

Sam Houston State University
Department of English
Fall 2007
ENG 460-01, 3 credit hours

PROFESSOR: Dr. Kandi Tayebi
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OFFICE HOURS: M 9-11 and by appointment
CLASS TIME: T TH 9:30-10:50
CLASS LOCATION: EV 351

Course Description:

What is Romanticism? What did it mean to be a Romantic? This course surveys the poetry and critical prose of the six writers usually considered the "major" Romantic poets--Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Keats, and Percy Shelley--and also takes up Mary Shelley, Emily Bronte, Dorothy Wordsworth, and Charlotte Smith. We will be concerned primarily with the works themselves, but will also consider the social, political, and intellectual changes taking place in the revolutionary period of the Romantics.

Course Objectives:

The students will be able to

1. Identify and explain major tenets of Romantic writers.
2. Define and discuss major genres and styles used by Romantic writers.
3. Identify and discuss differences in style, beliefs, and genres used by various Romantic writers.
4. Explicate poetry and write a poetry explication with detailed support.
5. Write literary analysis and apply literary theory to selected texts.
6. Analyze and synthesize the political, religious, and socio-economic ideas of the time period and illustrate the ideas in the literature.
7. Practice the basics of literary scholarship, establishing a context for interpreting Romantic-era poetry by studying the reception histories of selected poems, examining the social history surrounding the poetry, and briefly examining the biographical background of the writers.
8. Identify and discuss the social, political, and intellectual changes taking place in the revolutionary period of the Romantics as reflected in the literature.

Required Texts:

Norton Anthology of English Literature Vol. 2, Stephen Greenblatt ed. W.W. Norton.

Course Requirements:

Midterm and Final--You will take two exams, which will consist of an in-class essay and an objective, short-answer section. Missed exams will be made up two class days after returning to class. Missed exams may only be made up if the absence is excused.

Paper--You will write a eight-page paper (typed, double-spaced, 1-inch margins). I will provide details later in the semester. **NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED!**

Presentation—You will present the poet you have chosen to include on the syllabus in your research project. This is a ten-minute presentation that introduces the class to your writer and illustrates your argument. You will be expected to use visual aids. You will receive a rubric for grading this assignment prior to the presentation.

Poetry Explication. 3-5 page paper explicating a poem we do not read in class.

Research Project. Pick a poet from the Romantic time period who is either English or Irish and argue why he/she should be included on the syllabus. You must discuss how the poet displays important political, social, and historical information of the time, how he/she illustrates artistic merit, what he/she will contribute that makes readers rethink the canonical poets, the poet's reception during his/her time, and any famous writers' opinions about his/her writing (positive).

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory. After you miss three classes, your grade will drop for every absence after that. Since we will focus on the interpretation of the works, your reading, thinking, and writing will be important. **BE PREPARED!**

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in either an "F" on the paper or an "F" in the course.

Papers:

Papers should be double-spaced on a word processor. Papers should follow MLA documentation style. Late papers will receive a "0."

Conferences:

You may meet with me as often as you wish. My door is always open.

Final:

Monday, Dec. 10--2:00-4:00

Grading:

Midterm	20
Final	20
Paper	25
Presentation	10
Poetry Explication	15
Research Project	<u>10</u>
	100

Extra Credit

There is no extra credit given in this class.

Classroom Rules of Conduct

Please read the Code of Student Conduct and Discipline available at <http://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/dean/codeofconduct.html>

Academic Dishonesty, Students with Disabilities, Religious Holidays, and Visitors in the Classroom

Information on the above policies can be accessed at <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>
Please be sure to read the policies.

Instructor Evaluation

You will be asked to fill out an instructor evaluation at the end of this course.

Graduate Students

Graduate students taking this class for graduate credit must complete the following:

1. A 20-page research paper utilizing critical theory and current literary scholarship.
2. An annotated bibliography of current scholarship in the field.
3. The midterm and final grade will include more complex essays.

Reading Schedule

Aug 21—Introduction to course. What is Romanticism?

Aug 23, 28—Blake, Songs of Innocence and Experience.

Aug 30, Sept. 4—Blake, The Marriage of Heaven and Hell and Visions of the Daughters of Albion.

Sept. 6, 11—Blake Continued.

Sept. 13, 18— Wordsworth, Preface, “We Are Seven,” “Simon Lee”; Coleridge, Biographia Literaria.

Sept. 20, 25--Wordsworth, “Tintern Abbey,” “A Slumber Did My Spirit Seal”; Coleridge, “Frost at Midnight,” “This Lime-Tree Bower”; Smith, “On Being Cautioned Against Walking on an Headland,” “Written in the Curuch-Yard at Middleton in Sussex,” Baillie, “A Mother to Her Waking Infant.” Mellor, “Introduction to Romanticism and Gender.”

Sept. 27, Oct. 2—Poetry Explication Due. Dorothy Wordsworth, Journals; William Wordsworth, “Immortality Ode,” “Resolution and Independence” “Elegiac Stanzas,”; Coleridge, “Dejection:An Ode,” “Kubla Khan.”

Oct. 4, 9—Midterm. Abrams, “Structure and Style in the Greater Romantic Lyric.” Wordsworth, Selections from The Prelude, “Nutting”; Smith, Selections from Beachy Head; Coleridge, Rime of the Ancient Mariner.

Oct. 11, 16—Continued from last week.

Oct. 18, 23—Coleridge, Christabel, Wordsworth, “Michael.” Shelley, Adonais.

Oct. 25, 30—Byron, Manfred.

Nov. 1, 6--Shelley, “Ode to the West Wind,” “Hymn to Intellectual Beauty,” “Mont Blanc.” Hemans, “Casabianca,” “A Spirit’s Return.”

Nov. 8, 13—Papers due. Keats, “Ode on a Grecian Urn,” Eve of St. Agnes,” “La Belle Dame Sans Merci,” “Ode to a Nightingale,” Letters.

Nov. 15, 20—Keats, “Ode to Melancholy,” “Ode to Psyche”; Barbauld, “The Rights of Woman,” “To a Little Invisible Being Who is Expected Soon to Become Visible,” “Washing-Day.”

Nov. 22—Thanksgiving.

Nov. 27--Research Project Due. Presentations due.

Nov. 29, Dec. 4, 6—Review for Final. Presentations due.

Final Exam: Tuesday, Dec. 11, 8:00-10.

This schedule is subject to change.