



ENGL 312 Victorian Literature

Trimester 2 2015

13 July to 15 November 2015

20 Points

IMPORTANT DATES

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2015

Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Study period: 19 to 23 October 2015

Examination/Assessment period: 23 October to 14 November 2015

Note: Students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates:

Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Mon 10.00 – 10.50am Hugh Mackenzie HMLT205

Tue 10.00 – 10.50am Hugh Mackenzie HMLT104

Tutorials

Tutorials begin in WEEK 2. Please register for tutorials via the *Course Code* site on Blackboard: go to “Tutorial Instructions” and follow the instructions carefully. Remember to record your tutorial time, day and room for future reference.

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Staff	Email	Phone	Room
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Anna Jackson	anna.jackson@vuw.ac.nz	463 6840	VZ 919
Harry Ricketts	harry.ricketts@vuw.ac.nz	4636814	VZ 810
Angelina Sbroma	angelina.sbroma@vuw.ac.nz		VZ913
Jane Stafford (course coordinator)	jane.stafford@vuw.ac.nz	463 6816	VZ 901

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This course uses Blackboard for all important information and announcements, and encourages you to check it regularly. Information about the course will be posted from time to time on the English Programme's notice-board on the third floor of the Hugh Mackenzie building, outside Hugh Mackenzie LT206, as well as announced in lectures and posted on Blackboard. If you have a question or problem, consult your tutor or the course co-ordinator. Draft and final examination timetables will be posted on the HM notice-board and on Blackboard.

If you are not going to use the Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

PRESCRIPTION

This course examines a selection of fiction, non-fiction and poetry from the Victorian period, under the broad categories of the literature of empire, the literature of religious doubt, and the literature of gender and sexuality. The majority of texts are British, but some New Zealand material will be included.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CLOS)

This course aims to introduce advanced students to a representative group of key Victorian texts, poetry, fiction and autobiography, and to provide the critical and cultural contexts in which they have been and are being read. The course is organised in terms of three central concerns of the period, issues of gender and sexuality, of religious doubt, and of empire.

Students who pass the course will:

- be familiar with the texts studied on the course;
- have an understanding of the cultural and historical contexts of these texts;
- be familiar with the critical and theoretical contexts in which these texts have been and are currently being read;
- be able to develop their own critical and theoretical readings in formal academic writing.

TEACHING FORMAT

ENGL312 is taught by two lectures and one tutorial a week.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The mandatory course requirements for ENGL312 are:

- completion of all in-term assessment by 16 October;
- sitting the final examination;
- achieving an overall pass mark of 50%;
- attendance at least 70% of tutorials, i.e. at least 8 out of 11 tutorials. You are strongly advised (and, indeed, expected) to plan to attend all tutorials. However, from time to time there may be unusual circumstances, such as illness, which prevent your attendance. In ENGL312, we regard the mandatory requirement of only 70% attendance as making provision for such circumstances.

You will be asked to complete worksheets (as distributed a week in advance at the lecture and published on Blackboard) for your tutorial each week. Your attendance will be counted only when your tutor has checked the requisite worksheet at the tutorial.

Failure to satisfy any of these course requirements will leave you with a fail grade.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of these mandatory course requirements because of exceptional personal circumstances should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

WORKLOAD

The expected workload for a 20-point course is 200 hours over the trimester or 13 hours per teaching week.

You should expect to spend, on average, about 13 hours per week on work for a 20-point course (including time in class). Please note that this is a rough guideline only. Some students might have to put in more time, others less. The time commitment is likely to be greatest in the weeks immediately prior to tests and essay submission dates.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment has been structured to help students meet the objectives of the course. The course combines internal assessment and a final examination. The internal requirements are one test (sat in class time), one close reading exercise, and one research essay, which together account for 60% of the final mark. All three pieces of internal assessment will be the subject of tutorial discussion and preparation.

The examination, which will be two hours in length, provides the other 40%. Information concerning the exam will be made available during the course.

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Class Test	15%	1, 3, 4	10 Aug
2	Close reading exercise (1500 words)	20%	1,2,3,4	18 Sept
3	Research essay (2500 words)	25%	1,2,3,4	16 Oct
4	Exam (2 hours)	40%	1,2,3,4	TBA

SUBMISSION AND RETURN OF WORK

Work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by Turnitin, the online plagiarism prevention tool.

