ENG 4365.01, 2-3:20, Evans 356 weeks 1-2, CHSS 223 thereafter CRN 20033

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Victorian Literature

Catalogue Description: A survey of major writers of the Victorian period, supplemented by lectures on the political, social and economic background of the age. Prerequisites: ENGL 1301, ENGL 1302, either ENGL 2331 or 2332, and ENGL 33855. Credit 3.



Course Objectives: Students will

1.) Read literature from the Victorian period (1837-1901) from a variety of genres.

2.) Research and compose a major research assignment synthesizing multiple sources and advancing an original argument.

3.) Define and defend their own positions about literary meaning in classroom discussion and formal writing assignments.

Textbooks: Please note: all students *must* purchase the textbooks and bring them to class. There will be substantial reading from the textbook before every, or nearly every, class session, and we will consult the text frequently during class time.

- 1.) Victorian Poetry: An Annotated Anthology, Blackwell, 2004.
- 2.) Charles Dickens, Oliver Twist, Penguin.
- 3.) Charlotte Brontë, Jane Eyre, Penguin.
- 4.) Bram Stoker, Dracula, Oxford World's Classics
- 5.) Other readings made available in class or via Blackboard.

Reading schedule

All reading is to be completed by the listed date. This schedule is subject to change depending on the needs of the class.

Week one:

Thursday, January 18: Introduction

Week two:

Tuesday, January 23: Alfred Tennyson (Lord Tennyson), "The Lady of Shalott," "The Lotos-Eaters," and "Ulysses."

Thursday, January 25: Selections from Alfred Lord Tennyson, In Memoriam.

Week three:

Tuesday, January 30: Charles Dickens, Oliver Twist chapters 1-11.

Thursday, February 1: Charles Dickens, Oliver Twist chapters 12-19.

Week four:

Tuesday, February 6: Charles Dickens, *Oliver Twist* chapters 20-32. **Reading quiz. Primary source presentation (2)**

Thursday, February 8: Charles Dickens, Oliver Twist chapters 33-41.

Week five:

Tuesday, February 13: Charles Dickens, *Oliver Twist*, chapters 42-50, Critical Reading #1 (Available on Blackboard under Course Documents). **Primary source presentations (2)**

Thursday, February 15: Charles Dickens, Oliver Twist chapter 51-end.

Week six:

Tuesday, February 20: Charlotte Brontë, *Jane Eyre*, chapters 1-9. **Primary source presentations (2)**

Thursday, February 22: Charlotte Brontë, Jane Eyre, chapters 10-15.

Week seven:

Tuesday, February 27: Charlotte Brontë, *Jane Eyre*, chapters 16-21. **Primary source presentations (2)**

Thursday, March 1: Charlotte Brontë, Jane Eyre, chapters 22-26.

Week eight:

Tuesday, March 6: Finish *Jane Eyre*..Critical Reading #2 (under Course Documents on Blackboard).

Thursday, March 8: Midterm exam

Spring break: March 12-16

Week nine:

Tuesday, March 20: Bram Stoker, *Dracula*, chapters 1-8 (pages 5-98). **Primary source presentations (2)**

Thursday, March 22: Bram Stoker, Dracula, chapters 9-13 (pages 98-166).

Week ten:

Tuesday, March 27: Bram Stoker, *Dracula*, chapters 14-19 (pages 167-242). **Primary** source presentations (2)

Thursday, March 29: Bram Stoker, *Dracula*, chapters 20-24 (pages 242-305). 500-word formal research proposals due identifying a question to be explored in final research paper. Writing workshop on research proposals.

Week eleven:

Tuesday, April 3: Finish *Dracula*. Critical Reading #3 (Available on Blackboard under Course Documents).

Revised research proposals due.

Thursday, April 5: Selections from Elizabeth Barrett Browning, *Aurora Leigh* (on Blackboard under Course Documents). Introduction to library research.

Week twelve:

Tuesday, April 10: Robert Browning, "Porphyria's Lover" and "My Last Duchess" (poetry textbook). Bibliography due. In class I will look at your bibliography and assign you your first article to annotate.

Thursday, April 12: Robert Browning, "'Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came'" (poetry textbook).

Week thirteen:

Tuesday, April 17: Matthew Arnold, "To Marguerite – Continued" and "Dover Beach" (poetry textbook).

Thursday, April 19: Christina Rossetti, "Goblin Market." Annotations due, first article.

