

## **English 2323, Readings in British Literature**

Instructor: Dr. Hama

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Office Hours: MWF 12:00pm-1:00pm; T/Th 12:15-2:15pm; also, by appointment if necessary, with 24hr. notice

### **CLASS POLICIES**

#### **Required Texts**

Greenblatt, Stephen ed. *The Norton Anthology of English Literature* 9<sup>th</sup> ed. vols. D, E, and F.  
New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2012.

Each student is required to purchase these specific textbooks and to bring the proper volume to class every day.

#### **Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes**

English 2323 is a general survey with the primary objective of familiarizing students with some of the major periods, authors, and literary movements in British literature from the late-18th century through the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Because I believe that our understanding of literature written during this period deepens significantly when we examine it within its historical and cultural contexts, the course will also include background material on the many social, technological, and cultural transformations taking place throughout Great Britain and the world to which literary artists were responding during this roughly 250 year period.

Upon completing sophomore literature, students should be able to

1. understand the role of literature as an expression of values and interpretation of human experience
2. understand and apply methods of responding to literature analytically
3. understand the form, function, scope and variety of literature, including specialized terminology
4. understand the interactive relationship between history, culture, and literature.

Sophomore literature outcomes will be measured by various assignments, including the composition of a literary analysis.

#### **ASU Core Curriculum Objectives for Sophomore Literature and Related Course Assessments**

Students in sophomore literature will practice the following core curriculum learning objectives in critical thinking, communication, social responsibility, and personal responsibility. Students will then demonstrate their capabilities in these objectives through reading quizzes, written analyses, reflections, or examinations.

Critical thinking will be demonstrated in reading quizzes, written analyses, or examinations.  
Students will gather, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information relevant to a question or issue by mastering a series of assigned literary works in terms of generic conventions and content.  
Communication will be demonstrated in reading quizzes, written analyses, or examinations.  
Students will develop, interpret, and express ideas through effective written communication.

Social responsibility will be demonstrated in written reflection on public reading or lecture. Students will demonstrate ability to engage with locally, regionally, nationally, or internationally known literary artists and the texts they create, and to reflect upon the shared traditions of literary expression, the debates that help shape literature, and the conflicts, cultural differences, and shared experiences.

Personal responsibility will be demonstrated in reading quizzes, written analyses, or examinations.

Students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate choices, actions, and consequences by identifying, analyzing, and evaluating ethical decision-making in literary examples.

### **Requirements and Grading**

The course work will include a midterm examination, reading quizzes, and a final examination. Class sessions will include lectures, class discussions, and group work. The final grade will be calculated as follows:

Midterm Examination-----	30%
Reading quizzes (5 quizzes, 6 pts. each)---	30%
Class participation-----	10%
Final examination-----	30%

### **Quiz and Exam Policy**

Quizzes cannot be made up for any reason, but one of them will be dropped. Make-up tests will not be given except in cases of legitimate, documented emergencies.

### **Absence Policy**

Each student is allowed two unexcused absences without penalty. For each subsequent unexcused absence, 3 points will be deducted from your final semester grade. All absences will be charged against this allotment unless proper written documentation indicating the nature of the absence is presented; in any case, I reserve the right to determine whether the absence will be excused. Further, you are responsible for keeping up with the syllabus during any absence. You are also expected to be in the classroom and prepared for the day's work at the start of class. If you arrive after the assigned class-time on any regular basis, I will bring the matter to your attention. At that point, any further late arrivals will each be counted as an absence. *Finally, a total of seven or more absences will constitute grounds for failing the course.*

### **Classroom Decorum**

In order to succeed in the course, each student must be completely prepared with all assigned reading and must undertake an active, responsible role in all classroom activities. The points for class participation are not awarded simply for attendance; each student must earn them by contributing to the exchange of ideas upon which every successful course depends. Please do not come to class unprepared; if you do, I reserve the right to ask you to leave and to charge you with an absence. Any student who falls asleep will be awakened and asked to leave the class. If these actions would embarrass you, please come to class prepared and alert. Also, eating, drinking, talking disruptively, habitually forgetting the textbooks, and doing coursework for other classes are prohibited. Following University tobacco-use policy, no tobacco products of any kind, including chew or dip, are to be used in the classroom. Finally, please turn off and put

away all electronic communications devices before entering the classroom. You will be charged with an absence each time you use your cell phone or any other tech device in class without my permission. This includes having a phone out on your desk or anywhere else it might interfere with your attention in this class.