Assignments are submitted in hardcopy in the drop slot outside the English administration office on level 8, von Zedlitz. Attach an assignment cover sheet found on Blackboard or outside the administration office. Remember to fill in your tutor's name.

Your marked assignment will be handed back by your tutor in tutorials or during their office hours. Any uncollected assignments can be picked up from the Programme Administrator after the last day of teaching. Assignments will be held in the administration office until the end of the following trimester. You need to show your student identification to collect marked assignment from the administration office.

EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES

Extensions

In exceptional and unforeseen circumstances an extension may be granted. To apply for an extension, email your Course Coordinator before the assignment is due. If granted, your Course Coordinator will inform you of the new due date. Tutors cannot grant extensions.

Penalties

Work submitted after the deadline will be penalised by a 2.5 percent deduction from your total mark per work day. Late work also receives only minimal comments from your marker.

SET TEXTS

ENGL 312 *Student Notes Anthology*.

Dickens, Charles. *David Copperfield*. Oxford World Classics.

Gosse, Edmund. *Father and Son*. Penguin.
Kipling, Rudyard. *Kim*. Oxford World Classics.

You can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVE

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

STUDENT FEEDBACK

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

In week six or seven of the trimester your class representative will be invited to a meeting with the Programme staff. In week five your class representative will ask the class for any feedback on this course to discuss at this meeting.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz
- School website: www.victoria.ac.nz/seftms

COURSE PROGRAMME

13 July: Introduction: the Victorian world, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

Module one: Gender and sexuality

14 July: Introduction: The Woman Question, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

No tutorial this week.

20 July: Poetry: Christina Rossetti, 'Goblin Market', *Student Notes Anthology* (HR)

21 July: Poetry: Elizabeth Barrett Browning, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

Tutorial week 2: Gender and Sexuality

27 July: Charles Dickens, *David Copperfield* (JS)

28 July: *David Copperfield* (JS)

Tutorial week 3: *David Copperfield*

3 August: *David Copperfield* (JS)

Module Two: Religious doubt

4 August: Introduction: God's Funeral (JS)

Tutorial week 4: *David Copperfield*

10 August: **Class Test: David Copperfield**

11 August: Alfred, Lord Tennyson, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

Tutorial week 5: Darwin and Clough

17 August: Tennyson, *Student Notes Anthology* (HR & JS)

18 August: Matthew Arnold, *Student Notes Anthology* (HR)

Tutorial week 6: Hillis Miller; Arnold's 'The Buried Life'

Mid Trimester Break: Monday 24 August to Sunday 6 September 2015

7 September: Hopkins, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

8 September: Edmund Gosse, *Father and Son* (AJ)

Tutorial week 7: Tennyson and Gosse

14 September: *Father and Son* (AJ)

15 September: *Father and Son* (AJ)

Tutorial week 8: Gosse close reading

18 September **Exercise due**

Module Three: Empire

21 September: Introduction: Writing and reading empire, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

22 September: Rudyard Kipling, *Kim* (HR)

Tutorial week 9: Boehmer, 'Imperialism and Textuality', *Student Notes Anthology*

28 September: *Kim* (HR)

29 September: *Kim* (HR)

Tutorial week 10: *Kim*; Richards' *The Imperial Archive* and Kipling

5 October: Kipling's poetry, *Student Notes Anthology* (HR)

6 October: Maoriland, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

Tutorial week 11: 'Mandalay' and 'The Old Place'

12 October: Maoriland, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

13 October: Conclusion (JS & HR)
Tutorial week 12: Exam preparation
16 October **Essay due**

Study Period: Monday 19 October to Friday 23 October 2015

Examination Period: Friday 23 October to Saturday 14 November 2015

Study Week: Monday 9 to Friday 13 June 2014

Examination Period: Friday 13 June to Wednesday 2 July 2014

INTERNAL ASSESSMENT: RESEARCH EXERCISE AND ESSAY

Close Reading Exercise: the Literary Expression of Religious Doubt

Due 18 September. Length 1500 words. Worth 20% of total mark.

