

ENGL312 Victorian Literature

Trimester 1 2016

29 February to 29 June 2016

20 Points



IMPORTANT DATES

Teaching dates: 29 February to 5 June 2016

Easter break: 24 to 30 March 2016

Mid-trimester break: 25 April to 1 May 2016

Study period: 6 to 9 June 2016

Examination/Assessment period: 10 June to 29 June 2016

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 in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Lectures

Tues	1.10 – 2.00 pm	Maclaurin MCLT103
Thurs	1.10 – 2.00 pm	Hunter HULT 323

Tutorials

Tutorials begin in WEEK 2. Please register for tutorials via the ENGL 312 site on Blackboard: go to “Tutorial instructions” and then follow the instructions carefully. Remember to record your tutorial time, day and room for future reference. Tutorial rooms will be listed on myAllocator, Blackboard and on the noticeboard in the Level 3 corridor of the Hugh Mackenzie Building.

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS		ROOM	
Harry Ricketts	harry.ricketts@vuw.ac.nz	4636814	VZ 810
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 coordinator. 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 able to:

- 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;
- 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

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of at least 50%, students must:

- complete all in-term assessment by 22 April;
- sit the final examination;
- attend 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

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.

Details of the end of year exam (2 hours, 40% of the total) will be given nearer the date. The concluding lecture on 2 June and the tutorial for week 12 will concentrate on the exam.

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Class Test	15%	1, 3, 4	5 April
2	Research essay (2500 words)	20%	1,2,3,4	6 May
3	Close reading exercise (1500 words)	25%	1,2,3,4	30 May
4	Exam (2 hours)	40%	1,2,3,4	TBA

SUBMISSION AND RETURN OF WORK

Work provided for assessment in this course will be checked for academic integrity by Turnitin. Follow the instructions provided in the “Assignments and Turnitin” section of Blackboard.

Assignments must also be 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. 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

ENGL312 *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
- 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
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- 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
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- 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



LECTURE PROGRAMME

1 March: Introduction: the Victorian world, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

MODULE ONE: GENDER AND SEXUALITY

3 March: Introduction: The Woman Question, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)
No tutorial this week.

8 March: Poetry: Christina Rossetti, 'Goblin Market', *Student Notes Anthology* (HR)

10 March: Poetry: Elizabeth Barrett Browning, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

Tutorial week 2: Gender and Sexuality

15 March: Charles Dickens, *David Copperfield* (JS)

17 March: *David Copperfield* (JS)

Tutorial week 3: *David Copperfield*

22 March : *David Copperfield* (JS)

EASTER BREAK: THURSDAY 24 TO WEDNESDAY 30 MARCH 2016

MODULE TWO: RELIGIOUS DOUBT

31 March: Introduction: God's Funeral (JS)

Tutorial week 4: *David Copperfield*

5 April: **Class Test: David Copperfield**

7 April : Alfred, Lord Tennyson, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

Tutorial week 5: Darwin and Clough

12 April: Tennyson, *Student Notes Anthology* (HR & JS)

14 April: Matthew Arnold, *Student Notes Anthology* (HR)

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

19 April: Hopkins, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

21 April: Edmund Gosse, *Father and Son* (JS)
Tutorial week 7: Tennyson and Gosse

MID TRIMESTER BREAK: MONDAY 25 APRIL TO SUNDAY 1 MAY 2016

3 May: *Father and Son* (JS)
5 May: *Father and Son* (JS)
Tutorial week 8: Gosse close reading

Essay due 6 May

MODULE THREE: EMPIRE

10 May: Introduction: Writing and reading empire, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)
12 May: Maoriland, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)
Tutorial week 9: Boehmer, 'Imperialism and Textuality', *Student Notes Anthology*

17 May: Maoriland *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)
19 May: Kipling's poetry, *Student Notes Anthology* (HR)
Tutorial week 10: 'Mandalay' and 'The Old Place'

24 May: *Kim* (HR)
26 May: *Kim* (HR)
Tutorial week 11: *Kim*; Richards' *The Imperial Archive*

31 May: *Kim* (HR)
2 June: Conclusion (JS & HR)
Tutorial week 12: Exam preparation

Exercise due 30 May

Study Week: 6 June to 9 June 2016
Examination Period: 10 June to 29 June 2016

INTERNAL ASSESSMENT

ESSAY: THE POETRY OF RELIGIOUS DOUBT

Due 6 May. Length 2500 words. Worth 25% of the final mark.
Write an essay on one of the following.

1. In 'Stanzas from the Grande Chartreuse', Matthew Arnold describes Victorian society as

Wandering between two worlds, one dead,
The other powerless to be born,
With nowhere yet to rest my head,
Like these, on earth I wait forlorn.

Use this quotation as a starting point for a discussion of Victorian poetry of faith and religious doubt. Refer to at least two poets, and a range of poems.

2. 'Religious doubt was not just a subject, it was a way of writing.' Discuss the literary techniques used by Victorian poets to convey religious doubt. Refer to at least two poets, and a range of poems.
3. What are the replacement Gods for the poetic doubters? You should refer to at least two poets and a range of poems.

CLOSE READING EXERCISE: LITERATURE AND EMPIRE

Due 30 May. Length 1500 words. Worth 20% of total mark.

