

LIT 3318.501 British Romanticism

Fall 2017

Tu-Th 11:30-12:45

JO 4.102

Professor Kenneth Brewer

Professor Contact Information

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Office Hours: Tu-Th 1:00-2:00; Tu-Th 4:00-5:00, and by appointment

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, *Pride and Prejudice*

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

	Learning Unit	Reading Due	Assignment
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Tu August 22			
From the Augustans to the Romantics			
Th August 24		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barbauld, "To a Little Invisible Being" (49) • Smith, "Written at the Close of Spring" (55) • Aikin and Aikin, "On the Pleasure Derived from Objects of Terror" (589) 	Quiz (in-Class)
Tu August 29		Lewis, <i>The Monk</i> Volume 1	Quiz (e-Learning)
Th August 31		Lewis, <i>The Monk</i> Volume 2	
Tu September 5		Lewis, <i>The Monk</i> Volume 3	Short Writing (e-Learning)
Th September 7		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wollstonecraft, from <i>A Vindication of the Rights of Woman</i> (232) • Burke, from <i>Reflections on the Revolution in France</i> (187) 	Quiz (e-Learning)
Tu September 12		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blake, "The Chimney Sweeper" (121; 128) • Blake, "The Lamb" (120) • Blake, "The Tyger" (129) 	Quiz (in-class)
Th September 14		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blake, "London" (132) • Robinson, "January, 1795" (79) • Robinson, 	Quiz (e-Learning)

		"London's Summer Morning" (80)	
Tu September 19 Romanticism		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wordsworth, "Preface to <i>Lyrical Ballads</i>" (292) • Wordsworth, "We are Seven" (278) 	Short Writing (e-Learning)
Th September 21		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wordsworth, "Surprised by Joy" (347) • Wordsworth, "Ode: Intimations of Immortality" (335) 	
Tu September 26		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wordsworth, "Lines Composed a few Miles above Tintern Abbey" (288) • Coleridge, "Frost at Midnight" (477) 	Quiz (e-Learning)
Th September 28		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coleridge, "Dejection: An Ode" (479) • Coleridge, "Kubla Khan" (459) 	Quiz (in-class)
Tu October 3		Coleridge, "Rime of the Ancient Mariner" (443)	
Th October 5		Coleridge, "Christabel" (462)	Short Writing (e-Learning)
Tu October 10			Midterm Exam
Th October 12 Late Romanticism		Austen, <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> Volume 1	Quiz (e-Learning)
Tu October 17		<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> Volume 2	Quiz (in-class)
Th October 19		<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> Volume 3	
Tu October 24		Byron, from <i>Childe Harold's Pilgrimage</i>	Short Writing (e-Learning)

		(620-37)	
Th October 26		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Byron, "She Walks in Beauty" (617) • Byron, "Darkness" (618) 	
Tu October 31		M. Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i> Volume 1 and Volume 2	Quiz (e-Learning)
Th November 2		M. Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i> Volume 3	Short Writing (e-Learning)
Tu November 7		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P. Shelley, "Ozymandias" (776) • P. Shelley, "Mutability" (751) 	Project Due
Th November 9		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P. Shelley, "Mont Blanc" • Keats, "When I have fears" (911) 	Quiz (e-Learning)
Tu November 14		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keats, "The Eve of St. Agnes" (912) • Keats, "To Autumn" (951) 	Short Writing (e-Learning)
Th November 16		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keats, "Ode on Melancholy" (931) • Keats, "Ode on a Grecian Urn" (930) 	
Tu November 28		<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 (in-class)
Th November 30		E. Brontë, <i>Wuthering</i>	

The Turn from Romanticism		<i>Heights</i>	
Tu December 5		<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: 25% (Midterm: 10%; Final: 15%)

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

Project 25%

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>