

Summer Session I 2008

English 385: Later British Masterworks

(credit 3hrs; prerequisite: English 164/165; 265, 266, or 267)

Dr. Tracy Bilsing

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Office hours: M W 2-3; others by appointment

Objectives:

This course is designed to offer a broad range of reading experience. In this survey course, the student will read British literature written in the years between the late 18th century and the early 21st century. The purpose of this class is to familiarize the student with major literary movements and genres, and to foster in depth critical analysis of literary works in order to promote effective written discourse about literature.

Objectives include:

**Learning to *analyze* and *critically evaluate* ideas, arguments, and points of view

*Gaining a broader understanding of and appreciation of intellectual and cultural activity

*Developing skill in expressing oneself orally and in writing

Required text:

The Norton Anthology of English Literature 8th ed., Vol. 2 (*The Romantics –The Twentieth Century and After*)

*supplemental texts may be provided by the instructor

Grade determination:**

Exams (2): 10% each

Micro theme essays (3): 10% each (information follows)

Semester essay: 50% (information follows) (see plagiarism and academic misconduct below)

****I reserve the right to change the nature of the grade determination to include daily quizzes or other assignments should the need arise; I will provide written documentation of the change.**

Writing enhanced credit:

This course is designated writing-enhanced. According to Sam Houston State University, a student must take at least six courses that carry the designation writing-enhanced. The official definition of a writing-enhanced course is one in which 50% or more of the grade is based on written assignments. In this course, more than 50% of your semester grade is based directly on your writing.

Exams:

The exams will be made up of questions which will require written answers of varying lengths. (A blue book is required.)

Attendance:

I expect you to attend every class. Attendance will be taken into consideration in final computation of your semester grade. If absences do occur, the following rules will apply:

1. A student is allowed **four** absences a semester (for whatever reason) without penalty. **More than four*** absences **will adversely affect** the student's semester average.
2. Absence on the day an assignment is due does not exempt the student from fulfilling the assignment. It is the student's responsibility to find out what assignment was made during the absence and complete it. (see **Classroom Policy** below)

3. If a student misses fifteen minutes of class, he/she will be considered absent. If a student comes in tardy and roll has been taken, it is up to the student to inform the professor of his/her presence in class immediately following class.

*Should an unforeseen situation keep you out of class for an extended period of time, you must notify the office of the Dean of Student Life as soon as possible, and the office will formally notify the instructor of the absence(s)

Classroom policy:

1. The University code of conduct can be found at the following link.
<https://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/dean/codeofconduct.html>
2. Bring appropriate material to class every day. **The text of the day's reading should be with you at each meeting** along with note-taking and/or testing materials.
3. Absence on the day a research project is due does not exempt the student from fulfilling that assignment. **I do not accept late papers.**
4. Absence on exam days (without prior notification) can result in failure of the course. **There will be no make-up exams given without prior notification of the student's absence.** Should a make-up exam be appropriate, it is the student's responsibility to reschedule a time to take the exam **within one week** of the original date of the exam.
5. **No laptops/tape recorders** will be allowed during class time without prior permission from the instructor and/or formal notification that the device is necessary to the student's academic welfare (see Students with Disabilities Policy below).
6. Please do not bring food into the classroom. Drinks are ok if disposed of properly.
7. Please **turn off/ silence/ put away** all **cell phones** or **beepers** during class time.
8. Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.
9. Except in cases of emergency, leaving the classroom during class time is considered rude and inappropriate and will not be tolerated. Only when class is dismissed by the professor should students leave the room. In a special situation where a student needs to leave early on a particular day, he/she should discuss the matter with the professor before class.
10. I reserve the right to invite a student to leave the classroom should his/her behavior warrant it.

Teaching evaluation:

Students will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form toward the end of the semester.

Incomplete (X) Grade

At times, due to extenuating circumstances beyond your control, you may not be able to finish the course, and you may request a grade of X (incomplete). Students who request an X grade for ENG 165 must provide adequate documentation of the reason for their not being able to complete the course, and they must have satisfactorily completed at least 50 percent of the course's assignments in order to be eligible for a grade of X. If an instructor feels an X to be warranted, the instructor will recommend this grade to the Department Chair who then will decide whether the X should be entered as the semester's grade. If an X is approved, the student has one semester to complete the remaining work; if the student does not complete the work in that time period, the X grade automatically converts to an F.

Plagiarism and Academic Misconduct

It is academically dishonest, and often illegal, to present someone else's ideas of writing as your own. You cannot use even short phrases or parts of sentences obtained from other sources unless you properly document those sources. **Documentation includes marking quotations as well as providing notes, citations, and a reference list.** If you receive assistance from a source other than your instructor, your colleagues in the class, or The Writing Center, then you must acknowledge that assistance. Identify the source and the nature of the assistance in an acknowledgments note at the end of the assignment. Failure to acknowledge constitutes academic misconduct. In addition, it is academically dishonest to submit your own previously written work for a current assignment or to submit an assignment in more than one class without the prior permission of the instructors.

You will be held responsible for furnishing upon request all the sources and preliminary work (notes, rough drafts, etc.) that you used to prepare written assignments. If you cannot produce those materials upon request, the assignment will be considered incomplete and so will not fulfill the requirements. You will be given the opportunity to redo the assignment on a different topic, one you negotiate with your instructor.

You are responsible for protecting your own work. It is your responsibility to ensure that other students do not copy your work or submit it as their own. Allowing your work to be used in this manner constitutes academic misconduct.

Plagiarism and academic misconduct of any kind may constitute grounds for failing this course and may result in further disciplinary action according to university policy. Consult the *SHSU Student Handbook* regarding your responsibilities and rights concerning plagiarism and academic dishonesty. (In addition, writing textbooks often contain useful discussion of plagiarism.)

***Your instructor may require that you submit all of your essays to a plagiarism detecting service such as turnitin.com. Your enrolling in the course and electing to stay in that section constitutes your agreeing to submit your work as your instructor requires.**

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days:

Students are allowed to miss class and other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Students remain responsible for all work. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines.*
http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf

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 visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines.*
http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/811006.html