Week fourteen:

Tuesday, April 24: Thomas Hardy, "The Darkling Thrush," Gerard Manley Hopkins, "God's Grandeur," "Pied Beauty," and "The Windhover" (poetry textbook).

Thursday, April 26: Decadent poetry. Annotations due, second article.

Week fifteen:

Tuesday, May 1: Oscar Wilde, Salomé. Link on Blackboard.

Thursday, May 3: Oscar Wilde, Salomé. Final papers due.

Final exam week: May 7-10. Please consult the university final exam schedule.

Attendance policy:

1.) Participation in class is of critical important to this course. Students with more than 5 unexcused absences cannot earn an A in the course. Students will not be excused for work, routine doctor appointments, car trouble or traffic, or lawyer appointments or court dates. To qualify for an excused absence, students must provide documentation. Students who miss 25% of the course (eight class sessions) I consider to have not taken the course, and will automatically fail, regardless of work submitted, even if some of those *absences are excused.* Late registration is not an exception. Note well: late arrival and early departure from class may be recorded as an absence, as will inattentive or disruptive behavior (such as failure to bring the required text to class, visiting Facebook, using a cell phone, refusal to participate in class discussions, etc.). Frequent tardiness will be counted as absence – for each 3 tardies, one absence will be recorded.



- 2.) Athletes and others participating in SHSU events requesting excused absences must notify me well in advance of these events. Additionally, these students must hand in any assigned work *before* the due date. It is my expectation that students who intend to request days off to participate in such activities will, as representatives of the University, be extra diligent about missing classes at other times. To this end, please note that if you miss eight class sessions you will fail the course, even if some of those sessions were excused or for reasons out of your control.
- 3.) Students who miss class are responsible for getting the information on what we covered in class from another student, not the professor.

Late work and make up policies:

- 1.) The final exam may not be made up.
- 2.) Formal writing assignments received late will lose one full grade. They may be turned in for one week after the due date.

Academic dishonesty policy: All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and

integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. Academic dishonesty, including but not limited to plagiarism, is grounds for immediate failure from the course, regardless of work previously submitted during the semester. **If you cheat, do not anticipate that you will be given a second chance**. Be advised that gross academic dishonesty (for example, buying or downloading student papers off the internet, texting during exams) not only will result in immediate failure from the course, but also will be reported to the Dean and disciplinary action will be pursed. If you have any questions or anxieties about what constitutes plagiarism, do not hesitate to ask me or to seek help at the Writing Center.

Classroom rules of conduct and expectations

Students are expected to

- Attend every class, be on time, and not leave early without prior permission. Quietly excusing oneself for a bathroom break is acceptable.
- Come to class prepared, having completed the day's reading assignment.
- Bring the textbook to every class session.
- Contribute to class discussions of the course material. Respectful debate on course subject matter is permitted and encouraged.
- Get notes from another student (not the instructor) for any classes missed.

Students will not

- Work on assignments for other classes.
- Check Facebook, emails or text messages or use other internet except if part of an inclass assignment, use cell phones.
- Use rude or hostile language, including language that is intolerant of the gender, race, religion, nationality or sexual orientation of others.

Cell phone policy: Students will not use telecommunication devices during class time without instructor permission; devices must be turned off (not set to vibrate) and must be stowed away (not on your desk, your lap, or in an open purse). Students who fail to comply with this policy in class will be marked absent and, with multiple offenses, may face expulsion from the classroom or failure in the course. Students who fail to comply with this policy during an exam will be given zero credit for the exam and, if appropriate, be charged with academic dishonesty. If you believe you warrant special consideration (because of an imminent emergency), you may speak with the instructor *ahead of time* to get permission to use such devices.

Instructor evaluation: Students will be asked to complete a feedback form during the semester and an instructor evaluation form toward the end of the semester.

Students with Disabilities Policy: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the

benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail <u>disability@shsu.edu</u>). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/811006.pdf

Religious Holidays: Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. "Religious holy day" means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code.

Visitors in the classroom: No visitors will be permitted in the classroom without the instructor's permission.

Grading plan and assignments required

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Reading quiz	5%
Primary source presentation	10%
Midterm examination	15%
Research proposal	5%
Bibliography (quality of sources 50%, correctness 50%)	5%
Annotations	10% (5% each)
Final research paper	35%
Final exam	15%

Specific instructions will be distributed in advance of the due dates.