

ENGL 311 ROMANTIC LITERATURE

Trimester 1 2009

(Monday 2 March – Friday 5 June 2009)

24 Points

STAFF

Assoc. Prof. Heidi Thomson (course coordinator)

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Phone: 463 6817 Room: von Zedlitz 814

Office Hours: Monday 10-11, Thursday 10-11, or send me an email for an appointment.

I am *not* available for appointments on Wednesdays. Please note: I reply to student email queries once a day (but not during weekends). You can reasonably expect to receive a reply within 36 hours.

Assoc. Prof. Harry Ricketts

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Assoc. Prof. Jane Stafford

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Phone: 463 6816 Room: von Zedlitz 905

CLASS TIMES AND ROOMS

Lectures are on Tuesday and Friday, 11:00-11:50, in KK LT301.

Tutorials begin in the second week. Tutorial times will be available towards the end of the first week and will be posted on the English noticeboard in the foyer outside HM LT206 and on the ENGL 311 Course Blackboard site.

COURSE CONTENT

This course is primarily an introduction to the great poetry of the Romantic period in Britain (1789-1832). Main themes include the poets' interest in the Self and its interactions with society and nature, the human mind, and the transformative power of the imagination. In addition we will also consider literary texts about contemporary social and political issues (e.g. slavery, the wars with America and France). We will focus primarily on poetry by Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley, and Keats.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Learning objectives include, but are not restricted, to the following. Students passing the course should have:

- The ability to read and articulate an interpretation of a Romantic text. [Assignment 1 and the Exam]
- A basic understanding of how elements of Romanticism are expressed in English literature. [Assignment 1, 2, and the Exam]
- An increased understanding of the place of Romanticism in the context of English literary history. [Exam]

- An increased knowledge and understanding of the assigned texts. [Assignment 1, 2, and the Exam]
- An increased appreciation of the beauty of English Romantic poetry. [Assignment 1, 2, and the Exam]
- An increased knowledge of English Romantic literature in its cultural and historical contexts. [Assignment 1, 2, and the Exam]
- Increased reading and writing skills.

COURSE DELIVERY

Two lectures and one tutorial per week. Lecture outlines will be made available on Blackboard.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

You should expect to devote 20 hours per week to this course, i.e. 3 class contact hours plus 17 hours for reading, preparation, and writing. You will find that repeated, thoughtful reading of the assigned texts is vital for your understanding of the materials, and you are encouraged to read as widely as possible in the anthology.

READINGS

We will use the following text for every lecture, every tutorial, and every assignment: *The Longman Anthology of British Literature. Volume 2A. The Romantics and their Contemporaries*. Eds. Susan Wolfson and Peter Manning (Third edition, Longman, RRP\$79.95).

ASSESSMENT

To gain a pass in ENGL 311 you must meet the mandatory course requirements. Your final grade will be based on a combination of course work (60%) and a two-hour final exam (40%). See learning objectives for the relevance of the assessment.

1. Assignment 1 (20%) is an in-class test (50 minutes) on **Friday 1 May 2009**. You will be required to write about and answer questions about selected passages from Wordsworth's *Prelude* (anthology, pp. 452-516).
2. Assignment 2 (40%) is an essay (3,000 words) which is due on **Friday 15 May 2009**. Topics will be handed out well in advance. You will have a choice to write about Blake, Coleridge, Wordsworth, and a few general topics.
3. Final exam (40%; 2 hours). Date to be announced. The 2009 examination period is from **12 June until 1 July 2009**. The exam covers Byron, Shelley, and Keats. The exam is closed book.

ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard or outside the Programme office. Remember to fill in your tutor's name.

PENALTIES AND EXTENSIONS

If work is handed in late, then one grade is subtracted and no comments are offered.

Extensions

If you require an extension, you must complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) prior to the assignment due date. This must be accompanied by relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor's certificate) where appropriate. Extension requests must be submitted to the Course Co-ordinator. Tutors cannot grant extensions. Work handed in late with an extension will receive minimal comments.

Extensions will not be granted beyond Thursday 4 June 2009, except under exceptional circumstances. The University does not permit the School to accept work after the last day of the examination period.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Both in-term writing assignments must be satisfactorily completed and handed in. At least seven tutorials must be attended. A closed book, two-hour final exam must be completed at the end of the course.

PRESENTATION OF WORK

You must hand in a hard copy of your essay; electronic or faxed copies are not acceptable. Your assignments should be well written, well presented, and properly documented. A Style Guide is available on the course Blackboard site. It is assumed that you will consult the appropriate reference work (e.g. a dictionary, a grammar handbook, a dictionary of literary terms) if necessary. Please note that the *Oxford English Dictionary* is available online on the databases page of the Library website. You must make a photocopy or extra printout of your assignments for your own records. We cannot assume responsibility for lost work. Essays should be delivered to the English Programme 300-level assignments mailbox on the eighth floor of von Zedlitz by 5 p.m. on the due date at the latest.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material.

