

## **LIT 3318.501: British Romanticism**

Spring 2013

JO 4.122 M-W 5:30-6:45

Professor Kenneth Brewer

### **Professor Contact Information**

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### **Course Prerequisite**

HUMA 1301

### **Course Description**

The course focuses on the most revolutionary literary movement in the history of British literature, Romanticism. From conceptions of the ideal personality of the artist (tortured, misunderstood, a dreamer, and in some cases an abuser of illicit substances) to notions about what makes a poem or novel aesthetically valuable to beliefs about the role of art in transforming society, the ideas behind Romanticism remain a vital part of our aesthetic debates. While readings will include the "Big Six" poets of British Romanticism (Wordsworth, Coleridge, Blake, P. Shelley, Keats, and Byron), the course also reflects recent shifts in our definition of Romanticism, particularly the Gothic novel (Lewis, Mary Shelley) and other prose fiction (Hogg, Austen). We will pay particular attention to how films about the British Romantics reflect and shape our attitudes towards them.

### **Required Textbooks/Materials**

*Norton Anthology of English Literature: The Romantic Period* (9th edition)

Lewis, *The Monk: A Romance*

Austen, *Emma*

Shelley, M. *Frankenstein; or, the Modern Prometheus* (1818 version)

Hogg, *The Private Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner*

**eLearning:** We will be using the online learning system in this class for the submission of assignments, exams, and delivery of course information. Please visit Summer 2012 LIT 3318.501 <https://elearning.utdallas.edu/> and click on "Academic."

You should see this course listed there, and clicking on it will bring you to our course's homepage. Please visit as soon as possible so that you are familiar with the interface.

## Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

In this course, students will:

- examine and analyze a variety of literary works (poetry, prose, and drama);
- apply considered analysis and respond to literary works as examples of human expression and aesthetic and philosophical principles;
- communicate their understanding and knowledge of texts through oral presentations and written documents.

By the end of this course, students should demonstrate:

- an ability to analyze and critically evaluate a variety of works from literature in the context of culture, society, and values;
- an ability to compare and contrast the works with each other;
- an understanding of the relationship between the structure of the works under analysis and their meaning;
- an understanding of the development and evolution of British Romanticism.

## Academic Calendar

Assignments are subject to change. Please check e-Learning site for the course for announcements.

NA = *Norton Anthology*

	Reading Due
M January 14 Note: Assigned reading for this class meeting will be done in class. For the rest of the semester, readings are due on date indicated.  <i>Neo-Classicism and Romanticism</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pope, “Epistle to Miss Blount”</li><li>• Wordsworth, “I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud”</li></ul>
W January 16 <i>The Transition to Romanticism: Ballads and Other Forms</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “The Demon-Lover” (NA 237-39)</li><li>• Smith (NA 53-54); “Written at the Close of Spring” (NA 54)</li><li>• Robinson (NA 77-79); “London’s Summer Morning” (NA 80)</li></ul>
M January 21	Holiday

	Reading Due
W January 23	Lewis, <i>The Monk</i> (Volumes 1 and 2)
M January 28 <i>Early Romanticism</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lewis, <i>The Monk</i> (Volume 3)</li> <li>• Blake (NA 112-16); “<i>The Lamb</i>” (NA 120); “<i>The Chimney Sweeper</i>” (NA 121-22; 128); “<i>The Tyger</i>” (NA 129-30); “<i>London</i>” (132-33)</li> </ul>
W January 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA 3-27</li> <li>• Wollstonecraft, from <i>A Vindication of the Rights of Woman</i> (NA 208-11; NA 232-39)</li> </ul>
M February 4	Wordsworth (NA 270-72): from the “Preface to <i>Lyrical Ballads</i> ” (NA 292-304); “ <i>We Are Seven</i> ” (NA 278-79); “ <i>Lines Written in Early Spring</i> ” (NA 280)
W February 6	Wordsworth, “ <i>Tintern Abbey</i> ” (NA 288-92); “ <i>Surprised by Joy</i> ” (NA 347); “ <i>London, 1802</i> ” (NA 346-7)
M February 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wordsworth, “<i>Mutability</i>” (NA 347); “<i>The World is too Much With Us</i>” (NA 347)</li> <li>• Coleridge (NA 437-39); “<i>Kubla Khan</i>” (NA 459-62); “<i>Frost at Midnight</i>” (NA 477-79)</li> </ul>
W February 13	Coleridge, “ <i>Rime of the Ancient Mariner</i> ” (NA 443-59)
M February 18 <i>Mid-Period Romanticism</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• De Quincey (NA 565-66); from <i>Confessions of an English Opium-Eater</i> (NA; 571-80)</li> <li>• Coleridge, from <i>Lectures on Shakespeare</i> (NA 499-502); from <i>The Statesman’s Manual</i> (NA 502-505); from <i>Biographia Literaria</i> (NA 488-99)</li> <li>• Lamb, from <i>On the Tragedies of Shakespeare</i> (NA 509-14)</li> </ul>
W February 20	Austen, <i>Emma</i> (Volume 1)
M February 25	Austen, <i>Emma</i> (Volume 2)
W February 27	Austen, <i>Emma</i> (Volume 3)
M March 4	<b>Midterm Exam</b>
W March 6 <i>Late Romanticism</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coleridge, “<i>Christabel</i>” (462-77)</li> <li>• Scott, “<i>The Tapestry Chamber</i>”</li> </ul> <a href="http://www.gutenberg.org/files/1668/1668-h/1668-h.htm">http://www.gutenberg.org/files/1668/1668-h/1668-h.htm</a>