Choose one of the poems from the section 'The Poetry of Religious Doubt' in the *Student Notes Anthology*.

Write a critical commentary of the poem illustrating the way in which it deals with the issue of religious doubt.

You should make yourself familiar with the lecture material and critical writings in the *Student Notes Anthology* and elsewhere on the subject of doubt and demonstrate that you have done this in your exercise, although the emphasis should be on the poem itself.

Similarly, you should concentrate on the argument the poem puts forward – its position on doubt – but you should at the same time show the way in which literary techniques – setting, narration, tone, language, etc. – are used to illustrate that argument.

In some cases the *Student Notes* collection gives excerpts rather than entire poems. You can work with the excerpt alone but you may choose to refer back to the entire poem. All can be found at Literature Online which can be accessed through the Library webpage – 'Online Resources (Databases)'.

If you would like to write on a poem which is not in the *Student Notes Anthology* but is a Victorian poem on doubt, we are happy for you to do this, but please check with your tutor.

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Essay: the Literature of Empire

Due 16 October. Length 2500 words. Worth 25% of the final mark.

Write an essay on one of the following.

Please note: you will not be able to write on this topic/ text in the end of course exam.

1. In his discussion of *Kim* in *Culture & Imperialism* (1993) Edward Said claims that 'It is the greatness of his achievement that quite without selling the old man short or in any way diminishing the quaint sincerity of his Search, Kipling nevertheless firmly places him within the protective orbit of British rule in India.' Test out the accuracy of Said's claim with detailed attention to the text.
2. 'Kim is many things: a spy story, a quest novel, a Bildungsroman, but above all it is a love letter to India, a celebration of the sounds and smells and colours of the subcontinent' (Fred Lerner, "The Tragedy of Rudyard Kipling", *Kipling Journal* 82, September 2008). How adequate a summary of the novel do you find this?
3. To what extent can the term 'sentimental racism' be used to describe the poetry of Empire? Refer to at least two poets, and a range of poems.
4. The poetry of empire is, according to the critic Thomas Richards, more frequently the site of fantasy rather than realism. Discuss the ways in which this fantasy operates in terms of the issues of race, place, and history. Refer to at least two poets, and a range of poems.

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

Biography

- Ackroyd, Peter. *Dickens*. London: Minerva, 1991.
- Forster, Margaret. *Elizabeth Barrett Browning: a Biography*. London: Chatto & Windus, 1988.
- Hamilton, Ian. *A Gift Imprisoned: the Poetic Life of Matthew Arnold*. London: Bloomsbury, 1998.
- Jones, Kathleen. *Learning not to be First: the Life of Christina Rossetti*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1992.
- Ricketts, Harry. *The Unforgiving Minute: a Life of Rudyard Kipling*. London: Chatto & Windus, 1999.
- Ricks, Christopher. *Tennyson*. Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1989.
- Thwaite, Ann. *Edmund Gosse: a Literary Landscape 1849-1928*. London: Secker & Warburg, 1984.
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Literary Criticism

- Armstrong, Isobel. *Victorian Poetry: Poetry, Poetics and Politics*. London: Routledge, 1993.
- Auerbach, Nina. *Woman and the Demon: the Life of a Victorian Myth*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1982.
- Blake, Andrew. *Reading Victorian Fiction*. New York: St Martin's Press, 1989.
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- Gilbert, Sandra M. and Susan Gubar. *The Madwoman in the Attic: the Woman Writer and the Nineteenth-century Literary Imagination*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1979.
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- Wheeler, Michael. *Death and Future Life in Victorian Literature and Theology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990.

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Cultural background

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Newsome, David. *The Victorian World Picture*. London: John Murray, 1998.

Thompson, Dorothy. *Queen Victoria: Gender and Power*. London: Virago, 1990.

Trudgill, Eric. *Madonnas and Magdalens: the Origins and Development of Victorian Sexual Attitudes*. London: Heinemann, 1976.

Wilson, A.N. *God's Funeral*. London: Abacus, 1999.

———, *The Victorians*. London: Hutchinson, 2002.

Picture sources: Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Drawing of Georgiana Burne-Jones, c. 1860; William Strutt, 'A group I once saw in Maoriland, New Plymouth', 1856.

