

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

ENGL 30243 Seminar: British Literature II

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite: ENGL 10203 Composition II or ENGL 14343 Honors Composition

Prerequisites or corequisites: ENGL 21143 Introduction to Literary and Cultural Studies
and ENGL 32053 Textual Research Methods

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Critical study of canonical works of the British Isles from the late 18th century to the present.

B. Additional Information – None

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Execute familiarity and facility with fundamental terminology and concepts relevant to the analysis of British literature from the mid-eighteenth century to contemporary British literature.
2. Create critical arguments related to late 18th, 19th, 20th, and/or 21st century British literature and to support the thesis with evidence and argumentation. Critical essay should be 8 to 10 pages, with 6 to 8 sources of secondary scholarship minimum.
3. Evaluate sources and arguments in scholarly works, or in various literary approaches and techniques employed by British writers from the late 18th, 19th, 20th, and/or 21st century.
4. Compare and contrast how various British writers' use of language is related to contemporary ways of thinking, cultural heritage, and cultural values.
5. Assemble various critical approaches via the various lenses of cultural studies, such as: Post-Colonialism, Mass Culture Studies, Nationhood and National

Identity Studies Gender Studies, Class Studies, Trauma Theory, Transmedia studies, and Race and Ethnic Studies.

B. University Learning Outcomes (ULOs)

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills: Students will use critical thinking skills to identify problems/issues and develop solutions/analysis. Students will analyze a variety of texts for their rhetorical and/or literary features, as well as analyze the rhetorical situation to which the texts they produce respond.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently. Students will practice communication skills through discussions, presentations, and a variety of required written assignments.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes. Students will practice critical response to the writing of others, responsible use of research materials and intellectual property, and the ethical use of persuasion.

Global & Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own. Students will analyze the rhetorical situation, produce texts for a variety of audiences, and avoid the use of biased language.

III. Major Course Topics

A. The Romantic Period (1789-1832/37)

1. Pre-Romanticism: Burns and Blake
2. The Lake School of Poetry: Wordsworth and Coleridge
3. The Cockney School of Poetry: P. B. Shelley and Keats
4. Women poets and sentimental poetry: LEL, Felicia Hemans, Joanna Baille, and Caroline Bowles
5. Evaluating the Times: Bryon the Satirist and M. Shelley's *Frankenstein*

B. The Victorian Period (1832/37-1901/1910)

1. The Condition of England Question: Carlyle, Gaskell, Dickens and the industrial or social problem novel
2. Tennyson, R. Browning and the dramatic monologue and the medieval revival
3. Pre-Raphaelites: Dante Gabriel Rossetti, William Morris,
4. Women poets: EBB and Christina Rossetti
5. The fin-de-siècle: Wilde, Stevenson, Doyle, and Stoker

C. The 20th Century: Modernism (1910-1945)

1. Reacting to the Victorians: Wyndham Lewis
2. Suffrage and Feminism: Woolf

3. Despair and Myth: Conrad, Hardy, and Yeats
 4. Stream of consciousness and the epiphany: Woolf and Joyce
- D. British Postmodernism and Postcolonial/Commonwealth writers (1945-today)
1. Philip Larkin and mid-century poets
 2. Derek Walcott, Salman Rushdie, and Zadie Smith: race and identity
 3. Ian McEwan and Tom Stoppard: rewriting the Victorians and the modernists
 4. Alan Moore: graphic novels and black and white art