### **Academic Honesty**

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is available on the web at <http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf>. At minimum students who are determined to have violated this policy will receive a failing grade on the assignment, and may also receive a failing grade in the course and be referred to the English Department Chair for possible further action.

### **Students with Disabilities**

Persons with disabilities that may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office in the University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to any being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

### **Absences for Observance of Religious Holy Day**

Students who intend to be absent from class to observe a religious holy day (as defined in ASU OP 10.19) must inform the instructor in writing prior to the absence and make up any scheduled assignments within an appropriate timeframe determined by the professor. While the absence will not be penalized, failure to complete the make-up assignment satisfactorily and within the required timeframe will result in penalties consistent with other absences and assignments.

## Syllabus

### The Romantic Period

- T 8/26 Introduction  
Lecture: Overview of Enlightenment and Romanticism Periods
- Th 8/28 Lecture: "The Romantic Period, 1785-1832," 3-27
- T 9/2 Mary Wollstonecraft, from *A Vindication of the Rights of Men*, 194-99  
Thomas Paine, from *Rights of Man*, 199-203
- Th 9/4 Mary Wollstonecraft, from *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*, 211-39  
**Reading Quiz #1**
- T 9/9 continue Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*
- Th 9/11 William Blake, from *Songs of Innocence*: "The Lamb," 120; "The Chimney Sweeper," 121-2; "Holy Thursday," 122-3; also, from *Songs of Experience*: "The Tyger," 129-30; "The Chimney Sweeper," 128; "Holy Thursday," 127
- T 9/16 Continue Blake: from *Songs of Innocence*: "Nurse's Song," 123; "Infant Joy," 123-4; "The Divine Image," 122; also, from *Songs of Experience*: "Nurse's Song," 128; "Infant Sorrow," 134; "The Human Abstract," 133
- Th 9/18 William Wordsworth, "Tintern Abbey," 288-92
- T 9/23 Wordsworth, "Tintern Abbey," continued
- Th 9/25 John Keats, "Ode on a Grecian Urn," 930-1

### The Victorian Age

- T 9/30 Lecture: "The Victorian Age, 1830-1901," 1017-41
- Th 10/2 "The Woman Question," 1607-24
- T 10/7 continue, "The Woman Question," 1624-36
- Th 10/9 Alfred, Lord Tennyson, "The Lady of Shallott," 1161-6 and "Ulysses," 1170-2
- T 10/14 George Bernard Shaw, *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, 1783-1829  
**Reading Quiz #2**
- Th 10/16 continue *Mrs. Warren's Profession*

- T 10/21      **Midterm examination**
- Th 10/23      John Stuart Mill, from *The Subjection of Women*, 1104-15  
**Reading Quiz #3**
- T 10/28      Elizabeth Barrett Browning, from *Sonnets from the Portugese*, 1129-30
- Th 10/30      Robert Browning, “Porphyria’s Lover,” 1278-9 and “My Last Duchess,” 1282-3
- T 11/4      Oscar Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, 1733-77  
**Reading Quiz #4**
- Th 11/6      continue *The Importance of Being Earnest*
- T 11/11      continue *The Importance of Being Earnest*

### **The Modern Period**

- Th 11/13      Lecture: “The Twentieth Century and After,” 1887-1910
- T 11/18      Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*, 1951-2011  
**Reading Quiz #5**
- Th 11/20      continue *Heart of Darkness*
- T 11/25      Virginia Woolf, “A Room of One’s Own,” 2264-72; also “Professions for Women,” 2272-6
- Th 11/27      Thanksgiving: no classes
- T 12/2      James Joyce, “The Dead,” 2282-2311  
**Reading Quiz #6**
- Th 12/4      Last day of class  
Discuss final exam  
Katherine Mansfield, “The Daughters of the Late Colonel,” 2568-81

### **Final Exam Schedule:**

- T/Th 9:30 class: Thursday, Dec. 11, 8:00-10:00am  
T/Th 11:00 class: Tuesday, Dec. 9, 10:30am-12:30pm