

LIT 3318.501 British Romanticism

Fall 2016

M-W 5:30-6:45

SLC 2.304

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 (so far) 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) other prose fiction (Austen, E. Brontë), and female poets (Barbauld, Robinson, Smith). 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, *Persuasion*

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

Brontë, E. *Wuthering Heights*

eLearning/Blackboard

We will be using the online learning system in this class for the submission of assignments, exams, and delivery of course information. 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, essays, and novels);
- 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.

Agenda

	Reading Due	Assignment Due
M August 22 Introduction to Course:		

<i>Augustans and Romantics</i>		
W August 24 Early Romanticism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The Daemon-Lover” (37) • Barbauld, “To a Little Invisible Being Who Is Expected Soon to Become Visible” (49-50) • Smith, “Written at the Close of Spring” (54) 	Quiz (in class)
M August 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smith, “Written in the Church-Yard at Middleton in Sussex” (55-56) • Wollstonecraft, from <i>A Vindication of the Rights of Woman</i> (232-39) • Burke, from <i>Reflections on the Revolution in France</i> (187-94) 	Quiz (eLearning)
W August 31	Lewis, <i>The Monk</i> (Volume 1)	Short Writing (eLearning)
W September 7	Lewis, <i>The Monk</i> (Volume 2 and Volume 3)	Quiz (In-Class)
M September 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blake, “The Lamb” (120) • Blake, “The Tyger” (129) • Blake, “The Chimney Sweeper” (121-22; 128) 	
W September 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blake, “London” (132-33) • Robinson, “January 1795” (79-80) • Robinson, “London’s Summer Morning” (80-81) 	Short Writing (eLearning)
M September 19 Romanticism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wordsworth, “We are Seven” (278-79) 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wordsworth, "Lines Written in Early Spring" (280) 	
W September 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wordsworth, "London, 1802" (346) Wordsworth, "The World is too much with us" (347) Wordsworth, "Surprised By Joy" (347) 	Quiz (eLearning)
M September 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wordsworth, "Tintern Abbey" (288-92) Coleridge, "Frost at Midnight" (477-79) 	Quiz (In-class)
W September 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coleridge, "Kubla Khan" (459-62) Coleridge, "Christabel" (462-77) 	Short Writing (eLearning)
M October 3	Coleridge, "Rime of the Ancient Mariner" (443-59)	Quiz (eLearning)
W October 5		Midterm Exam
M October 10 Late Romanticism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P. Shelley, "To Wordsworth" (752) P. Shelley, "Mutability" (751) P. Shelley, "Stanzas Written in Dejection--December 1818, near Naples" (778-79) 	Quiz (eLearning)
W October 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P. Shelley, "Ozymandias" (776) P. Shelley, "Mont Blanc" (770-73) 	
M October 17	M. Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i>	Quiz (In-Class)
W October 19	<i>Frankenstein</i>	

M October 24	Byron, from <i>Childe Harold's Pilgrimage</i> (620-37)	
W October 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Byron, "She Walks in Beauty" (617-18) Byron, "Darkness" (618-19) 	Quiz (eLearning)
M October 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keats, "The Eve of St. Agnes" (912-22) Keats, "When I have fears that I may cease to be" (911) 	Short Writing (eLearning)
W November 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keats, "To Autumn" (951) Keats, "Ode on Melancholy" (931-32) 	
M November 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keats, "Ode to Psyche" (925-27) Keats, "Ode on a Grecian Urn" (930-31) 	Paper Due
W November 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keats, "On Sitting Down to Read <i>King Lear</i> Once Again" (910-11) Lamb, from <i>On the Tragedies of Shakespeare</i> (NA 509-14) Coleridge, from <i>Lectures on Shakespeare</i> (499-502) 	Quiz (eLearning)
M November 14 The Turn from Romanticism	Austen, <i>Persuasion</i>	Short Writing (eLearning)
W November 16	Austen, <i>Persuasion</i>	
M November 28	To be Determined	
W November 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tennyson, "The Palace of Art" Tennyson, "The Lady" 	Quiz (eLearning)

	of Shalott”	
M December 5	E. Brontë, <i>Wuthering Heights</i>	
W December 7	<i>Wuthering Heights</i>	

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. They are due when class begins and will not be accepted late.

In-class quizzes aim to stimulate class discussion, gauge reading comprehension, and prepare students for exams. Quizzes are based on readings, lecture material, and class discussion. In addition, there are in-class group assignments that will be rigorously graded.

There are also quizzes on eLearning that will gauge reading comprehension.

You are allowed ONE makeup of an in-class assignment (for example, a quiz) and ONE makeup of an online assignment. The makeup may be used for a missed assignment, an assignment you did not do your best on, or a combination of those. Makeups must be completed within one week of the date of the assignment.

The makeups cannot be used for exams.

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

The midterm will cover material up 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 etc: If you are using your laptop or phone for non-class related activities, it is really obvious to me and to your classmates (for example, you laugh at the wrong times). Your participation and overall class grade will suffer accordingly. If you have a laptop out it is highly likely that I will put you to work answering questions that come up in class discussion.

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://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>