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

Write a critical commentary of the poem illustrating the way in which it deals with the issue of empire (in its broadest sense – e.g., power, colonialism, settler society, strangeness and estrangement, the landscape and its transformation, the native/ indigenous presence, etc).

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

You should concentrate on the argument the poem puts forward – its position on empire – 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. Consult with Jane or Harry if you need advice.

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

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.
- Tomlin, Claire. *Charles Dickens: a Life*. London: Viking, 2011.

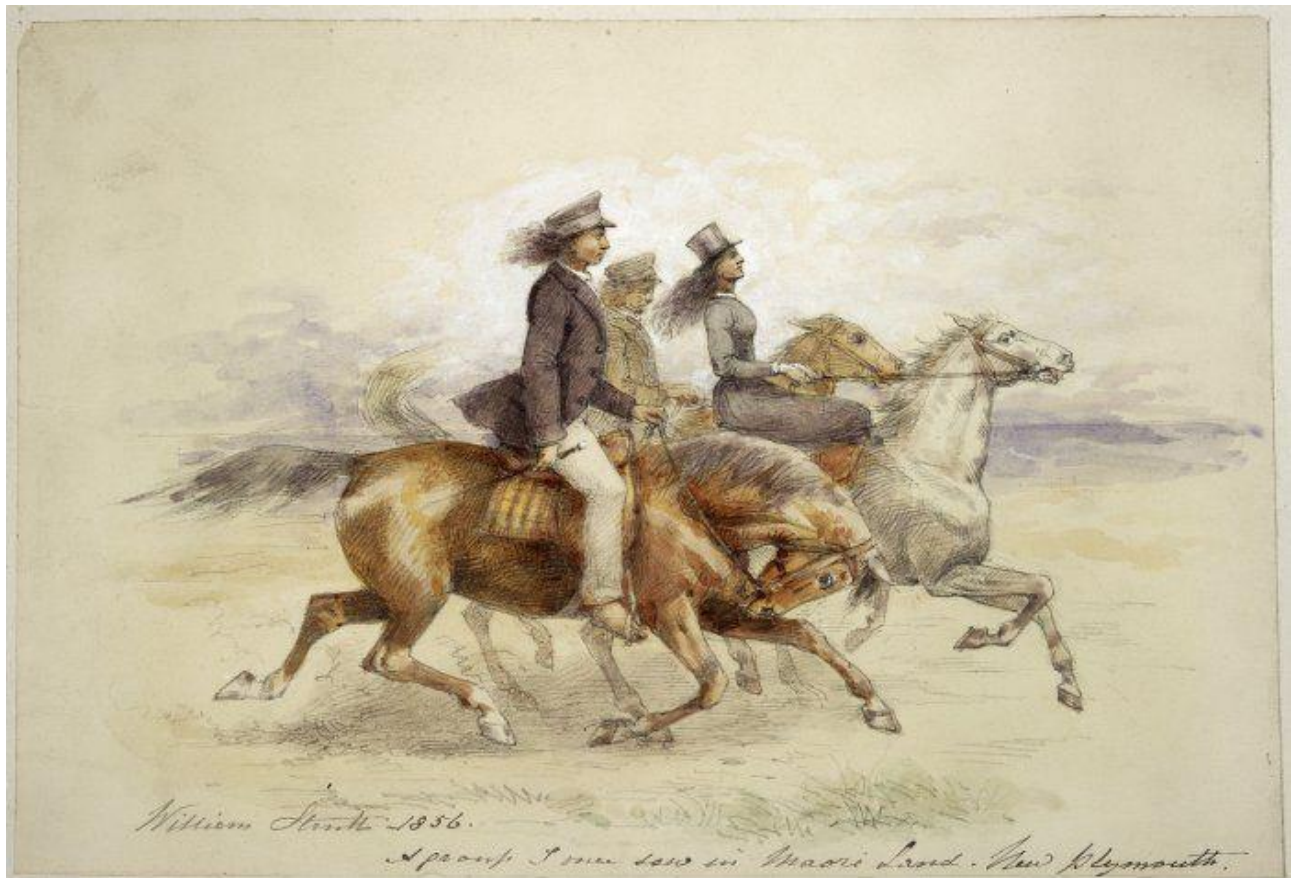
Literary Criticism

- 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.
- Flint, Kate. *Dickens*. Brighton: Harvester, 1986.
- 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.

- Ingham, Patricia. *Dickens, Women and Language*. New York: Harvester, 1992.
Levine, George. *Darwin and the Novelists: Patterns of Science in Victorian Fiction*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 1988.
Morgan, Nicholas H. *Secret Journeys: Theory and Practice in Reading Dickens*. London: Associated University Presses, 1992.
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Wheeler, Michael. *Death and Future Life in Victorian Literature and Theology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990.
Woolf, James D. *Edmund Gosse*. New York: Twayne, 1972.

Cultural background

- Bell, Leonard. *Colonial Constructs: European Images of Maori, 1840-1914*. Auckland: Auckland University Press, 1992.
Goldie, Terry. *Fear and Temptation: the Image of the Indigene in Canadian, Australian and New Zealand Literatures*. Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1989.
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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; Edward Burne-Jones, 'The Hours', 1882; William Strutt, 'A group I once saw in Maoriland, New Plymouth', 1856.