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

TURNITIN

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Any additional information will be announced in lectures and will be made available on the ENGL 311 Blackboard site. Students should check the ENGL 311 Blackboard site regularly for updates and reminders. Students should also check the Registry noticeboard in Kirk for the official examination timetable. Please make sure that we have an up to date record of your contact details. You should notify the Programme Administrator, Helen O'Sullivan (phone: 463 6800 or email: helen.osullivan@vuw.ac.nz) of any changes to your contact details.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND POLICIES

A copy of the General University Statutes and Policies can be found on Blackboard.

ENGL 311 COURSE PROGRAMME

Please note that there may be some changes to this lecture schedule; any changes will be announced in lecture and posted on Blackboard.

You are advised to read the assigned passages ahead for each week. All page references are from the set anthology. During the lectures I will also refer to other poems or texts by way of illustrations.

You are encouraged to read as widely as possible in the anthology. "The Romantics and Their Contemporaries" (3-29), "Political and Religious Orders" (1099-1104), "Literary and Cultural Terms" (1105-1128), and headnotes to the individual authors are of particular interest. In addition to the bibliography in the anthology (xxxix-lvi) you will find a bibliography on the ENGL 311 Blackboard site as well.

Important dates: 1 May (in-class test) and 15 May (essay due).

Week 1	3 March	Introduction to the period and the poetry
	6 March	Read: Barbauld (63, 65-79); Burke (33-39, 103-112); Gilpin (40-66); Smith (87-88); Wordsworth (387, 394-401, 403-404, 423-425, 432-443, 450, 536); Coleridge (576-577)
Week 2	10 March	Social Sensibility and Slavery
	13 March	Read: The Abolition of Slavery and the Slave Trade (209-266)
Week 3	17 March	The Doors of Perception: William Blake and <i>Songs of Innocence and of Experience</i>
	20 March	Read: Blake (150-2, 156-208)
Week 4	24 March	Blake continued: <i>The Marriage of Heaven and Hell</i> and <i>Visions of the Daughters of Albion</i>
		Read: 183-204
	27 March	Wordsworth and Coleridge: <i>Lyrical Ballads</i> and the Greater Romantic Lyric
		Read: 385-452; 570-597
Week 5	31 March	Wordsworth and Coleridge continued. <i>Lyrical Ballads</i>, "Kubla Khan" and <i>The Prelude</i>
	3 April	Read: 385-516; 517-520; 570-597; 614-616
Week 6	7 April	Dorothy Wordsworth (lecture by Assoc. Prof. Jane Stafford)
		Read: 538-569
	10 April	No lecture – Good Friday
Mid Trimester Break: (Good) Friday 10 April – Friday 24 April 2009		
Week 7	28 April	Wordsworth's <i>Prelude</i> and Coleridge's "To a Gentleman"
		Read: 452-520
	1 May	Please note: 1st writing assignment: in-class test ("open book") about Wordsworth's <i>Prelude</i> on Friday 1 May 2009, KK LT301 at 11:00
Week 8	5 May	Coleridge's "Dejection. An Ode" and Wordsworth's "Intimations Ode"
		Read: 527-533; 619-623; "Sir Patrick Spence" (368-371)

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	8 May	Byron's Heroes: <i>Childe Harold</i> and <i>Don Juan</i> Read: 656-659; 699-704; 711-814
Week 9	12 May	Byron: A Portrait (lecture by Assoc. Prof. Harry Ricketts)
	15 May	Byron's Heroes (continued): <i>Childe Harold</i> and <i>Don Juan</i> Read: 656-659; 699-704; 711-814 Please note: 2nd writing assignment due on Friday 15 May by 5 p.m.
Week 10	19 May	Shelley: Radical and Lyrical Read: 814-876
	22 May	Shelley, with emphasis on <i>Hymn to Intellectual Beauty</i> and <i>Mont Blanc</i>
Week 11	26 May	Keats's epistolary poetics Read: 920-1008
	29 May	Keats's poetry
Week 12	2 June	Keats's odes
	5 June	Conclusion and revision

Examination Period: Friday 12 June – Wednesday 1 July 2009

Information about the first assignment (worth 20%):

Your first assignment is an in-class test which will be held at the normal lecture time (on Friday 1 May, at 11, in KK LT301) about Wordsworth's autobiographical poem *The Prelude*. In order to prepare for this assignment you need to read the passages from *The Prelude* in your anthology, pp. 452-516. You will find that repeated readings will enhance your understanding of the work as a whole.

On Friday 1 May you will be asked to write about **two** passages (each about 40 lines long) which will be provided to you on a handout. Your in-class essay will be a close-reading based response to a number of questions about these two passages.

The test is "open book" which means that you may bring your anthology and any notes into the lecture theatre.