	Reading Due
M March 18	M. Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i>
W March 20	M. Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i>
M March 25	P. Shelley (NA 748-51); “Mutability” (NA 751-2); “To Wordsworth” (NA 752); “Ozymandias” (NA 776)
W March 27	P. Shelley, “Mont Blanc” (NA 770-73); from “A Defence of Poetry” (NA 856-69)
M April 1	Byron (NA 612-15); from <i>Childe Harold’s Pilgrimage</i> (NA 620-37)
W April 3	Byron, <i>Don Juan</i> Canto I (NA 673-704)
M April 8	Keats (NA 901-4); “When I have fears that I may cease to be” (NA 911); “The Eve of St. Agnes” (NA 912-22)
W April 10	Keats, “Bright Star” (NA 922-23); “Ode to Psyche” (NA 925-27); “Ode on Melancholy” (NA 932-330)
M April 15	Keats, “Ode on a Grecian Urn” (NA 930-31); “To Autumn” (NA 951)
W April 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keats, “Ode to a Nightingale” (NA 927-29)</li> <li>• Clare (NA 869-70); “The Nightingale’s Nest” (NA 870-72); “I Am” (NA 881)</li> </ul>
M April 22 <i>The Transition to the Victorian Period</i>	Hogg, <i>Confessions of a Justified Sinner</i>
W April 24	Hogg, <i>Confessions of a Justified Sinner</i>
M April 29	Tennyson, “The Lady of Shallot”; “The Palace of Art” (Handouts)
W May 1	Review for Final Exam

Final Exam date to be announced

### Assignments & Grading Policy

Below are the required assignments for this course. I will provide more detailed information as the due dates approach. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have about assignments.

Short Writing Assignments and Quizzes: 40%

Short (250-word) response writings will be frequently assigned. These assignments will (usually) be submitted through the E-Learning site for the course. Assignments not submitted by the due date will be considered late and will be accepted for half credit.

There will be frequent quizzes throughout the semester to stimulate class discussion, gauge reading comprehension, and prepare for exams. Quizzes will be based on readings, lecture material, and class discussion. Quizzes will often be given at the conclusion of a class meeting.

Exams: 30% (Midterm: 15%; Final: 15%)

The midterm will cover material up to that point in the class; the final will cover the material after the midterm.

Project 20%

Requirements for the Project will be discussed later in the course.

Class Participation: 10%

Participation includes attending class, participating in discussions and in-class activities, and visiting me in my office as often as possible. The majority of classroom time will consist of discussion: for the class to be rewarding, it is imperative that you do the reading and come to class prepared to talk and listen actively. In writings and exams, you are expected to draw on class discussion. Participation in class activities is necessary to pass this class. Promptness and regular attendance are essential and will affect your grade. You must arrive, prepared, to class on time and stay for the class period.

*Note on laptops:* If you are using your laptop for non-class related activities, it is really obvious to me and to your classmates (you laugh at the wrong times. Or you laugh at all). Your participation and overall class grade will suffer accordingly.

**Office Hours**

You are strongly encouraged to take advantage of my office hours to talk about class materials, your papers, and anything else that might help you.

The policies that comprise the rest of the syllabus may be accessed online: <http://provost.utdallas.edu/home/syllabus-policies-and-procedures-text>