assigned readings to share aloud with the class. “Meaningful” is the operative notion here.

To this end, **you must prepare three written discussion topics for each class session.** These questions should be typed. You should bring two copies to class – one to turn in to me at the beginning of the class, and one for your own use during our discussions.

You might choose a passage that you particularly enjoyed (or do not understand), some topic you would like to discuss, or some point of historical interest that you would like to have clarified. You may not ask for definitions of words.

The object of this exercise is to help you improve your ability to read literature closely and with a critical eye. Your job here is to read and analyze – mine is to explain and clarify.

A small, yet significant portion of your grade will depend upon your participation in class discussions, as well as my estimation of your progress in the course. Therefore, it is imprudent to either miss class or leave class early, to be late on a consistent basis, to sleep in class, to carry on private conversations during lectures, and so forth. Do not send or read text messages during class. Participation is dependent upon regular, punctual attendance.

Absence Policy

I both expect and demand regular and punctual attendance. Good students attend class. That says it all. You will be counted absent if you are more than ten minutes late for class. Although I will take attendance on a daily basis, you are responsible for keeping up with the number of absences you incur. You will be counted absent for the following reasons:

- You are more than ten minutes late to class
- You leave class early
- You sleep in class
- You carry on private conversations during lectures
- You read any materials during class that are not directly related to class. This includes *Cliffs Notes*
- You send or read text messages during class

Students who miss class three or more times will fail the course. No exceptions.

Whether you are in class or not, you remain responsible for all assignments made and policies announced each day. If you must be absent, you are responsible for turning in any work that is due – as scheduled.

Criteria for Excused Absences

The only excused absences recognized by the University of North Texas are those wherein a student is representing the university in an official capacity. These absences will not be excused without appropriate documentation. Athletes and other students who will be missing class for an official university activity must advise me in writing at least 48 hours in advance of the absence.

Illness and personal emergencies are not recognized by the university (or the instructor) as excused absences. Use your allotted absences wisely.

Plagiarism and Other Forms of Academic Dishonesty

"The term 'plagiarism' includes, but is not limited to, the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials."

(UNT 2010-2011 Undergraduate Catalog)

If you turn in a piece of writing all or part of which you have plagiarized, you will be dismissed with an "F" in the course. If you use unauthorized assistance of any kind in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations, you will be dismissed with an "F" in the course. Further action within the context of university guidelines may be considered.

Be aware that plagiarism and/or academic dishonesty are grounds for expulsion from the university.

Students with Disabilities

In accordance with the terms and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504, Rehabilitation Act, I will cooperate with the Office of Disability Accommodation to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability for which you will require accommodation, you must advise me of your needs in writing no later than the end of the second week of class.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE)

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Essential Competencies

Essential competencies for this course include the ability:

- To attend class regularly and punctually
- To have a fluent understanding of written and spoken English
- To read and interpret expository, persuasive, and literary writing
- To write meaningful, coherent, and correct English prose in response to assignments of various kinds
- To complete assignments in a timely manner
- To participate in class discussions

Open Door Policy

You are welcomed and encouraged to schedule an appointment with me whenever you wish to discuss a question or a problem as it relates to this class. The best way to contact me outside of class is to e-mail me (**Ljackson@unt.edu**). I try to read my e-mail frequently and will send you a prompt reply.

Classroom Civility

You are expected to conduct yourself as adults who practice the utmost civility to the instructor and to your fellow classmates. Pagers, cell phones, and other electronic equipment must be turned off during class sessions. Texting during class time is strictly forbidden.

As colleagues engaged in mutual inquiry about a common goal – becoming more effective readers, analysts, and philosophers of literature – we shall extend to one another professional courtesies such as:

- Attending all classes and arriving on time
- Reading all assignments and preparing all work by the date expected
- Respecting and learning from differences of opinion and experience
- Accepting responsibility to help individuals within the class to achieve their goals

Any behavior that the instructor deems as uncivil and/or inappropriate in any way will result in an "F" in the course and/or your permanent dismissal from the classroom. Further action within the context of university guidelines may be considered.

Schedule of Readings and Assignments

Week 4

Sept. 23	Attendance policy, texts, syllabus Introduction: The Regency & the Romantics
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Week 5

Sept. 28	<p>William Blake</p> <p>"The Lamb" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Lamb</p> <p>"The Tyger" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Tyger</p> <p>"The Chimney Sweeper" (from <i>Songs of Innocence</i>) http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Chimney_Sweeper_(Blake,_1789)</p> <p>"The Chimney Sweeper" (from <i>Songs of Experience</i>) http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Chimney_Sweeper_(Blake,_1794)</p> <p>"The Sick Rose" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Sick_Rose</p> <p>"London" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/London_(Blake)</p>
Sept. 30	<p>William Wordsworth</p> <p>"Lines Composed a Few Miles above Tintern Abbey" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Lines_composed_a_few_miles_above_Tintern_Abbey</p>

Week 6

October 5	<p>Samuel Taylor Coleridge "Kubla Khan" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Kubla_Khan</p> <p>"The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Rime_of_the_Ancient_Mariner_(1800)</p>
October 7	<p>John Keats "La Belle Dame sans Merci" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/La_Belle_Dame_sans_Merci</p> <p>"Ode on a Grecian Urn" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Ode_on_a_Grecian_Urn_(1884)</p> <p>George Gordon, Lord Byron "She Walks in Beauty" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Hebrew_Melodies/She_walks_in_beauty</p>

Week 7

October 12	<p>Percy Bysshe Shelley "Ode to the West Wind" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Ode_to_the_West_Wind</p> <p>Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley <i>Frankenstein</i>, Volume I (Letters, Chapters 1-5) http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Frankenstein</p>
October 14	<p>Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley <i>Frankenstein</i>, Volume II & III (Chapter 6-end) http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Frankenstein</p>

Week 8

October 19	Exam 1
October 21	<p>Introduction: The Victorians</p> <p>Matthew Arnold "Dover Beach" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Dover_Beach</p> <p>Thomas Hardy "Hap" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Hap</p>

Week 9

October 26	Emily Brontë <i>Wuthering Heights</i> , Volume One (Chapters 1-17) http://etext.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/BroWuth.html
October 28	Emily Brontë <i>Wuthering Heights</i> , Volume Two (Chapters 18-34) http://etext.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/BroWuth.html

Week 10

November 2	Charles Dickens <i>Great Expectations</i> , Chap. 1-10 http://etext.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/DicGrea.html
November 4	Charles Dickens <i>Great Expectations</i> , Chap. 11-19 http://etext.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/DicGrea.html

Week 11

November 9	Charles Dickens <i>Great Expectations</i> , Chap. 20-29 http://etext.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/DicGrea.html Robert Browning "My Last Duchess" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/My_Last_Duchess "Porphyria's Lover" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Porphyria%27s_Lover
November 11	Charles Dickens <i>Great Expectations</i> , Chap. 30-39 http://etext.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/DicGrea.html Elizabeth Barrett Browning "Sonnet 43" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/How_Do_I_Love_Thee

Week 12

November 16	<p>Charles Dickens <i>Great Expectations</i>, Chap. 40-50 http://etext.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/DicGrea.html</p> <p>Alfred, Lord Tennyson "The Lady of Shalott" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Lady_of_Shalott_(1842)</p>
November 18	<p>Charles Dickens <i>Great Expectations</i>, Chap. 51-59 http://etext.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/DicGrea.html</p>

Week 13

November 23	Exam 2
November 25	Thanksgiving Holiday. No class

Week 14

December 2	<p>Introduction: The Moderns</p> <p>Rupert Brooke "The Soldier" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/V._The_Soldier</p> <p>Wilfred Owen "Dulce Et Decorum Est" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Dulce_et_Decorum_Est</p> <p>William Butler Yeats "The Second Coming" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Second_Coming</p>
December 4	<p>Virginia Woolf <i>A Room of One's Own</i>, Chap. 3 http://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/w/woolf/virginia/w91r/chapter3.html</p> <p>Rudyard Kipling "The White Man's Burden" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_White_Man%27s_Burden</p> <p>Derek Walcott "A Far Cry from Africa" http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/a-far-cry-from-africa/</p>

Week 15

December 9	<p>T.S. Eliot "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Love_Song_of_J._Alfred_Prufrock</p> <p>D.H. Lawrence "Snake" http://homepages.wmich.edu/~cooneys/poems/dhl.snake.html</p> <p>"The Rocking Horse Winner" http://arthursclassicnovels.com/lawrence/rockinghorse.html</p>
December 11	<p>James Joyce <i>The Dead</i> http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Dead</p>

Week 16

Finals Week	<p>Exam 3</p> <p><i>Please consult the UNT Finals Schedule for your exam date and time. We will meet in our regular classroom. You do not need a blue book – the exam will be the same format as our other exams, and will cover Unit 3 only.</i></p>
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